Dear TWF friends,

Designing Equality – Join Our IWD Virtual Lunch on June 11!

Over the past few months, we have seen some of the ways COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted women from being at the frontline as health and essential workers and managing extra care responsibilities to financial instability and being at increased risk for domestic and sexual violence.

As our society navigates one of its greatest challenges, we have an opportunity to craft our new normal, which must include gender equality and diversity at its core.

Join us for our very first virtual International Women's Day Lunch on June 11 as we celebrate the achievements of women and girls, and reaffirm our commitment to advancing women and girls in Hong Kong.

Whilst the format of the event will be different, our mission remains the same: to build a gender equal Hong Kong. And our mission is more important than ever.

Sponsored by Swire Group and Swire Properties, we are looking forward to presenting you with an innovative and meaningful online event, bringing together our community and featuring:

Don Taylor, Director at Swire Properties who oversees the development, leasing and management of the office portfolio.

Marisa Yiu, Co-Founder/Executive Director of DESIGN TRUST and Architect/Founding Partner of ESKIU and Natasha Usher, Interior Architect, Founder and Design Principal of nude design limited will come together for a timely conversation around the theme ‘Designing Equality’, moderated by Eric Schuldenfrei, Head of Architecture at the University of Hong Kong and Founding Partner of ESKIU. The panel will explore the interaction of gender and design against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as discuss the challenges and celebrate the achievements of women in the Hong Kong design world.

Other elements include messages from our programme participants, special guest appearances, and opportunities to engage virtually, all whilst helping to raise critical funds for TWF. Individual attendees can register free of charge here. For corporate sponsorship opportunities, please contact Virginia Li at Virginia.Li@twfhk.org.

As we begin to establish our new reality, it is more vital than ever that gender equality, diversity, and the needs of our most vulnerable are kept in mind. Join us and support us at this critical time as we continue to empower and improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong.

UPCOMING EVENT

Virtual International Women's Day Lunch

Mark your calendars for TWF’s first virtual IWD Lunch! Individual attendees can register here. Please confirm your attendance early to avoid disappointment.

Please contact us if you would like to arrange a refund or adjustment given the new event format. For holders of individual tickets that wish to donate, tax deductible
Help Us Support Underprivileged Families During COVID-19

As Hong Kong fights the pandemic with ongoing school closures and other measures, TWF is committed to assisting underprivileged girls and their families. In collaboration with Hong Kong Association for Computer Education (HKACE), we intend to donate 500 much needed second-hand portable devices to underprivileged families to enable their children to access online school work and e-classes amid school suspensions.

We need your help to make this happen. Please consider joining this vital project for our community by donating 25-50 laptops, iPads or tablets; or by helping us cover the costs for coordination of this outreach project.

Visit here for more information. Kindly contact Connie.Cheung@twfhk.org or Deanie.Chiu@twfhk.org with any questions.

MakePeopleCount Campaign

#MakePeopleCount Update

MEDIA & MTR

Five new media outlets have reported on TWF's anti-sexual violence campaign: Branding in Asia, Ads of the World, Little Black Book, Campaign Brief Asia, and Adobe Magazine.

Our campaign is still featured on MTR escalator crowns and concourse TVs across Hong Kong.

WAYS TO ENGAGE

Our campaign will be running through the end of May, so please share our video, resources site and / or advocacy recommendations (Chinese, English) with your networks or engage with us on social media.

If you have any questions or feedback about the campaign, please contact Lisa Moore at Lisa.Moore@twfhk.org.

TWF Programme Updates

Male Allies: A Year of Taking Action

Last Thursday, we officially wrapped up the second year of the Male Allies Initiative! Thank you to our panellists Rebecca Nice and Sanza Bulaya | BNP Paribas as well as Peter Clemmow and Frosti Lau | Cathay Pacific for sharing their experiences as Allies on the programme and the many initiatives it has sparked within their companies - greatly moderated by Adrian Warr | Edelman.

Despite this challenging year in Hong Kong, Male Allies have consistently shown up and taken actions - reaffirming their commitment to advancing gender equality.
A big thank you to our Male Allies Leadership Council members and the Influencer Circles Leads for your guidance and unwavering support. And last but not least, thank you to all the Male Allies who have participated in our 2019-2020 cycle. We're excited to continue crushing barriers and building new narratives with you!

Support TWF's Mentoring Programme

The 12th year of our flagship Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders will start over the summer. If you think your organisation is committed to diversity, working hard to develop a pipeline of women leaders, and would be interested in becoming a corporate partner of the programme, there are limited spots left! Get in touch: mentoring@twfhk.org

DONATE TO TWF

The COVID-19 pandemic is not only having a profound impact on our health, but also on our society. Women are disproportionately impacted by this crisis - from comprising the majority of health workers and undertaking the majority of care work at home without the support of schools or care centres to facing increased risks of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence.

At TWF, we are committed to working with you all in forging a path forward that is equal – for men and women, boys and girls. As we continue to grapple with COVID-19, it's more vital than ever that gender equality, diversity and the needs of our most vulnerable are kept in mind. We know this next period will be a challenge for all of us and will leave our city changed in ways that are both predictable and unpredictable. Help us as we continue to empower and improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong. Please make a donation to support our critical work.

Make your donation here now!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

TWF CEO Speaks on Bloomberg Panel

Last Friday, TWF CEO Fiona Nott participated in a webinar with Bloomberg to discuss domestic violence alongside Georgette Tan, President at United Women Singapore, moderated by Mallika Kapur, Deputy Global Editor of Bloomberg Live. Speakers discussed the prevalence of domestic violence in Asia and factors contributing to its increase amid COVID-19, and looked at Government and private sector policies that can better support victims.

TWF Principal Adviser Interviewed by Cosmopolitan

TWF Principal Adviser Rita Ching was interviewed by Cosmopolitan to discuss the reasons why many people don’t report their experiences with sexual harassment in the workplace. Rita also provided suggestions to corporates, employees and
IN THE COMMUNITY

Facebook’s Go Digital Programme for the #SMB community

As part of #SheMeansBusiness, TWF is proud to support Facebook’s Go Digital Programme for female entrepreneurs. Go Digital Programme will help you develop knowledge and skills around digital marketing and help your business continue in the current crisis. Delivered in Cantonese, you can access the programme in your own time and join live Q&A sessions with Facebook experts.

Sign up here!

IBA Webinar: Us Too? Update: How is the Legal Profession Responding to Bullying and Sexual Harassment?

TWF is pleased to be a Supporting Organisation for the International Bar Association’s upcoming webinar on Us Too? Update: how is the legal profession responding to bullying and sexual harassment?, a reflection on developments over the past 12 months following the publication of their landmark 2019 report which highlighted chronic levels of inappropriate behaviour in legal workplaces, significant under-reporting of incidents and insufficient action from employers and other stakeholders from a global survey of 7,000 legal professionals across 135 countries.

Date: Wednesday, June 10
Time: 8.00-9.15pm (HKT)
Register here!

WHAT WE’RE READING

Gender Equality
- Ten things you can learn from women’s resilience that will help you stay strong in the time of COVID-19 (UNWOMEN)
- The fiction of work sharing (The Hindu)
- Disruption as a force for good? Gender balance and COVID-19 (INSEAD)
- The inescapable pressure of being a woman on Zoom (Vox)
- ‘I had to choose being a mother’: With no child care or summer camps, women are being edged out of the workforce (The Lily)
- Coronavirus is killing more men. But the lockdown is disastrous for women and their rights (CNN)
- 5 Reproductive Justice Advocates to Know This Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (Rewire.News)
- Internal And External Challenges Faced By Women And Ethnic Minorities That Make Them More Vulnerable At Work (Forbes)
- Women Spend An Extra 15 Hours On Domestic Labor Compared To Men, Survey Shows (Forbes)

Sexual Violence & Harassment
- In Conversation With Harvey Weinstein’s Former Assistant, Rowena Chiu, Who Is Breaking Her NDA For This Interview (Variety)
- Child sexual abuse imagery reporting platform to launch in Malaysia (The Star)
- Tarang Chawla: My sister’s abuse began with control, and ended with her death (Daily Telegraph)
- Rose McGowan from Grounded with Louis Theroux (Apple Podcasts)

Masculinity
- Boys do cry: The support groups freeing men from toxic masculinity ( Mashable)
- Incel culture is not mental illness. It runs much deeper (The Province)

Board Diversity
- Board diversity may be a COVID casualty (AFR)