



BRIGHT SIDE PROJECTS

臺灣嚮光協會

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

2023 proved to be a year of recovery for Bright Side Projects as we were able to have a team full of passion and dedication to providing the best for our youth. Our new team finished off the year with 25 camps and activities, with creative education and plant-based meal as the main focus for the communities, some of which we've been in for over a decade.

We have always been at the forefront for creative education and the type of workshops we lead - already focusing on the term and actions taking to empower youth when there was no direct translation in mandarin and little understanding ten years ago; placing a focus on the environment in how we conduct our workshops and the plant-based meals we provide, two things that no other youth centered organization attempted to do. With the SDGs now a popular term, this is something that we had always incorporated into our activities. This year we were also finally able to host our Surf and Ocean Conservation Camp in Yilan in partnership with VAST, including a beach cleanup, transplanting rice, and enjoying traditional fish and chips veganzized with OMNIFOOD's new seafood line.

We also conducted a three day Culture through Cuisine camp with the indigenous youth of Wulai, bringing them on a trip around the world through the creation of cuisine. This year just through our Culture through Cuisine camps we took kids and adults on an adventure through 7 countries across the globe; spanning from Italy, France, to Japan and Mexico. Things are so much easier to learn when you are an active participant and even more memorable when the five senses, such as taste, are incorporated.

2023 also saw us launch our Movement series of classes with boxing skills of Brazilian champion Andre Terere to the orphanage in Taoyuan.



Physical sports and movement is a great outlet for youth and having Andre share his background with the kids really showed them a Brighter Future awaits them, as his dedication to his sport has taken him around the world even if his upbringing could have prevented so.

2023 also saw us celebrate our 10th year at Taoyuan MuHsiang Children's Home and we are already looking forward to 2024 when we ring in the 10th year of our BUILD A HOME Project - so be sure to check up back with us. At year end for our 12th year of Jia-Xin's Gift and Necessities Drive, we chose once again to work with SUIS, a premiere online platform for plant-based food staples, and with Vegan Heaven's bakers-turn-rice-farmers. As per custom, we incorporated workshops in addition to our necessities drive as we believe accompaniment and spending time together is more important than material objects and giving back to others is a form of empowerment.

This year we chose to have each of our locations and communities make peanut butter pumpkin

doggy treats to donate to one of our favorite animal welfare organizations Mary's Doggies. This showed kids that they could also be empowered to help others and in the end over the course of 2 months in various locations, over 300 doggy treats were lovingly created and donated.

We hope we can continue to walk and grow alongside our youth and expand our network of resources for a well rounded support system so the future is brighter for all. We look forward to the new year when kids and new Big Friend volunteers can become a part of the Bright Side Projects neighborhood and family!

THANK YOU!



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Over the Years

Since 2012 and our first workshop in ChingChuan, Bright Side Projects has traveled to various corners of Taiwan from Yilan to Orchid Island for a total of 10 locations. We have focused our long term involvement in communities when we have the available resources and believe in smaller classes sizes to encourage learning and engagement. Because of this we will only permit 8-15 youth per workshop; over the years we've had over 3,000 seats filled in approximately 365 creative education workshops.

Big Friend volunteers are welcomed to participate in the workshops so we aim for a ratio of 1:1 or 1:3 if possible, so that each child feels unique and cared for. Over the course of the year our camps are mostly hosted on weekends with exception of summer and winter vacation; workshops are often 3-6 hours and include the making of or serving plant-based meals.

2,323

BIG FRIEND
VOLUNTEERS

10

LOCATIONS

365

ACTIVITIES

3,143

PARTICIPANTS



2023 Report

7

LOCATIONS

435

PARTICIPANTS

25

ACTIVITIES

239

BIG FRIEND
VOLUNTEERS



2023 Report

374

PLANT-BASED
MEALS

7

COUNTRIES
CUISINE
SAMPLED



BRIGHT SIDE
會 樹 光 醬

Bright Side x SDGs



Bright Side Projects has always been on the forefront of instilling social issues into our creative education workshops, from capitalism, environmentalism, cultural appropriation, and an understanding of difficulties and challenges faced by different groups of people or non human animals. With the announcement of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, we have formally inducted several of the goals into our workshops.

Bright Side Projects also incorporates the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and United Nations Principles for Older Persons pending on our target. Raising the bar of standard is an achievement we all should strive for.



BSP x SDGs



● SDGS 4 QUALITY EDUCATION

. Organization of enriching creative education workshops for youth to provide them with the opportunities to learn and express themselves, expanding their horizons and experience all within the classroom.



● SDGS 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Encourage diversity, advocate equal opportunities for all, we design our curriculum for different groups to ensure that they obtain the education they also deserve, and provide material resources to families that benefit the most.



● SDGS 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Supporting local organic farmers and small businesses whenever possible. Minimize food waste and use of expiry items as non-food workshop materials.



● SDGS 13 CLIMATE ACTION

Promote a plant-based diet without using products containing animal ingredients, and stress on conservation and environmental topics within creative education. We attempt to lessen excessive packaging and use zero waste wrapping.



● SDGS 17 PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships with groups that have similar goals so we can jointly implement sustainable goals through our collaborations.

Bright Side Core



**CREATIVE
EDUCATION**



**BRIGHTER
FUTURES**



**HEART
FULFILLMENT**



**BIG FRIEND
TRAINING**



CREATIVE EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

於台灣各地舉辦多元藝術創意教育課程

Background

PACE WORKSHOPS (PARTicipatory Creative Education) PACE goes beyond traditional forms of education by combining participation and creative arts as part of the learning process. Through teamwork, PACE workshops have the ability to introduce social issues and other educational subjects in a fun, interactive, and engaging way while aiding in learning retention for youth and adults.

Long Term Implications

Workshops helps Bright Side Projects obtain insight and build organic relationships and trust with individuals and community.

嚮光核心



**CREATIVE
EDUCATION**



**BRIGHTER
FUTURES**



**HEART
FULFILLMENT**



**BIG FRIEND
TRAINING**



心滿意足計畫

HEART FULFILLMENT

提供糧食及物資補給包，減輕家庭的壓力

Background

Bright Side Project's plant-based food fulfillment program empowering underserved communities through food distribution and engaging youths to cook and share plant-based meals with their neighbors. We work with local organic farmers and eateries to provide delivery of basic food staples to families and host bimonthly plant-based meal prep sessions featuring Kids in the Kitchen. Kids in the Kitchen empowers kids by having them cook free plant-based meals to share with others in their community.

Long Term Implications

We aim to alleviate hunger and food instability, by reducing stress from not knowing when meals will come from, children can focus more on education and self-development during workshops.

PACE Creative Education

PACE WORKSHOPS (PARTICIPATORY CREATIVE EDUCATION) PACE goes beyond traditional forms of education by combining participation and creative arts as part of the learning process. Through teamwork, PACE workshops have the ability to introduce social issues and other educational subjects in a fun, interactive, and engaging way while aiding in learning retention for youth and adults. Workshops include art therapy, plant-based cooking, metal smith, wood craft, animal welfare, photography, and more. Workshops helps Bright Side Projects obtain insight and build organic relationships and trust with individual youth and community.

Culture through Cuisine

Learning about culture through cuisine

Body & Movement

Activities that benefits physical and mental health.

Advocacy Through Art

Using art to change the world

Mini Me

Understanding the self to gain self love

Bright Moments

Diversity of classes to supplement Bright Side



Culture through Cuisine 嚮食文化探索



Purpose

Discover and learn about various cultures through creating and sharing cuisine.

Description

The Culture through Cuisine is a delicious series of classes engaging the five senses that allows everyone to experience and “travel” through different corners of the world by creating plant-based cuisines.

We created the curriculum so that everyone has the ability to experience world travel even if it’s not logistically feasible in reality. Having the of not only eaten but created the cuisine is a conversation starter aiding in socialization by connecting people through shared experiences.

What is learned

Fundamentals of cooking and or baking
Cuisine and origins of cuisine
History, culture, and pop culture of the
area we are visiting

#嚮食文化探索

#純植飲食

#culturethroughcuisine

#sharingmeals

#plantbased

Advocacy Through Art

藝術讓愛發聲



Purpose

Use the power of art to make the world into a better place.

Description

The "Advocacy Through Art" series welcomes us to learn about a new world and empowers by kids (us) channeling their artistic talents to make a positive impact on the world. We created the curriculum so that everyone knows that they are also capable of helping others. Art in any medium can be utilized for much more than self expression and self help - but also to make the world into a better place. Nothing is more empowering than being able to rise others up.

What is learned

Artistic skill
Charity and community service
Social awareness

#藝術讓愛發聲
#advocacythroughart
#empowerment

MINI ME 迷你我



PURPOSE

Creative methods aiding in understanding of oneself to enhance socialization and communication.

DESCRIPTION

“Mini Me” is a series of empowerment and therapeutic art courses that commands an introspection of knowing oneself first, and thus, how to interact with others. Through innovative, creative forms and guidance of Big Friends, students will learn valuable tools to tap their “inner child” and express themselves so they can compassionately communicate and connect with others.

We created this curriculum because communication is key for building relationships. The first step in communication invariably comes through the form of understanding ourselves. For Bright Side Projects in which promoting empathy is important, knowing the “mini me” inside of us and practicing kindness to ourselves and others is the key to a compassionate world.

What is learned

Self introspection
Communication
Empathy
Self kindness

#迷你我
#同理心
#minime
#compassionatecommunication

Body and Movement 舞動身心



PURPOSE

Incorporation of sports and activities that benefits physical and mental health.

DESCRIPTION

“Body and Movement” classes are centered on wellness including various sports and activities. Activities often encourage understanding of self, team work, and helps aid in building of confidence and self-esteem. This was created to ensure that PACE workshops provides a well-rounded and diverse curriculum and we believe that having health is just as important as knowledge.

What is learned

Self introspection
Increased consciousness
Self Kindness
Teamwork

#舞動身心
#身心健康
#bodyandmovement
#athletics
#mindfulness

Bright Moments 嚮光時刻



PURPOSE

Add depths to Bright Side Projects curriculum.

DESCRIPTION

“Bright Moments” are unique programs, camps, and workshops are created tailored for our community. Although these are mainly Bright Side Projects initiatives, we have also previously collaborated with various teachers and organizations to make these programs even more meaningful.

The unique programs are made to fulfill or supplement the needs of our community, but continue to fall in line with Bright Side Projects mission and DNA.

INCLUDES

Programs and camps have included our Build a Home, special FX makeup to teach about media effects, and eco-friendly infused outings such as Fulong sand sculpturing, surf camps, ocean conservation trips, beach cleanups.

#嚮光時刻
#社會意識
#brightmoments
#socialawareness

Culture through Cuisine



PINATA PARTY

Through crafting their own pinatas and creation of cali-mexican food, kids learn about culture.

SKILLS LEARNED :

VARIOUS CULTURES
HANDICRAFT AND ARTS
TEAMWORK
SELF EXPRESSION
ENVIRONMENTALISM





WANHUA

PINATA PARTY

CALI MEX BURRITO
NACHO BOWL
FRUIT SALAD





BRIGHT SIDE
嚮光協會



BRIGHT SIDE
嚮光協會

📍 MiaoLi, ChingChuan, Nangang

ANIMATED HALLOWEEN

From making horror-ific food to guessing the human anatomy parts of body they were touching in mystery boxes, and quick animations, we learned about this culture that was transplanted from the UK and evolved into something perhaps even spookier in the United States.

SKILLS LEARNED

FIVE SENSES
REACTION
IMITATION
BASIC DRAWING
COOKING SKILLS
HUMAN ANATOMY



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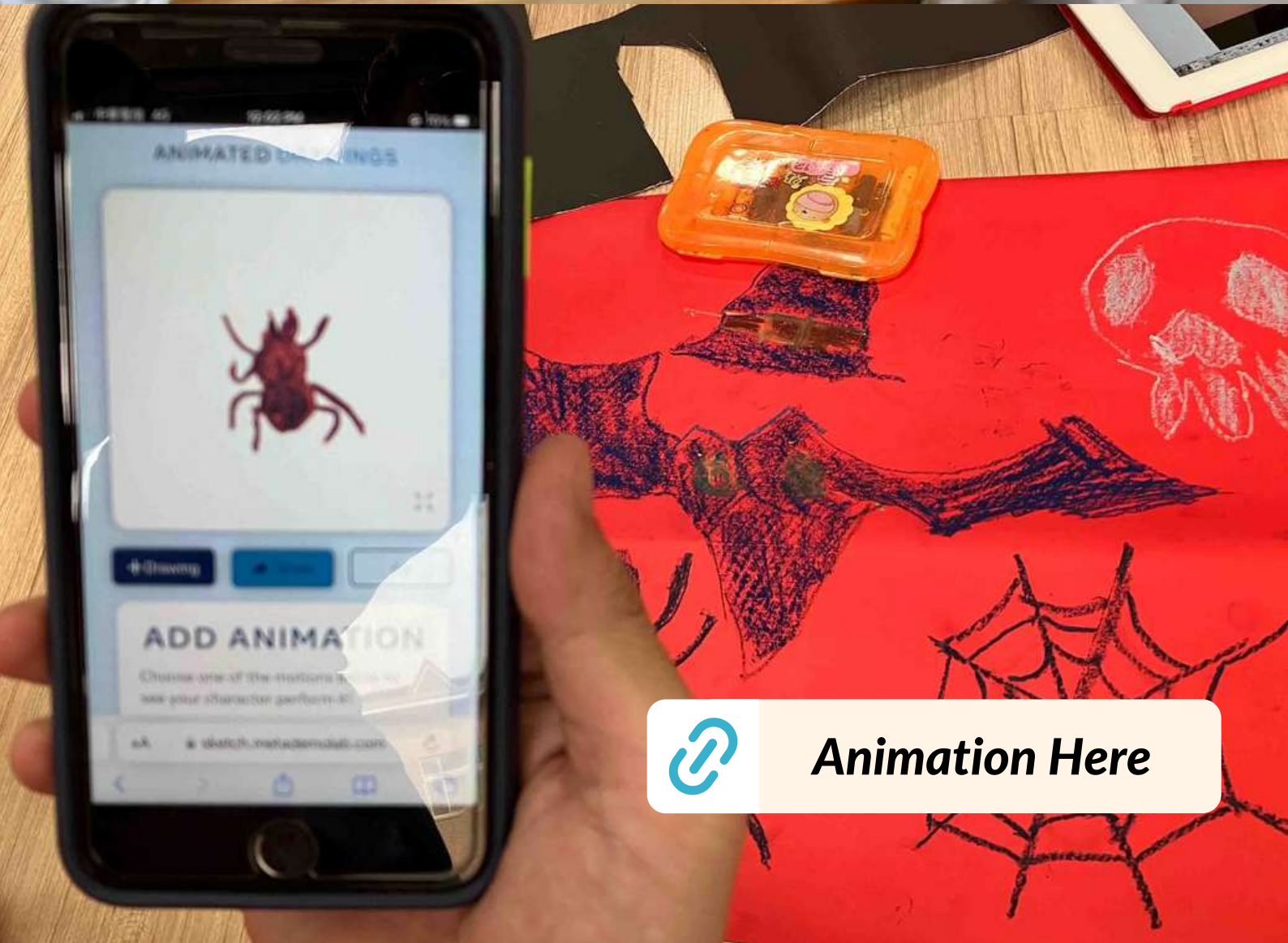


CHINGCHUAN

FRIGHTFUL FEAST

**EYEBALL OMNIPORK PASTA
EYEBALL FRUIT JUIC
WITCHES FINGERS**







 **Taoyuan**

BOXING CHAMPIONS

This time we learned a little something different - it was not only about boxing as a sport but how dedication can change someone's life, as it has for our Brazilian coach Andre.

SKILLS LEARNED

MUAY THAI AND
BOXING
BRAZILIAN CULTURE
TEAMWORK
CAREER PATHS







TAOYUAN

BOXING

BOLOGNESE PASTA

FRUIT SALAD

CHOCOLATE BANANA BREAD

POMENGRANATE MULLED 'WINE'



Advocacy through Art

 Wanhua

ADVOCACY THROUGH ART PAWS & PIXELS

We hosted a meaningful creative education workshop whereas youth overcame their fear of dogs through the lens of the camera. Their photos and videos taken with the children also assisted Mary's Doggies in helping furry friends find their forever homes.

SKILLS LEARNED

BASIC CAMERA SKILLS
ANIMAL WELFARE
OVERCOMING FEAR







 **WANHUA**

ADVOCACY THROUGH ART

BEYOND MEAT PASTA
GARLIC BREAD
FRUIT SALAD



 **WANHUA**

03.08

STRAWBERRY

DAIFUKU DIY

**JAPANESE PORK
CUTLET CURRY LUNCH**





📍 Miaoli, ChingChuan, Nangang, Taoyuan

YEAR END GIFTING DOGGY TREATS

We hosted another series of gift creation workshops at year end, this time we had everyone create pumpkin peanut butter doggy treats to donate to Mary's Doggies! Treats are important so the dogs can have positive reinforcement during training. Having everyone help with baking cookies empowers them to change the world.

SKILLS LEARNED

ANIMAL WELFARE
BASICS OF BAKING
COMPASSION
CHARITY



BRIGHTSIDE
耀光協會



Year End Necessities

In 2012, we first fulfilled the wish of a five year old JiaXin, born in Taiwan and adopted to Canada by loving parents. Her father contacted us saying that Jia-Xin wanted to spread warmth and generosity during the holidays to the children she left behind in Taiwan. Since then we have continued to keep our word every year in providing not only gifts for the youth in Taiwan but also paired this with gift creation workshops in which they are empowered to make their own gift to either give to someone they are thankful for or to themselves. This shows them that the holidays are not just about receiving but also there is goodness and strength in being able to help and thank others.

Bright Side Projects also works with local plant-based businesses, often supporting local organic famers, to secure basic food staples to deliver to families that would benefit the most. We currently deliver to two locations: Taitung and ChingChuan.

Necessities

Working with communities to deliver necessities and food staples to those who benefit the most.

Gift Creation

Spending time with each other is the best part of the warmth of holidays - giving back to others is even more empowering.

Santa Jia-Xin

As per Jia-Xin's wish, for Santa to deliver gifts to kids in zero-waste wrapping



2023 YEAR END

242

PORTIONS OF
FOOD STAPLES

60 kg

VEGAN HEAVEN
ORGANIC RICE

20

HOUSEHOLDS

5

LOCATIONS FOR
WORKSHOPS

CHINGCHUAN

TAITUNG





Santa Jia-Xin

As per Jia-Xin's wish, for Santa to deliver gifts to kids in zero-waste wrapping



Necessities

Working with communities to deliver necessities and food staples to those who benefit the most.



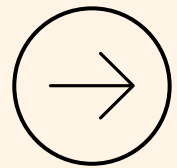
Gift Creation

Spending time with each other is the best part of the warmth of holidays - giving back to others is even more empowering.

Diverse Partnerships

Changing the world is a collaborative effort that we all need to try to achieve together - no one can get left behind. We are fortunate to have such great partners and to meet more collaborators on the SDGs journey so we can offer an even, more diverse breadth of curriculum in our creative education. In 2023 we welcomed VAST into our family and they started their journey just as others having in accompanying children in the journey of life. A well-rounded support system and resources can only come from working together. Showing children that they are loved takes action and patience. We've had so many new sponsors from the April 12th Charity Association and Riot Games via Global Giving.

We also hope that you can continue to support Bright Side Youth and welcome you on this journey with us. We can't do this without you!



Culture through Cuisine



SUMMER CAMP

We had the extraordinary honor of being able to host a 3 day summer camp with indigenous youth in Wulai, thanks to the April 12th Charity Association. We brought in our classic Culture through Cuisine workshops taking youth on “trips” to Italy, Japan, and France by having them recreate menus and learning about cultural sites.

SKILLS LEARNED

BASIC COOKING SKILLS
BASIC BAKING SKILLS
CULTURAL ICONS





WULAI

08.09

CULTURE

THROUGH CUISINE

ENGLISH MUFFIN PIZZAS

HANDMADE PIZZAS

BEYOND MEAT BOLOGNESE

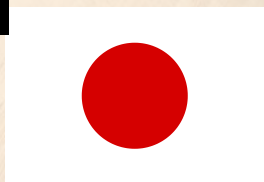
PASTA





WULAI

08.10



CULTURE THROUGH CUISINE

FUSHI ROLLS AND TOFU
MISO SOUP WITH UDON
NAGASI-SOMEN NOODLES



WULAI

08.11

**CULTURE
THROUGH
CUISINE**

**FRENCH CREPES SAVORY:
MUSHROOM, VEGAN
CHEESE, BELL PEPPERS,
BEYOND MEAT
SWEET CREPES WITH
FRESH FRUIT AND
WHIPPED CREAM**

BRIGHT SIDE

嚮 協 會



SURF & OCEAN CONSERVATION

以戶外運動起家的 VAST 帶領孩子走出戶外，認識海洋保育和蔬食健康。淨灘行動、衝浪體驗、認識農場與植物是孩子們啟蒙永續發展的開始。

SKILLS LEARNED

OCEAN CONSERVATION
BASIC COOKING SKILLS
BAKING SKILLS
CULTURAL SITES





BRIGHT SIDE
曙光協會



BRIGHT SIDE
曙光協會



📍 VAST Cali Eatery

YEAR END CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thank you to our partner VAST, from hosting kids this summer at the surf camp to rice transplanting, they've also invited some of our youths for a delicious Christmas meal paired with a mini eco-friendly Christmas tree workshop! We were also happy to put our baking gear to use and bring in homemade brownies topped with non-dairy Nice Cream.





 **VAST Cali Eatery**

12.22 YEAR END PARTY

TORTILLA CHIPS
WRAPPED SALAD
PUMPKIN SOUP
VEGETABLE WRAPS
TANGYUAN DESSERT
BROWNIE COCONUT ICE CREAM
SANDWICHES





Interview

We were so honored to having Brazilian boxing instructor Andre Terere become a part of the Bright Side Projects family this year. With over 16 years of boxing experience in various forms under his belt and numerous championships, he has traveled the world over. We had him share his experiences with the children and also introduced them to the sport of boxing and the benefits it brings!



Can you introduce yourself and how you came to know about Bright Side Projects?

Hi everyone, my name is Andre! I'm from Brazil and have been training as a fighter for 22 years and have been teaching for almost 20 years.

I came to Taoyuan MuHsiang Children's Home after Daisy, the founder of Bright Side Projects, extended me an invite. I often see her posting on social media her interaction with kids. I like children a lot and was very happy to receive the invite to join her in getting to know the kids.

What are the benefits of boxing for kids?

You may believe that this is a special group of children right? In reality, MuHsiang's kids are just like any other ordinary kids that need guidance. This is my second time coming here because I want to introduce boxing to them.

For me, boxing is not just a sport or exercise - this is a career that has brought many opportunities in my life so I want to integrate boxing into their lives and give them a different experience. Boxing is also a sport that requires interaction with many people which allows children to hone their social interaction skills in the process of getting a great workout. I will let the kids punch as much as they want during the class, my purpose in this physical training is to consume all their energy - that's what a great workout is about!

I'm really grateful that the kids enjoy this class and like me so much! This type of interaction we have is so pure - the smiles so real - really fills me to the brim with passion and motivation. I'm really very happy!



What was your first impression of the kids?

The first problem I encountered was the language barrier. I cannot communicate directly with the children since I cannot speak Chinese and the children can't speak Portuguese. However difficult this may have been in the beginning we soon overcame it by making use of body language and motions. The boxing class kicked up with warm up exercising and I encouraged the children to mimic the same movements. At that moment, there was no distance between us as there were ways we were able to communicate nonverbally - language was no longer an obstacle!

What was a memorable moment for you?

Children always have smiles on their faces during the courses, their smiles are very contagious!! The children's smiles are so sincere that even though I left Taoyuan orphanage after the courses, their smiles left an impression on me.



Why would you want to partner us?

Maybe when you see me you think that I'm always happy right? This is because I always maintain a positive attitude and want to convey this same attitude to the kids. I really enjoy giving them a big hug because for me, hugging is one of the most intimate and warm contact between people.

I'm happy that I can bring joy and warm to the kids at Taoyuan MuHsiang Children's Home and leave with the memory of the smiles on their faces.

Is there anything you want to say to the children?

I want the kids know that no matter what socioeconomic class they may be in they will always have dreams. Our role is to aid them, provide them with tools, so they can have the ability to pursue these dreams to make it into reality.



THANK YOU!

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