

#### **EVENTS | PROGRAMMES | CEO BLOG**







Dear TWF friends

"At the end of the day, we can endure much more than we think we can." - Frida Kahlo, artist.

Hong Kong's much-awaited unofficial Art Week has descended upon us. Over the next few days, art lovers, collectors, curators and artists will flock to Art Central and Art Basel, auctions at Sotheby's and Christie's, and perhaps make a stop to admire (and Instagram) the fresh murals adorning the walls between Central and Sai Ying Pun, courtesy of local street art festival HKWalls.

Art Week arrives amidst growing conversations about how women artists are still kept on the margins of both international and local art scenes. According to a report by the South China Morning Post, "women artists have been consistently under-represented in Hong Kong galleries' exhibitions over the past decade, a period that has seen the city become one of the biggest trading hubs in the world for visual art."

Research has <u>found</u> that women's representation in commercial galleries in Hong Kong consists of a mere 6% or 7%. At M+, the highly anticipated museum of visual arts set to open in West Kowloon next year, Hong Kong women artists' artworks constitute only 2.4% of the collection. But this is a global issue: works by women artists <u>comprise</u> just 3%-5% of major permanent collections in the U.S. and Europe. Aside from being underrepresented, they are also largely undervalued: art by female artists typically <u>sells</u> for 47.6% of the prices that their male counterparts fetch at auctions.

Hong Kong has great female artistic talent – a fact that is often overlooked. Fang Zhaoling (1914-2006), mother of former Hong Kong Chief Secretary and TWF Patron Anson Chan, was a celebrated artist in her own right. The ink master "was one of the most original artists of her era," says art historian Julia F. Andrews, who curated Zhang's retrospective exhibition in the last quarter of last year. Her contemporary was Irene Chou (1924-2011), whose paintings – Chinese ink and colour on paper – have been collected by various museums not only in Hong Kong but also in Taipei, Brisbane, Boston and London, and was <u>featured</u> at Art Basel Hong Kong last year.

Among Hong Kong female talent featured at this year's Art Basel event is Law Yuk-mui, whose solo booth show, "From Whence the Waves Came", is described as "an alternative map of the city constructed through the stories of migrants from different periods". Wong Kit-yi's solo show at a.m. space's booth, titled "Magic Wands, Batons and DNA Splicers", meditates on immortality and biotechnology. Other artists, such as Au Hoi Lam, Sarah Lai, Christy Chow and Jaffa Lam, are taking part in group exhibitions at galleries around the city, while the work of TWF's own Development Officer (and artist), Riya Chandiramani, is featured in the street art festival HKWalls.

In addition, the Guerilla Girls, an anonymous collective of female artists who use facts, bold visuals and humor to speak about gender and ethnic bias in the art world, is exhibiting their <u>first installation</u> in East Asia, examining the status of women at Art Basel and in Hong Kong's art industry.

The Intelligence Squared <u>debate</u>, titled "Art Is for Pleasure Not Politics", has a speaker line-up that is an example of gender equality: two women – Chinese artist Lu Yang and Indian artist Nilima Sheikh – and two men – Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson and Irish artist John Gerrard.

Enjoy the feast of senses and mind at Art Week, but at the same time, let's celebrate and support women artists, especially Hong Kong's own female talent.

Connect will be taking a break next week and will resume on April 10. Wishing you very happy Easter holidays.

As usual we would love to hear from you. Get in touch at <a href="mailto:Fiona.Nott@twfhk.org">Fiona.Nott@twfhk.org</a>.

Have a great week.

Fiona Nott CEO, The Women's Foundation

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



# Tech: Transforming the Way We Work

Join Bloomberg and TWF for an interactive evening featuring speakers from innovative companies who will share their insights into how technology is disrupting the way we're hired and the way we work. This is the third event in our Leading Women in Futurism Series. Speakers include Olivia Cain | LinkedIn,

Jessie Lam | Brinc and Fran Thompson | Pathfinder Talent Solutions.

Date: Tuesday, April 17 Time: 7.00-8.30pm (6.30pm registration) Venue: Bloomberg, 25/F, Cheung Kong Center,

2 Queen's Road Central

Register here.

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of Bloomberg. Please note, the target audience for this series is university, students and young professionals with 0-5 years' work experience.

### **TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES**



#### T.E.E.N. Positive Parenting Workshop

Last Friday, we held the fifth round of positive parenting workshops at Carmel Alison Lam Foundation Secondary School, a participating school of the T.E.E.N. Programme. Attending parents learned positive communication skills and how to recognise the emotional needs of their children from Ms. Christine Mak, our partnering clinical psychologist.



#### GGT Catwalk Show at CALFSS

Congratulations to our GGT partner school, Carmel Alison Lam Foundation Secondary School, for organising a successful catwalk show last Tuesday. The GGT participants confidently delivered English presentations on the wearable tech products they made in the Programme. We, and the school, were thrilled to see their transformation over the course of the Programme.



## **GGT Company Visit**

Last Tuesday, the GGT participants from Holy Trinity College enjoyed a company visit to LinkedIn, where they learned how technology transforms professional networking and women's roles in STEM. A huge thank you to LinkedIn for hosting the visit.



### **Mentoring Programme - Check-ins**

Last week, our mentors and protégés came together for their monthly peer check-ins to share their mentoring challenges and best practice as well as take part in peer mentoring. Thanks to Baker McKenzie and Barclays for hosting the check-in sessions.



### **Mentoring Alumni Lean-In Circles**

Last Thursday, we brought together our Mentoring Programme Alumni for a social networking event. We were joined by over 60



members of the Mentoring Programme Lean-In Circles for an evening of meaningful conversations around the status of women in Hong Kong, sharing success stories and celebrating women supporting women. Many thanks to Oola for hosting the event.



#### Hong Kong's #MeToo Panel Event

Last Friday, we held the first event in our Hong Kong's #MeToo series on understanding the issues and taking action. Moderated by TWF CEO Fiona Nott, speakers Anna Ng / HKASERT, Linda Wong / ACSVAW and Peter Reading / EOC covered a range of structural and social issues preventing victims of sexual harassment & sexual assault from speaking out. They also presented a numbers of ways in which both institutions and individuals can help enact change. Thank you to Thomson Reuters for hosting.

#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Q&A with Fiona Nott - "Creating the right environment for progress"



#### **Russell Reynolds Q&A with TWF CEO**

Russell Reynolds Associates featured TWF CEO Fiona Nott in an in-depth interview on "Creating the right environment for progress" to discuss the major barriers that women face as executives at work in Hong Kong and in beginning their non-executive careers. Read the full feature <a href="here">here</a>.



# Hong Kong's #MeToo on RTHK Radio

Last Friday, the Agender Cafe on RTHK's 123 Show covered the #MeToo campaign with TWF CEO Fiona Nott alongside Peter Reading from the Equal Opportunities Commission and Anna Ng from the Hong Kong Association of Sexuality Educators, Researchers & Therapists. Tune in here!

# **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - GET INVOLVED!**



# IWD #pressforprogress - Join the Conversation!

For the month of March, we invite you and your organisation to join the conversation and #pressforprogress for gender equality in Hong Kong.

- 1. Think of a goal for you and your organisation
- 2. <u>Download</u> our selfie boards
- 3. Select or write down your goal on a board
- and print it
- 4. Take a picture or video with your board and upload it to social media
- 5. Tag TWF on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>YouTube</u> and hashtag
- #pressforprogress and #IWDHK Click here for inspiration.

For more information, click <u>here</u>

# IN THE COMMUNITY



#### CES

On March 7, Angel Ng, Chief Executive and Consumer Business Manager for Citibank HK who is also a founding member of the Hong Kong Women CEO (WCE) Network, hosted a Lunch and Learn event as part of the Meet the CEO Series. Launched by the WCE, the Series aims to provide a forum for the exchange and sharing of views on topics pertinent to women in the financial services industry. Amy Lo / UBS Hong Kong and Mary Huen / Standard Chartered Hong Kong spoke on a panel centered on women leading progress. The inaugural session was hosted by UBS at the start of the year. TWF and WCE work together to support and drive initiatives to promote greater gender diversity in the financial services industry in Hong Kong.

# WHAT WE'RE READING

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

- We need to tackle toxic masculinity to help men achieve happiness (HuffPost)
- How Women Can Develop and Promote Their Personal Brand (HBR)
- These Women Could Be the Tech Industry's Next Great CEOs—or Not (Fortune)
- Paula Mae Weekes Sworn in as Trinidad and Tobago's 1st Woman President (teleSUR)
- Blythe Masters Grapples With Gender Diversity in Crypto (Bloomberg)
- Two foreign female judges make history with appointments to Hong Kong's top court (SCMP)
- How to Raise a Boy (New Yorker)
- The Truth About Gender Stereotypes (INSEAD K)
- How Gender Bias Gets Erased (Forbes)

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

- Head of Latham & Watkins Steps Down After 'Communications of a Sexual Nature' (WSJ)
- Mexico And The #MeToo Movement (NPR)
- How #MeToo can guide sex education in schools (The Conversation AU)
- OpenTable Stumbles Into #MeToo (Eater)
- A New Survey Shows Women of All Ages Support #MeToo (TeenVogue)
- The question we need to ask post #MeToo: Are workplaces enabling sexual harassment? (Telegraph)

9A Chun Wo Commercial Centre, 23-29 Wing Wo Street, Sheung Wan info@twfhk.org | W. twfhk.org | T. +852-2592-8265 | F. +852-2592-8264

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