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Dear TWF friends

"May we teach our children that speaking out without the fear of retribution is our culture's new north star."

– Laura Dern, actress

2018 has started with a bang!

On January 1, 300 prominent actresses and female agents, writers, directors, producers and entertainment executives in Hollywood took the rhetoric of the #MeToo movement and translated it into action by forming an initiative in response to sexual harassment across the film industry and beyond, calling it the [#TimesUp initiative](#). The #TimesUp initiative aims to push for gender parity in film studios and to advocate for legislation to penalise companies that tolerate persistent harassment. It has also set up a Legal Defense Fund to support lower-income women seeking justice for sexual harassment and assault in the workplace. In slightly over a week, the fund has exceeded its initial goal of US\$15 million and continues to grow.

In another unprecedented move, #TimesUp also changed the tone of Sunday's much anticipated Golden Globe awards, with the majority of attendees wearing black to speak out about sexual harassment and assault in the entertainment industry. Several actresses invited [prominent activists for women's rights](#) and many used their time on stage and / or interviews to speak in support of #MeToo and #TimesUp, with award co-host Natalie Portman calling out the [all-male slate of nominees](#) for the Best Director, an award that only four women have been nominated for in the last 34 years.

At TWF, we think this development rings in the new year with a message of strength, optimism and an unstoppable drive for change. We have many concerning areas to address relating to gender but we are seeing bolder, more innovative solutions to tackle systemic issues and we are looking forward to working with all of you in the coming year on barriers like these and many more that continue to hinder girls and women from achieving their full potential.

As Oprah Winfrey so powerfully noted in her [acceptance speech](#) upon receiving the Cecil B. DeMille lifetime achievement award: "*I want all the girls watching here and now to know that a new day is on the horizon! And when that new day finally dawns, it will be because of a lot of magnificent women...and some pretty phenomenal men, [are] fighting hard to make sure that they become the leaders who take us to the time when nobody ever has to say, 'Me too,' again.*"

We would love to hear from you and particularly your ideas and responses to the global #MeToo movement. Get in touch at Fiona.Nott@twfhk.org.

Wishing you all a fantastic 2018.

Fiona Nott
CEO, The Women's Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY
2018 LUNCH
12:00 - 2:00PM | THE CONRAD HOTEL, HONG KONG
EARLY BIRD

Sponsored by Thomson Reuters

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Celebrate International Women's Day with The Women's Foundation!

Sponsored by Thomson Reuters, the lunch will feature Asia's Best Female Chef 2017, May Chow of Little Bao and Happy Paradise, Asia's Best Female Chef 2015 Vicky Lau of Tate Dining Room, Butler Luxury Caterer and Poem Patisserie and Hong Kong's pop-up dining queen Mina Park of Sook. They will join Susan Jung, Senior Food and Wine Editor of the South China Morning Post, to discuss their journeys to the top of their field and efforts to drive change for women in the restaurant industry. Early bird prices (HKD35,000 Gold, HKD29,000 Silver and HKD1,900 Individual) expire on January 19—so please reserve your spot soon! For sponsorship, table host and ticket enquiries, please contact Riya Chandiramani at Riya.Chandiramani@twfhk.org.

Date: Friday, March 2, 2018

Time: 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Conrad Hong Kong

for more information, click [here](#)

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Christmas Celebration of T.E.E.N Programme

Our TEENs and Alumni enjoyed a fruitful and joyful Christmas holiday! On December 23, our current cohort of TEENs and their Big Brothers and Sisters had a Christmas celebration and reviewed their progress on their community projects at their Christmas party. In parallel, our TEEN Alumni Committee organised a memorable Christmas party reunion for TEEN Alumni of cohorts 1-7 on December 26. Some of our TEENs also partook in two art workshops - Marble Card & Mug and Sandstone Stamp Carving - on December 27.



Girls Go Tech Programme

Over the Christmas holiday, we were excited to run our 3-day Coding Workshop at 6 schools, engaging 240 junior secondary girls from Belilios Public School, Carmel Alison Lam Foundation Secondary School, Holy Trinity College, Hong Kong True Light College, Munsang College (Hong Kong Island) and Pope Paul VI College. Last Saturday, another GGT participating school, Po Leung Kuk Ma Kam Ming College, kicked off their 3-day coding workshop. A huge thanks to our passionate corporate volunteers from Bloomberg, BNY Mellon, Emerson, FACE Club, MTR, State Street and Telstra for facilitating the workshops. Looking forward, we are very excited about the follow-up activities to come, including PosterGram Workshops, Company Visits, Mobile Classrooms and Inter-school Competitions. Stay tuned!



Dame Carol Black

In December, we were delighted to host a fireside chat with Professor Dame Carol Black, Principal of Newnham College, University of Cambridge. Dame Carol talked freely about the wonderful work she has done with the UK government around 'worklessness', mental health, girls and STEM education opportunities as well as personal stories on, making mistakes, taking risks, seeking out sponsors and so much more! Thank you to Linklaters for generously hosting the event.



Mentoring Festive Drinks

At our last event before the holidays, the MP1718 cohort joined us for Festive Pairing Drinks to celebrate the start of their mentoring relationships. We kicked off the festive season with wine, mince pies, carols performed by the Tung Chung Praise Ministry and a lucky draw to raise funds for our Cambridge Scholarship fund. Thank you to Linklaters for hosting.



GirlSpark Camp 2018

Last week, TWF was delighted to partner with Microsoft and LinkedIn on GirlSpark Camp 2018. Now in its fifth year, GirlSpark is an initiative that aims to inspire young women to pursue careers in the ICT industry. This year's Camp featured new elements including pre-Camp e-courses on technology and a mini-hackathon for social good.

OPENINGS AT TWF

Networks Manager

TWF is seeking a full-time Networks Manager. Please click [here](#) for the job description and help us spread the word! Applications should be received by January 23.

Communications & Marketing Manager

TWF is seeking an experienced Communications & Marketing Manager. Please click [here](#) for the job description and help us spread the word! Applications should be received by January 23.

Executive Assistant

TWF is seeking an Executive Assistant. Please click [here](#) for the job description and help us spread the word! Applications should be received by January 23.

WHAT WE'RE READING

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

- [Teenagers, Stop Asking for Nude Photos](#) (NY Times)
- [Viewsnight: Women's rights - what's the point?](#) (BBC)
- [It's Now Illegal to Pay Men More Than Women in Iceland](#) (Fortune)
- [A Study Used Sensors to Show That Men and Women Are Treated Differently at Work](#) (HBR)
- [Why Is Fixing Sexism Women's Work?](#) (NY Times)
- [You Don't Need a Daughter to Want a Better World](#) (NY Times)
- [Queen bees: Do women hinder the progress of other women?](#) (BBC)
- [BBC News Editor Quits Her Post to Protest Gender Pay Gap](#) (NY Times)
- ['Forget About the Stigma': Male Nurses Explain Why Nursing Is a Job of the Future for Men](#) (The Upshot)

We are following the latest developments on combatting sexual harassment. Key reports below:

- [Accusations of harassment have felled some powerful men](#) (Economist)
- [Ballet Leaders Allowed Peter Martins to Act With Impunity, Dancers Say](#) (NY Times)
- [Scandals Keep Breaking, but Restaurateurs Have Yet to Own Up](#) (NY Times)
- [Powerful Hollywood Women Unveil Anti-Harassment Action Plan](#) (NY Times)
- [Read Oprah Winfrey's Golden Globes Speech](#) (NY Times)
- [Alyssa Milano on Joining Time's Up: 'Women Are Scared; Women Are Angry'](#) (Rolling Stone)
- [The dam has burst and HK will be better for it](#) (China Daily)
- [New York Times Sex Harassment TV Ad Evokes Strong Reaction](#) (Huff Post)

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