



Huatung Youths Return Home: Jiqi (Jici) Village, Fengbin

Due to a lack of opportunity in the Huatung region, youths move away when alternative prospects arise. This is part two of the [Huatung Youths Returning Home](#) feature. It covers the story of two youths who returned to the Jiqi (Jici) Village of Fengbin, Hualien and their initiatives to preserve the village culture and to keep traditions alive. [Read more.](#)



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Huatung Choir Camp Volunteer Orientation

The 2019 Huatung Choir Camp Volunteer Orientation took place on the 16th March. The orientation was kicked-off with an ice-breaker followed by an introductory and the job scope of each group. Camp Director, Howard Chang, delivered his five expectations for volunteers – to be confident because we expect campers to be confident, to set learning objectives, to practice and nurture the *I am lovable and capable (LALAC)* camp motto, to create a positive learning experience and attitude, and to have love and compassion.

The choir camp is also volunteered by the Counselors in Training (CIT), who are alumni of the Huatung Choir Camp now in the 10th to 12th grade. Chang hopes the CITs will continue to volunteer through to their university years.

This year, the first Junyi School of Innovation graduate joined the volunteer group. 2018 was when Junyi welcomed its inaugural group of secondary school graduates.



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness Festival

1-2 March marks the Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness Festival. 80-some small business shop owners, artists, aroma therapists, mobile libraries, etc. set up stalls, gave lectures. The event welcomed over 1,000 visitors enjoying local music, handicrafts, food; they learned earthquake protection, safety and precautions.

The event was sponsored by Pegatron Corporation, who established the Huatung Sustainable Growth Fund after the February 2018 earthquake. The fund supported the Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness project, and in 2019, it sponsored several events and projects at the disaster area such as the Fault Line and the Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness Festival.



Junyi School of Innovation: Cultural exchange with Friends Seminary

22-23 March, was when the Junyi School of Innovation and Friends Seminary cultural exchange took place. On the first day, 16 Friends Seminary teachers and students participated in Junyi's 8th and 9th grade English, Social Studies and Global Connections class. They separated into groups, played games, enjoyed competitions and on-spot presentations. On the second day, they experienced the outdoors playing sports, visiting the Tiehua Music Village and the National Museum of Prehistory. Students bonded further in the boarding house, leaving an even deeper impression on each other's culture.

Friends Seminary is a K-12 school based in Manhattan, New York.



Sharestart:

New learning method designed for beginner Sharestart teachers

A series of events introducing the new learning method designed for beginner Sharestart teachers has/will be conducted across Taiwan – in Chiayi, which was held on the 13th April, in Taichung, Tainan, Taipei, and Kaohsiung. The new method is more systematic, with workshop/gathering conducted once every one or two months on how to best implement the Sharestart method into classrooms. Participants were also broken up into smaller groups with teachers that teach same subjects.

In the advanced workshops, teachers continued to inspire one another to improve and co-change the traditional spoon-feeding education. Sharestart also continues to nurture a growing group of junior coaches who have the ability to coach new practicing teachers. By connecting educators and establishing communities online and in person, traditional education will gradually change.