

JA AP WORKS

July, 2016

Message from Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific

Dear JA Asia Pacific Colleagues,

Things at JA never slow down, especially in the summer months when summer programs and planning are coming together.

To begin, we are honored to welcome two new Board members to the JA Asia Pacific Board. They are Mrs. Alice Chou, Director of L2 Foundation and Mr. PG Raghuraman, Managing Director and COO for Financial Services for the Asia Pacific Region. We are excited to have their support as we continue to grow and reach more young people in the region.

We thank Rob Gardiner for his leadership on the Member Council in the last two years. During these two years, Rob has represented our region very well on the Member Council for which we are most grateful. The nomination process for Rob's replacement is open in progress and election result will be announced on August 8th.

We are proud that Hau Yee Ng will be serving the second year of a two-year term and be providing the continuity for our region.

In this issue of the JA AP WORKS, Sanphot Thiewpraserkul, our ITC and COY alumnus from Thailand will tell his JA story. Sanphot had shared his insights on youth challenges and dream in the recent JA AP Youth Talk conference and many in the audience were touched by his passion in pursuing his dream.

The Regional initiatives, Programs and Events area reports:

- Strong momentum towards the 10th ITC in Hong Kong from August 7 - 11
- The official launch of Program Central
- The start of the Hewitt 2015-16 reporting cycle
- A warm and successful Facebook live chat farewell to Mr. Clifford A. Hart, Consul General of the United States of America to Hong Kong and Macau
- JA AP Youth Talk conference videos available online!

On the local events front, we bring you the JA Startmeup Summer Boot Camp from JA Hong Kong.

Until the next JA AP Works, let's work together to create a world where every young person can be inspired and empowered.

The JA Story

Sanphot Thiewpraserkul is the team lead of ReKUnize from Thailand - the 2nd Place winner of JA Asia Pacific Company of the Year 2016. Sanphot is also the 2nd place winner of ITC 2015. JA Asia Pacific is proud to feature Sanphot's story and aspirations and challenges with members and youth regionally, and globally



About Sanphot

- 16-year-old
- Single Child of an entrepreneur father and stay home mother
- Responsible for school's newspaper and yearbook
- Interest in scientific research
- Feel grateful for parents in providing him the best education platform possible
- Considered himself a 'geek'

Top youth issue for Thailand in Sanphot's eyes

Education. Unlike the better resourced urban school that he is attending, many youths in the rural areas do not have access to a fraction of such resources. Many families in rural Thailand depend on the weather and agriculture to pay off

the bills, buy food and children's education sadly fell to the bottom of the list. As a result, youths lack necessary skill to have a proper career and follow the vicious cycle of poverty struggle through generations. This means that in the long run Thailand cannot go forward as a country as the advancements most likely will take place only in big cities. But even that, even the kids that have opportunities to acquire knowledge often lacks the "stage" to use their knowledge and skills to prepare them for the real world!

Why technology and science?

I could still have recalled when my father introduced me to aliens, space, and all the Star Wars characters in the TV. As a kid I watch documentaries more than cartoons, my favorites being Myth Busters, and how do they do it from the discovery channel. Every now and then when I see new technology being showed on these documentary channels, I wish to become an engineer who develops new technology helping people and advancing the world forward and to one day achieve commercial success with these new technology - like what Ellen Musk is now doing with Space X. I want to become Tony Stark one day.

JA Experience

Imagine it is now half pass 4am and you find out that you only have 1 can of "red bull" left in the fridge in the hotel room and worst of all the competition and events starts at 8am next day...and you did these exact same thing for at least 3 days - now that was my first JA experience at ITC. It takes perseverance, will power and dedication to succeed. Likewise, for JA COY Program, with a bigger team and pride on the line as we had to work at resolving real conflicts with factories and internally within our own team, it was no doubt a challenge. We all felt proud that we can turn nothing into something and actually succeed with. I suffer from a condition where stress makes me want to throw up all the time especially before presentations and I was so close to giving up at some points. But I pulled through with thanks to my partner and friends that helped me pull through this "rite of passage". To some of us, the JA experience was like "the heroes' journey"; a challenge and a trial for us to mature like monomyth stories told in many literatures.

The JA impact

The impact *JA has made* was huge. JA has made me realized that everything is possible as long as you try. I once thought the thing that I've done in JA was nearly impossible. The idea that jobs was for adults and that kids can't run a company just became invalid. JA has helped to show us who we really are and what we could really do. The sky is not our limit but it is our own mindsets that limits what we can do and achieve.

In 10 years.....

In 10 years? I would like to imagine myself in a secret lab building an iron man suit like Tony Stark, in charge of a Billion-dollar industry going on these amazing adventures in space. Back to reality - here I imagine myself crammed up in a lab somewhere doing my research for getting a master or PHD degree in science or engineering at MIT. I want to see movies

like Star Wars come to life and to do that we need advancements in science. I also know that science when coupled with business could solve many problems and advance us in many fields and change our lives.

Most proud moments

I'm proud of every success I've had in JA as an individual and as a member of a team. I'm also proud that I could show my parents and to myself that I can take care of myself and be successful and that my parents have raised me well. BUT if you have to ask which moment I'm most proud of, it would be the moment when JA announces my name and my team's name to receive an award. I'm proud of those moments because they were the moment that confirm how far we have come – seeing how our idea come to life and achieve success. We just have to have open minds, a lot of persistence, and as the slogan of Nike goes - "just do it".

JA alumni know that JA programs empower students to make the connection between what they learn in school and how it can be applied in the real world. Alumni can become powerful, passionate community JA supporters. After all, who better to speak about the importance of JA than those who have put lessons to work for actual results?

Please visit www.jaasiapacific.com to register as JA Alumni and for more information on volunteering opportunities in the Asia Pacific region.

Regional Initiatives, Programs, and Events



The 10th ITC will commence in Hong Kong in less than 2 weeks!

We are proud to announce that 48 students from 8 Asia Pacific markets will come together in Hong Kong to compete in the 10th ITC this year at the Salisbury in Hong Kong from August 7 to 11, 2016. Please stay tuned for the short videos

featuring ITC Alumni starting in early August and don't forget to follow the latest ITC actions by following <http://www.facebook.com/AsiaPacificITC/> on Facebook!

JA Program Central Launches



We had a successful launch of the JA Program Central portal a few weeks ago. With a goal to increase collaboration, learning, and innovation, we're excited that the new portal is now being used by the network. The portal includes the ability to search by JA pillar, country, student age, or a combination; see which JA members run a specific program; get information on a program's impact; and more. Create your own account and get started today by visiting: <http://www.japrogramcentral.org>

The 2015-2016 Hewitt Annual Reporting system is now open!

Please have the completed submission for all data and supplemental attachments to the ROC by the due date established by the ROC by August 31, 2016. Please contact Adrian Lee should there be any questions in the meantime!

Vivian Lau, President of JA Asia Pacific moderated Former U.S. Consul General to Hong Kong and Macau, Mr. Clifford Hart Facebook live chat event on July 12, 2016.



In the live event, Former Consul General Hart had responded candidly to questions from Chris Wong, JA Alumnus on roles youth of Hong Kong and Macau can play in US-China relationship, to his most unforgettable moments and favorite food and city. You can view the event by clicking [here](#).

Photo on left: Vivian Lau and Former Consul General Hart at Facebook live chat event.

Opportunity to review the gist of JA AP Youth Talk conference online



Visit the [JA Asia Pacific Facebook page](#) to check out the 'Behind the scenes' moments of the recent JA AP Youth Talk Conference and JA AP Welcome Dinner! The full online version of the conference will be posted online by end of July. Please stay tuned.

Local Events Highlight

JA Startmeup Summer Boot Camp is a unique program by JA Hong Kong to enable young people to build their confidence, unleash their potential and take control of their future in a fast changing and competitive world.



JA Startmeup Summer Boot Camp is a 5-day residence program. Participants will acquire life mastery skills and learn the essential steps of creating a business through a series of fun-filled and exciting indoor and outdoor activities. They will also learn from inspiring role models and business volunteers.

To see what's happening locally around the region, please view the [Event Calendar on JA Asia Pacific Event page](#).

People

Get to know our two new JA AP Board Members.



Mrs. Alice Chou is co-founder of Junior Achievement International China (JA China) together with her husband Paul Chou. She has been instrumental in the establishment of a strong JA China presence and influence in the economic/financial literacy and entrepreneurship education space in China. From 2001-2003, Alice served as the Executive Director of JA China, leading the initial effort in establishing a strong staff team for local office operations and program implementation in Shanghai and Beijing. JA China is currently in more than 10 cities and has a cumulative student impact of over 5 million. She now serves as the U.S. Representative, Consultant and Board Member of JA China.



Mr. PG Raghuraman is currently the Managing Director and COO for Financial Services for the Asia Pacific Region. His role covers a wide range of responsibilities including Operations, Finance, Strategy, Leadership Development, Risk Management and Human Resources. Prior to this he was the Head of APAC BPO and India BPO. PG has about 25 years of experience with Accenture and a globally acknowledged leader who has served in prestigious fora such as the CEO Advisory Council, Global Leadership Council and is currently the Global Sponsor for the Leadership Development Program for Financial Services in 2016. PG is passionate about children's education and sees this as a key success factor for overall economic and cultural growth of societies and nations. He has been serving on the Board of JA India since 2013.

A story on a JA Alumni or Volunteer? News on people? Need help to promote local events?

Please email [Winnie Ho](#) to share with the network through the JA AP WORKS

Until the next JA AP WORKS, have an inspiring and empowering day!

