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### The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Chair Stanley C. Yen's Book Release

Two years ago after speaking at the Silicon Valley, ACF Chair Stanley C. Yen announced that it would be his final public speech, and that he wanted to focus his time and energy on education reform. Since witnessing the pandemic's harsh impact on the global tourism industry, his deep sense of mission as former Chair of the Taiwan Visitors Association urged him to resurface to the public publishing his 11th book.

Although Covid-19 has been relatively well-contained in Taiwan, Chair Yen feels that Taiwan should take advantage of the opportunity to advance itself. Amid the age of artificial intelligence, he defines the importance of a liberal arts education and building cross-curricular talents. In tourism, he believes that Taiwan must diversify its market, that Taiwan should recognize its advantages and proactively strategize to improve global relations and its economy.



### The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Huatung English Reading Program

After one year of initiating the Huatung English Reading Program at the Tao-Yuan Elementary School in Taitung, volunteers organized the program's first-ever spelling bee in hopes to further motivate students in their English learning journey. The competition was divided into two rounds – the first, amongst classmates, the second between different grade levels. In the first round, students were nervous and shy, but swiftly overcame their fear with coaching from volunteers and encouragement from peers off-stage.



### Taiwan Connection: Music Salon at ShinKaie Elementary School in Miaoli County

11<sup>th</sup> December, Taiwan Connection's Artrich String Quartet conducted a music salon at the ShinKaie Elementary School in Miaoli County. After their performance, 11 violin students, led by Pan Jen-hao from National Taitung University's Department of Music, performed. The Principal proudly remarked being able to witness the growth and hard work of the students. To end the occasion, Artrich String Quartet and students co-performed Ludwig van Beethoven's *Ode to Joy*.



### Junyi School of Innovation: Winter Campus Tour

The 2020 Winter Campus Tour, organized by Junyi School of Innovation's senior high students, aimed to give visitors an opportunity to experience the learning environment while engaging with students. The focus was on Junyi's Self-Learning, Green Architecture, Cycling, and Outdoor Lab programs.

Junyi's Self-Learning program has been one of its core programs since 2020. With the teacher as a guide, the program allows students to navigate their own learning. Popular topics chosen by students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, for example, include technology, sports, science, medical, photojournalism and video journalism. To engage visitors in the Green Architecture program, they were guided to make replica models of canopies designed by students in the program. When touring the Cycling program, students showed their learnings by measuring visitor's customized bicycle measurements using the BikeFit Fitting Systems. In the Outdoor Lab, visitors witnessed students experience heat experiment which was particularly memorable.



### Sharestart Educational Foundation: 2020 Sharestart Asia Conference

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Sharestart Asia Conference, held virtually, took place on 12<sup>th</sup> December. Co-organized by Sharestart Educational Foundation and The Hugo Foundation of Culture and Education, the 2020 theme was "Yearnings and the Self". Led by Sharestart founder Chang Huicheng and teacher Lee Chung-chiene, they invited in total 12 lead teachers to share their Sharestart teaching journey with each story mirroring the conference's core value of welcoming failure. Through questions and discussions, Chang and Lee helped participants discover the meaning of their Sharestart journey. They shared insight of their growth journey and how they overcame challenges. Sharestart Educational Foundation hopes that through the conference, the Sharestart method will continue to widen its reach worldwide.

*With support from ACF, the Sharestart Educational Foundation was established in October 2020.*