

Dear TWF friends



Women and Film

"The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story." – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, author

The 77th Venice Film Festival concluded on Saturday with Ann Hui, one of Hong Kong's most prominent directors, making history by becoming the first female Chinese director to be honoured with a Golden Lion Lifetime Achievement Award. She is known for her honest portrayals of ordinary women and family life and it is heartening to see her stories win esteemed recognition. With film festivals around the world cautiously taking place and cinemas across Hong Kong back open for business, it's a good time to talk about women and film.

The industry is taking small steps in the right direction, with more stories about women being told and more female leads than we have ever seen before. There is a welcome effort to address how women are objectified on screen, including gratuitous nudity and sex scenes.

Behind the scenes, the number of female directors and producers is growing, but there is a long way to go before we hit parity and comprehensive changes still need to be made. We have seen extensive coverage around the gender pay gap disparity among actors, and the 2018 #MeToo movement spotlighted the issue of sexual violence.

 [Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENT



Virtual Gala 2020 - Join Us!

Join us as we bring you our Virtual Gala on Thursday **November 5, 2020**.

Following the success of our first-ever Virtual IWD Lunch in June, the Virtual Gala promises an evening of inspiring speakers, special guests and heartwarming stories from programme participants.

Hong Kong has faced unprecedented challenges in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, and women have been disproportionately affected across the spectrum. Gender equality has never been more critical as we recalibrate our thinking and utilise these challenges as a powerful catalyst for positive change.

Our exciting and dynamic programme will foster forward-looking conversations around the theme 'Facing Challenge | Fuelling Change'. We are thrilled to announce the Hon Julia Gillard AC, 27th Prime Minister of Australia, as one of our guest speakers.

To register for an individual ticket, please click [here](#). Please note tickets are available on a first-come-first-served basis.

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATE



Mentoring Programme: A Year In Review

On September 10, we hosted a virtual closing event, A Year In Review, for our Mentoring Programme participants. We took the opportunity to reflect on the mentoring journey, identified our shared values as a cohort, and pledged to stay connected as well as pay it forward. Huge thanks to all Mentoring Programme participants who have supported TWF in the past year, and stayed positive and resilient through uncertain times. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon at our alumni events!

DONATE TO TWF



The COVID-19 pandemic is not only having a profound impact on our health, but also on our society. Women will continue to be disproportionately impacted by this crisis – from large numbers of redundancies in female-dominated sectors 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 build our new normal, it's more vital than ever that gender equality, diversity and the needs of our most vulnerable are kept in mind.

We would ask you to consider donating a portion of your HK\$10,000 Cash Payout to support our critical work. Help us as we continue to empower and improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong.

[Make your donation here](#)

#TECHFORGOOD



Help Us Support Underprivileged Families

As we are facing the third wave of COVID-19 cases, making sure underprivileged students, in particular girls, have equal access to the technology they need to support their education during uncertain times continues to be a priority.

In collaboration with The Hong Kong Association for Computer Education (HKACE), TWF intends to donate 500 much needed second-hand portable devices to underprivileged families to enable their children to have access to online classes, schoolwork, tools, and resources.

We have delivered over 400 computers to families in need, but we need your help to give devices to our last few families. 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.

BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION: IN FOCUS

For the next month, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) – the most progressive blueprint for the rights of women and girls around the world – we will feature one key focus area each week and note how it informs TWF's work.



Women and the Media

The media plays an important role in either exacerbating or dismantling gender stereotypes. According to the [Global Media Monitoring Project](#), only 4% of traditional media and 7% of internet news stories challenged gender stereotypes. In the [100 top family films](#) in 2019, women are four times more likely to be visually objectified, while male characters are more likely to be shown as violent (35.2%) than female characters (24.6%).

Challenging gender stereotypes is a core pillar of TWF's mission and integrated into all of our programmes and initiatives. Media has necessarily been one of our targeted areas. In 2016, we commissioned '[She Objects](#)', a documentary which highlighted the culture in media that objectifies, sexualises and diminishes women and girls in Hong Kong. We drew on findings from the film to advocate for greater sensitivity and responsibility by the media, entertainment and advertising industries. We also partnered with CUHK to run a Media Literacy Programme that equipped young people with the media literacy and critical thinking skills to thoughtfully challenge media messages. We continue to highlight [positive developments](#) by the media as well as [call out](#) instances of gender stereotyping.

Gender stereotypes contribute to body image and self-esteem issues for women and girls, violence against women and the ambition gender gap. It's critical we continue our collective efforts to eradicate gender stereotypes in all forms of media and promote diverse, positive portrayals of women and girls.

IN THE COMMUNITY



AmCham's Women of Influence Conference & Awards, Nov 13 – new virtual format!

TWF is proud to be supporting AmCham's 2020 Women of Influence Conference & Awards, under the theme of "[Global Issues, Local \[S\]Heroes – Women Taking the Lead](#)". Adopting a virtual format with exciting live and pre-recorded elements, the conference will culminate with the presentation of the Women of Influence Awards, which will recognise seven high achieving women, a male champion who has demonstrated support for the advancement of women; and one outstanding company for women.

DATE: Friday, November 13, 2020
TIME: 10.00 am - 1.30 pm

Register [here](#) and enter the code **1VTSCLUD** to enjoy member rates for friends of TWF!

OPENING AT TWF

Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer Opening

TWF is seeking a full-time Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer to join its

rapidly growing and dynamic team to plan and manage its innovative and impactful community programmes. Applications should be received by **September 22**.

[Apply Now](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Gender Equality

- [性別定型觀念](#) (am730)
- [法國將立法禁醫生開立「處女證明」 支持反對聲音難分軒輊](#) (HK01)
- [Who's the Next Woman to Take Over on Wall Street?](#) (NYT)
- [Oscars academy sets out new diversity standards for best picture contenders](#) (Reuters)
- [Dame Diana Rigg: How the actress battled TV's gender pay gap 54 years ago](#) (BBC)
- [Meghan Markle to Interview Journalist On Gender and Representation in the Media](#) (Independent)
- [Reopening UK offices risks excluding women and minorities, says business chief](#) (Guardian)
- [Coronavirus: Why are women paying a heavier price?](#) (Aljazeera)
- [Menstruation is holding back girls in parts of China. These teens try to help](#) (Inkstone)
- [Why Are Men Still Explaining Things to Women?](#) (NYT)
- [People assumed it was a 'lifestyle decision' when I started my business. We need to bust the myths about female entrepreneurship](#) (Women's Agenda)
- [Swedish men's football team forgoes pay to support women's team on pay equality](#) (DW)
- [Why Covid school closures are making girls marry early](#) (Guardian)

Sexual Violence

- [Up roar after 'victim blaming' in Pakistan gang rape case](#) (AFP)

Masculinity

- [Learning to Be a Man Without Masculinity](#) (Psychology Today)

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