



EVENTS | PROGRAMMES | CEO BLOG

Dear Lisa

President Obama celebrated his 55th birthday last week by publishing a long and touchingly personal article in [Glamour magazine](#) about why he is a feminist.

Setting an example for male champions for gender equality everywhere, President Obama outlined the factors that have informed and influenced his views – from his admiration for his mother and grandmother and their careers, to watching Michelle juggle work and family life, to watching his daughters grow up: "...when you're the father of two daughters, you become even more aware of how gender stereotypes pervade our society. You see the subtle and not-so-subtle social cues transmitted through culture. You feel the enormous pressure girls are under to look and behave and even think a certain way."

He also provided encouragement for men and boys: "Growing up without a dad, I spent a lot of time trying to figure out who I was, how the world perceived me, and what kind of man I wanted to be. It's easy to absorb all kinds of messages from society about masculinity and come to believe that there's a right way and a wrong way to be a man. But as I got older, I realised that my ideas about being a tough guy or cool guy just weren't me. They were a manifestation of my youth and insecurity. Life became a lot easier when I simply started being myself."

Recognising that laws and policies aren't enough, President Obama identified the kind of cultural changes and open mindsets needed to push back against dated assumptions about gender roles: "We need to keep changing the attitude that raises our girls to be demure and our boys to be assertive, that criticises our daughters for speaking out and our sons for shedding a tear. We need to keep changing the attitude that punishes women for their sexuality and rewards men for theirs. We need to keep changing the attitude that permits the routine harassment of women, whether they're walking down the street or daring to go online. We need to keep changing the attitude that teaches men to feel threatened by the presence and success of women. We need to keep changing the attitude that congratulates men for changing a diaper, stigmatises full-time dads, and penalises working mothers. We need to keep changing the attitude that values being confident, competitive, and ambitious in the workplace—unless you're a woman. Then you're being too bossy, and suddenly the very qualities you thought were necessary for success end up holding you back."

We hope all men everywhere will be inspired by President Obama's example to reflect on the women in their lives, to come up with their own articulation for why giving women and girls equal chances is important, and to "work hard and be deliberate about creating truly equal relationships".

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson
 CEO, The Women's Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

MENTORING PROGRAMME

2016-2017
 INFO SESSIONS

SAVE THE DATES



Save the Dates! Mentoring Programme 2016-2017 Info Sessions

TWF is launching the 8th cycle of our Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders! All prospective applicants **MUST** attend ONE of our upcoming Info Sessions to hear from current mentors and protégés on why you should apply and what is expected of participants. **We will be running 6 sessions this year - please select one session only!** Registration opens August 15.

1. Thursday, September 1, 6.45 - 8.30 p.m.
2. Tuesday, September 6, 12.15 - 2.00 p.m.
3. Saturday, September 10, 10.00 - 11.45 a.m.
4. Wednesday, September 14, 6.45 - 8.30 p.m.
5. Friday, September 23, 7.45 - 9.30 a.m.
6. Monday, September 26, 6.45 - 8.30 p.m.

BOARDROOM LUNCH

FIFTH LUNCH OF THE SERIES



30% Club Annual Boardroom Lunch

Save the date for the fifth lunch of the series! This much anticipated annual event brings together around 100 senior TWF Women to Watch with company chairmen, board members and their professional advisors for simulated boardroom discussions.

DATE: Friday, October 14, 2016

SAVE THE DATE

TIME: From 12.00 p.m.
VENUE: The Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty

MENTORING ALUMNI

INTRODUCTION TO MINDFULNESS



Introduction to Mindfulness for Mentoring Alumni

Calling all former TWF MP Mentors and Protégés - join us for a morning of mindfulness training focusing on "Working Better - Living Better". Mindfulness has been proven to have positive effects on mental health and well being, performance and ability to handle stress.

DATE: Saturday, October 15, 2016

TIME: 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

VENUE: Bloomberg, 25/F, Cheung Kong Centre, 2 Queen's Road, Central

Register [here](#) to join.

MENTORING ALUMNI

INAUGURAL REUNION



Mentoring Programme Alumni Reunion

Calling all current and former TWF MP Mentors and Protégés: please save the date for the first ever TWF MP Alumni Reunion! Celebrate this year's graduating cohort and reconnect with other alums in an exciting morning with a bit of learning and a lot of fun. More details to follow.

DATE: Saturday, November 5, 2016

TIME: Half-day event (time tbc)

VENUE: Thomson Reuters, 18/F, ICBC Tower, 3 Garden Road, Central

Register [here](#) to join.

NOV 15 | TUE
SAVE THE DATE
THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION GALA DINNER 2016

FROM 7.00PM | JW MARRIOTT HOTEL | ONE PACIFIC PLACE, 88 QUEENSWAY

- 96 CHALLENGING GENERAL STEWARDSHIPS
- INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS
- ENTICING DRAW PRIZES
- DELECTABLE FOOD AND WINE
- EARLY BIRD TICKET PRICES

Save the Date! TWF Gala Dinner 2016

Mark your calendars for TWF's signature Gala Dinner featuring inspirational speakers, luxury prizes and live entertainment - stay tuned for more details!

DATE: Tuesday, November 15, 2016

TIME: From 7.00 p.m.

VENUE: JW Marriott Hotel, One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Mentoring Programme workshop on Executive Presence

Last Saturday, TWF ran the last of five "Executive Presence" workshops facilitated by MJ Jennings from Active Communications. Participants were given tools to lead authentically with influence and impact. Many thanks to MJ and to Baker & McKenzie, JLL, and PwC for hosting the workshops.



Gold Flag Sale at BlackRock

Last week, BlackRock hosted a Gold Flag sale at their offices raising more than HK\$20,000 for TWF's Life Skills Programme for adolescent girls and boys at school in HK's poorest districts. A huge thank you to BlackRock staff for their generous donations and to the firm for matching the amount raised. We hope more organisations will be inspired by BlackRock's example! To hold a TWF Gold Flag sale at your offices before August 31, please contact claire.lim@twfhk.org.



T.E.E.N. Update

Last week, our newest cohort of TEENs participated in skills training workshops, including photography, drama and film-making,



designed to equip them with necessary skills for their community projects later this year. The community projects aim to enhance the TEENs' leadership skills and will see them promote gender and diversity awareness to their peers at school and the broader community.



T.E.E.N. Alumni Summer Camp

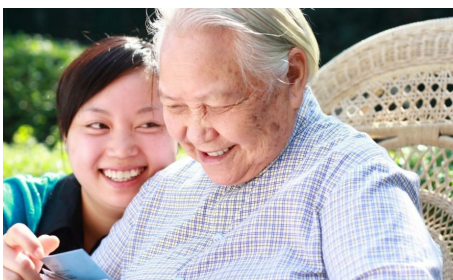
Last week, our TEEN alumni completed a challenging 3-day 2-night sailing camp. They operated as the vessel team and performed navigation exercise and emergency drills, which improved their team communication and coordination.

TWF CELEBRATES WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN RIO!



The 2016 Olympic Games in Rio kicked off at the weekend with Hong Kong fielding 38 athletes (including 23 women!) who will be competing in 9 events. In addition to the mainstays of sailing, table tennis and cycling, HK is celebrating the reintroduction of golf to the Olympics, with [Tiffany Chan](#) flying the flag for the territory. 1900 marked the first year that women were allowed to participate in the Games when 22 women joined 975 men to compete in 5 sports. Since then, the number of women athletes has increased steadily and fuelled by the [IOC's commitment to gender equality](#), Rio has a record high of 45% female participants. Since 1991, all new sports asking to be included in the Olympics must feature women's events. [The 2012 Olympic Games in London](#) were the first time women competed in all sports and also the first Olympics where every participating country included female athletes.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Recruiting Focus Group Members for a Study on Support for Caregivers

HKU is launching a study on support for family caregivers and is looking for focus group participants. If you are 40-64, caring for an adult family member (not necessarily living with you) aged 65 or older to whom you have provided not less than four hours of care per week for the past six months, Cantonese speaking and currently or previously employed, please contact Doris Chan at doristmc@hku.hk or 3917 5020 to join a focus group.



13TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE CONFERENCE & AWARDS

November 11, 2016

Nominations open for AmCham's Women of Influence Awards!

TWF is proud to support AmCham's Women of Influence Awards celebrating women, companies and male champions that are leading the way for gender equality. For nomination criteria and award descriptions, visit:

<http://www.amcham.org.hk/events/signature-events/2016-nomination>. Nominees can be

any nationality but need to have a strong connection to Hong Kong. Anyone submitting a nomination before August 15 is also eligible for early bird conference prices!



— Retaining & Returning Female Talent in Hong Kong —

Gender Equity – Retaining & Returning Female Talent in Hong Kong

TWF is pleased to support FLEXImums and Back to Work's HK Gender Equity Conference: Retaining & Returning Female Talent in Hong Kong. The day long conference will include panel discussions, debates and talks focusing on practical ideas businesses can implement to create a more gender inclusive workplace.

DATE: Thursday , September 29,2016

TIME: 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

VENUE: Butterfield's, 2/F, Dorset House, Tai Koo Place, Quarry Bay

Register [here](#) to join the conference and enjoy 25% off corporate ticket prices using the promo code "TWF".

TWF FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES - We Would Love Your Support!

GOLD FLAGS

CALL FOR SUPPORT



Support TWF by selling Gold Flags at your office!

Following BlackRock's example above, we are looking for opportunities to sell TWF Gold flags in offices to support TWF's Life Skills Programme for under privileged adolescent girls and boys in Hong Kong. We can provide a speaker, student ambassadors and cakes! If you can help, please contact Sarah Ladner at sarah.ladner@twfhk.org.



TWF Mischa Pins

To raise funds for our programmes, TWF is selling pins, specially designed for TWF by Michelle Lai - MISCHA founder. The beautiful black and gold enamelled pins featuring MISCHA's signature design can be purchased at TWF and partner events for HK\$50. We are looking for volunteers to help us with selling pins within their organisations and networks. Please contact Stephanie Ko at stephanie.ko@twfhk.org to find out more.

WHAT WE'RE READING

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

- [The Saatchi Ouster Shows Leaders Need To Be Gender Smart, Not Gender Blind](#) (Harvard Business Review)
- [Bar Association Considers Striking 'Honeys' From the Courtroom](#) (New York Times)
- [This Popular Math Class Is At The Heart Of The STEM Gender Gap](#) (The Huffington Post)
- [What A New Equal Pay Law In Massachusetts Could Do For Everyone, Not Just Women](#) (Washington Post)
- [The Truth About The Gender Wage Gap](#) (Vox)

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