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Dear TWF friends

Last week was a very high-octane week for The Women's Foundation!

Last Tuesday, we launched our TWF ANZ Accelerator Programme for Women Entrepreneurs at a cocktail event hosted by Mike Smith, Global CEO of ANZ. The 28 Accelerator participants will have access to financial advice, technology and other resources provided by ANZ, TWF and other supporting organisations. ANZ staff members will be trialing and providing feedback on the ideas, products and services offered by Programme participants. Last Friday, we arranged for our Accelerator participants to have an intimate breakfast with Daniel Epstein, global entrepreneurship guru and Founder of the [Unreasonable Institute](#). Bios of our Accelerator participants are available [here](#).

Last Thursday, I was honoured to be invited by HKCSS and MTRC to moderate a conversation on 21st Century Talent Needs as part of their Cross-Sector Summit on Pathways to Employment. My panel who comprised Lincoln Leong of MTRC, Joe Ngai of McKinsey, Christopher Chan of FANCL, Andrew Olah of Google and Paula Choi of Zurich Life Insurance, discussed the mismatch between what companies are looking for from new recruits on the one hand and the narrow set of skills of the graduates leaving our universities today on the other. The views of the panelists were very aligned with our own views at TWF and our motivations behind our [Life Skills Programme](#) which has touched the lives of over 7000 adolescent girls and boys in Hong Kong.

Finally, Friday lunchtime saw over 200 senior corporate executives convene for our third 30% Club Boardroom Lunch. Recognising that many boards still largely rely on their own networks to fill board openings, the lunch brought our extensive and growing pool of accomplished and aspiring women directors face to face with chairmen, board members and senior executives of some of Hong Kong's leading companies. We are grateful to John Slosar, Chairman of Swire Pacific Ltd, and May Tan, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank, for their warm encouragement and practical advice for our Women to Watch. We would like to thank all our participants and supporting organisations for making this our biggest and best Boardroom Lunch ever!

On behalf of all of us at The Women's Foundation, thank you to everyone for helping make what we do matter.

P.S. We are extending our Early Bird Offer for our [2015 Gala Dinner](#) to the end of this month! So far we have over 30 companies taking tables at the dinner and we have a few remaining tables to sell. A big thank you to our Event Sponsors - ANZ and Kering, our Associate Sponsors - State Street and Thomson Reuters, and our Fashion Partner - Escada, for supporting the event this year.

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson
 CEO, The Women's Foundation

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Farewell to our 6th Cohort of Mentoring Programme Participants!

On September 10, we graduated the 6th cohort of our Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders! We are thrilled to see the positive transformations that have taken place in our participants over the last year. We look forward to their energy, passion and commitment being carried forward as they join the Mentoring Programme Alumni Network! To learn more about the TWF Mentoring Programme, click [here](#). On September 10, we graduated the 6th cohort of our Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders! We are thrilled to see the positive transformations that have taken place in our participants over the last year. We look forward to their energy, passion and



T.E.E.N. Community Projects Underway!

Last week, our T.E.E.N participants started work on their group Community Project. This project, one of the major components of the T.E.E.N Programme, will see the TEENs working



with their Big Brothers & Sisters and different Hong Kong minority groups to tackle a diversity issue within the community. The TEENS will present their findings in their schools and to the wider community in 2016.



TWF ANZ Accelerator Programme Launch

As mentioned above, last Tuesday saw the successful launch of our latest initiative, the TWF ANZ Accelerator Programme for Women Entrepreneurs. To learn more about TWF's Women Entrepreneurs Network, click [here](#).



Our Third 30% Club Boardroom Lunch

As mentioned above, last Friday, we held our third 30% Club Boardroom Lunch which brought together almost 100 accomplished and aspiring women directors and leading Hong Kong chairmen, board members and senior management to engage in a structured exchange of views on some of the key issues facing boards today.

UPCOMING EVENTS



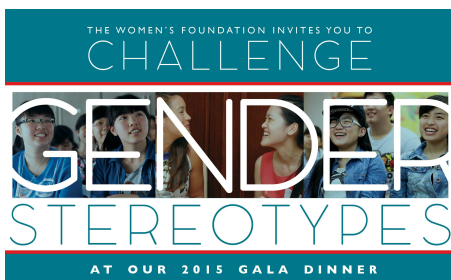
CoCoon Pitch Night X TWF: Women Entrepreneurs Edition

DATE: Thursday, September 24, 2015

TIME: 6.30 – 9.00 p.m.

VENUE: CoCoon, 3/F Citicorp Centre, 18 Whitfield Road, Tin Hau

ABOUT THE EVENT: Eight start-ups with female founders, CEOs, CTOs or COOs will present at our CoCoon/TWF Pitch Night. Click [here](#) for more information.



Gala Dinner 2015

DATE: Thursday, October 29, 2015

TIME: 7.30 – 11.00 p.m.

VENUE: The Conrad Hotel, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Madeline Di Nonno, CEO of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media

For inquiries regarding sponsorship and table/ticket sales, click [here](#) or contact Stephanie.Poon@twfhk.org

EXTERNAL EVENTS

TWF is delighted to be supporting the following events:

OCTOBER 8: Goldman Sachs [2016 Returnship Program Information Session](#). To register, email Goldman Sachs Hong Kong Returnship@ Program with a short summary of your prior experience. **Registration deadline September 30.**

NOVEMBER 6: AMCHAM 12th Annual [Women of Influence Conference and Awards](#)

NOVEMBER 9-12: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Smith College [Leadership Program for Women](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Our top picks for recommended reading and listening on the key trends and breaking stories about women and gender:

- [Why Aren't India's Women Working?](#) (NY Times)
- [This CEO Is Helping Saudi Women Break A Gender Barrier](#) (Fortune)
- [Everybody Knows Men Take More Investing Risks Than Women. Is It True?](#) (Wall Street Journal)

- [Australia Gets Its First Female Defence Minister](#) (SCMP)
- [Why You Need A Different Mentor At Every Step In Your Career](#) (Fast Company)

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