

Focus on Girls Film Making Workshop – “A Girl’s Life”

Background

Gender stereotyping and discrimination affect women and girls regardless of their social and economic status, age, religion or color. Whether in Hong Kong or in other parts of the world, gender expectations frame and limit women’s and girls’ sense of self, goals and achievements. The Women’s Foundation’s benchmark study, “The Status of Women and Girls in Hong Kong 2006”, illustrates that they are deeply influenced by stereotypes and play an active role in enforcing such internalized values. The challenge is finding ways of breaking these barriers to move towards a society free from gender stereotyping and discrimination to ensure that women and girls will be able to realize their full potential, enjoy the fruits of development and contribute to HK society.

Program

Believing in the importance of starting early, The Women’s Foundation Girls Program is looking into creative strategies and opportunities to empower girls with skills to become economically self reliant, successful and leaders of the future. It is important to reach out to girls in different but appropriate and relevant ways and effect programs that will help them achieve their promise.

Project

The Women’s Foundation is collaborating with Focus on Film Hong Kong to conduct a film making workshop targeted at youths in the city. Focus on Film is a non-profit organization that provides young people in Hong Kong educational experiences in visual media. The professional filmmakers facilitating the workshop will guide the participants in the creation of three films based on the theme “A Girl’s Life”, aiming to raise awareness on gender issues and stereotyping in Hong Kong society.

The workshop offers an opportunity to thirty (30) girls and boys aged 11 – 21 to learn how to write, direct, act, edit, shoot and produce films. It hopes to empower the young participants, especially girls, to find their own creative voice and discuss their issues and concerns. All films produced will be screened in various venues and will be used as educational and orientation materials to raise gender awareness.

The workshop is offered completely free of charge. Participants will be selected based on merit and expressed interest to be part of the program. They are expected to complete and participate in all scheduled workshops, activities and assignments as well as actively engage and work with their designated team.

Timeline

Month/ Activity	Sept '08	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan '09	Feb	Mar
Recruitment	■						
Launching		■					
Workshops			■	■			
Production				■	■	■	
Screening							■

About The Women's Foundation

The Women's Foundation (TWF), a registered Hong Kong charity founded in 2002, promotes the full participation of women and girls in all aspects of Hong Kong society by building resources to support change through research, education, public awareness and programs.

The Foundation's benchmark study "The Status of Women and Girls in Hong Kong 2006" shows that Hong Kong has an urgent need to empower women and girls, in particular in the areas of leadership, poverty and girls. The Foundation is now working with local NGO partners to develop programs and projects that tackle each of these three priority areas. A blueprint on ways to improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong can be found in the Foundation's latest report – "Closing the Gender Gap in Hong Kong – Conversations with the Community".

For more information about The Women's Foundation, please visit:

www.thewomensfoundationhk.org.