



2022
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2023

BADI FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT



BADI FOUNDATION
巴迪基金會

www.badi-foundation.org



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Dear Friends of the Badi Foundation,

As Macao emerged from the global pandemic and various restrictions were lifted, the 2022-23 academic year saw the lines of action of the Badi Foundation progress and, drawing on lessons learned over the last three years, advance into new areas of learning.

One theme that emerges in reflecting on the activities and developments of the last year is the centrality of knowledge to individual and collective progress. This principle found expression in the service units carried out at the primary level of the School of the Nations, through which students advanced their understanding of systems and processes and used this knowledge to be of service to others by growing vegetables and preparing a meal for their older classmates. At the middle school level, students consulted about needs in their communities and, drawing on their knowledge of the social and physical environment as well as insights into moral and ethical principles, undertook a range of service projects to contribute to the betterment of society. In upper secondary, students explored questions related to the nature of knowledge and how we know what we claim to know, developing their capacity to assess the validity of various forms of information and engage with others in a process of investigating reality.

Another focus of learning in the last year was raising consciousness of values and principles that can promote the healthy use of technology in the school community. In particular, as new technologies emerge, many

questions have arisen about whether and how to use them, as well as how to assist students to develop a framework that enables them to use technology in ways that contribute to their own well being as well as that of their communities. This year, some promising steps were taken to engage with parents to explore some of these questions.

In a related vein, efforts were also made to support teachers as they engage in a process of systematic learning about how to empower their students to take charge of their own moral and intellectual growth and contribute to the progress of society. This included action research seminars carried out by the Centre for Continuing Education through which groups of teachers engaged in exploration of fundamental concepts related to education and how they can be applied to the educational processes underway in their classrooms and beyond.

We hope you enjoy reading about these and other developments in the pages that follow. As always, we are deeply grateful for your trust and support. We look forward to continuing to work together to contribute to the material and spiritual progress of Macao.

The Badi Foundation

INTRODUCTION

Badi Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to working with like-minded individuals, institutions, and groups to contribute to the material and spiritual progress of Macao. Our efforts focus principally on learning about the development and implementation of educational programmes, and the evolution of institutional structures, that are conducive to releasing the potential of young people to take charge of their own growth and contribute to the advancement of society.

PROGRAMMATIC AREAS

▶ Formal Education

School of the Nations offers education to over 700 students from kindergarten through secondary school in Macao. The school offers programmes characterized by academic rigor and an integrated approach to the moral and intellectual development of its students.

▶ Moral Empowerment of Junior Youth And Youth

Drawing on the talents of a group of youth volunteers and working in partnership with a number of local educational institutions, the Moral Empowerment through Language Programme seeks to release the potential of 12-15 year olds to contribute to the progress of their communities.

▶ Teacher Training

In collaboration with local educational institutions, the Centre for Continuing Education supports teachers in their efforts to refine their educational practice through a process of study, consultation, action, and reflection.

▶ Early Childhood Education

Implemented at the School of the Nations and by a number of other organizations in the region, the Hidden Gems Early Childhood Education Programme carefully integrates physical, intellectual, and spiritual education over a three-year period starting at age 3.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The efforts of the Badi Foundation are governed by an evolving conceptual framework, which includes beliefs about fundamental issues of existence, principles, values, approaches, and methods. This conceptual framework is elaborated and refined over time through a process of action, reflection, consultation, and study. Key elements of this framework include the following:

- Humanity is evolving towards a unified global civilization that is both materially and spiritually prosperous.
- Every individual has the right and obligation to participate in the construction of a peaceful and materially and spiritually prosperous society.
- Beyond the provision of goods and services, the goal of development is to develop capacity in individuals, institutions, and communities to participate in social progress.
- Development efforts are most effective when they begin at a modest scale and grow in scope and complexity as capacity is developed.
- Development initiatives should spring from the understandings and aspirations of participating populations and institutions.
- Group decision making should occur in a climate that permits different perspectives to be examined dispassionately, deepens understanding, and allows appropriate courses of action to be selected.
- Efforts are undertaken in a learning mode in which action is interspersed with constant reflection to articulate lessons learned, overcome challenges, and refine methods and approaches.
- Endeavors are guided by fundamental principles including recognition of the oneness of humanity, belief in the nobility of human beings, justice, and the equality of women and men.

SCHOOL OF THE NATIONS

Using knowledge for the benefit of others in lower Primary

In lower Primary this year, service-based learning units were introduced with the goal of developing students' spiritual qualities, English language abilities, skills, content knowledge, and conceptual understandings in an integrated and natural way.

At the Primary 2 level, the focus of the service-based learning unit was on how understanding processes and cycles can help students be of service to their community. As part of the unit, the students visited a farm in Coloane to learn about local agricultural practices and also planted lettuce and radishes in a garden on the rooftop of the school. This enabled students to understand the processes and cycles involved in growing plants and to consider how this knowledge could be used to serve others.



Using the vegetables they had grown, as well as other food they acquired, the students then prepared and served a meal for secondary students that included a written "gourmet" menu that described the dishes, where the ingredients of the meal came from, and the process used to prepare the meal.

While serving the meals, the interactions between the younger and older students were joyful and meaningful. The project benefited greatly from the support and participation of parents, who introduced a chef to provide cooking lessons and also equipment to support the students' project.



Strengthening bonds of unity in the neighborhood



On 2 March 2023, Primary 1 students from School of the Nations and their teachers visited the Primary department of neighboring Pui Va Middle School and kicked off a project entitled "Sending Love". The first session began with students singing songs about the joy and happiness we feel when we gather together in unity. Afterwards, students gathered in small groups and exchanged name cards they had created. Everyone had fun in the lively English activity.

This project aimed to cultivate students' social and communication skills, promote understanding and appreciation of diversity through exchange between students of different backgrounds, and establish inter-school collaboration.

A second visit took place on 27 April 2023, when the Primary Department of the School of the Nations organized a series of "Get to Know Your Neighbor" activities with students and teachers from Pui Va. We were thrilled to welcome 63 Grade 1 and 2 students and teachers from Pui Va to our Auditorium, where they presented a poetry performance that beautifully showcased and promoted Chinese culture.



The students from both schools also had the opportunity to interact with each other in small groups, getting to know each other more and learning about each other's cultures. It was heartwarming to see how quickly they bonded and formed deep and sincere connections with each other.

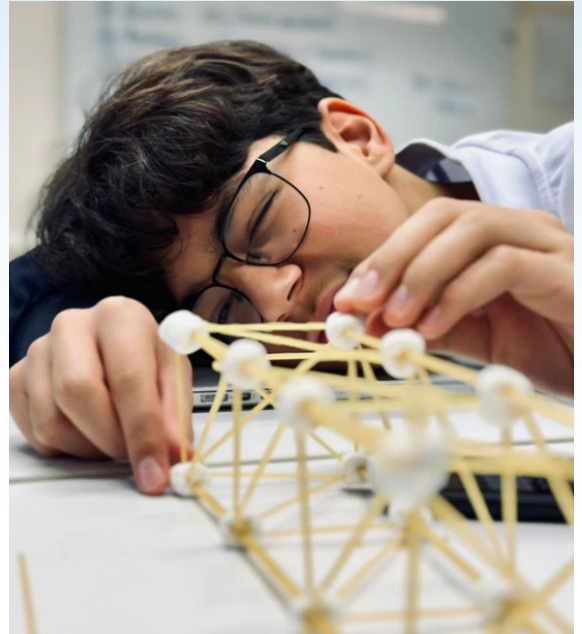
Through these activities, students learned the importance of caring for others in the community and gained a better understanding of the richness of the local culture.



Exploring the Nature of Knowledge in Upper Secondary

Theory of Knowledge is one of the core elements of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, which is offered at the Form 5 and Form 6 levels of the School. In this course, students reflect on the nature of knowledge and how we know what we claim to know.

One of the ways students involved in Theory of Knowledge engage with these questions is by creating an exhibition, based on a selected prompt, such as “Does all knowledge impose ethical obligations on those who know it?” In the exhibition, students selected three objects that they felt illuminated some aspect of their response to their chosen prompt.



During the exhibition, which was held on 7 June 2023, students engaged teachers, staff, and fellow students in lively conversation about the themes they had selected. Students’ projects covered a range of topics, such as examining the relationship between the individual, community, and institutions of society in the generation of knowledge, exploring t



the impact of religion in eliminating superstition, discussing different implications of the principle of the equality of women and men, and examining the relationship between culture and knowledge. One student’s exhibition based on the prompt – “How does the way that we organize or classify

knowledge affect what we know?” – explored how the use of statistics, while potentially beneficial, can also be misleading, such as in the case of using Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as the sole measure of the well-being of a nation. The exhibition was an opportunity for students to interact with abstract concepts and find ways to examine how these ideas could be applied to understand the world around them.

SCHOOL OF THE NATIONS

Raising awareness of principles to promote the healthy use of technology

A topic on the mind of many members of the school community is how to create an environment and put in place practices that are conducive to the healthy use of technology. An overarching question that has been guiding the school's inquiry in this area is how to harness the power of modern technologies without succumbing to their potentially harmful effects.



During the 2022-23 academic year, some spaces were created for parents and staff of the school to consult about this question. This included a space where staff of the school have been examining principles relevant to the purpose of education and the way in which technology can contribute to this purpose, as well as to better understand present issues related to technology usage in the school community. In addition, as part of an effort to engage with parents in this area, a coffee morning gathering was organized on the theme, 'Using electronic devices wisely'. At this gathering,

fifteen parents of kindergarten and primary students discussed the vision of the school to empower students to pursue a twofold purpose of developing their own intellectual and moral capacities while simultaneously contributing to the progress of society. The group also discussed how technology can serve this purpose of education and be a means to reinforce and express the values of the school community.



School of the Nations

Among other questions the group explored were: What constitutes a safe technological environment for our children? What challenges do we face when our children use electronic devices? What kind of support do parents need from the school?

A number of points were shared by the participants, including the importance of:

- teachers engaging students in discussion and providing them with guidance about the wise use of technology;
- parents engaging their children in activities that do not require the use of technology and having more family time, sports, play, and outings;
- parents establishing health practices early on so that their children do not become addicted to technology;
- having rules at home regarding use of technology;
- having open communication between parents and children; and
- not just relying on external controls, but also cultivating inner discipline in children and developing their capacity to make wise choices.

As a follow up, the parent engagement coordinator worked with the school counsellor and the technology task force to organize a seminar on technology for parents including a guest speaker from the psychotherapy centre of the Women's Association of Macau. There are also plans for further activities to explore these and other questions in the coming year.

MORAL EMPOWERMENT THROUGH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME



YOUTH
Move CAN
THE
WORLD

In the Moral Empowerment through Language (METL) Programme groups of junior youth study a set of materials that explore moral and spiritual concepts in an environment characterized by encouragement and mutual support. In the School of the Nations, study is facilitated by older youth, called animators, with the guidance and support of teachers. Study is complemented by service, artistic, and social activities. During the 2022-23 academic year, 100 Primary 6 and Form 1 students participated in the METL Programme at School of the Nations, facilitated by 48 Form 4 animators, with the support of teachers. In addition, 50 Form 2 students participated in the programme, facilitated by teachers.





This year, there was a significant increase in the number and quality of the service projects carried out by the junior youth groups. Among the projects carried out in the 2022-23 academic year were:

- Two groups raised funds for people who suffered from the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.
- Some groups prepared activities to discuss important themes with primary students such as kindness to others and prevention of bullying.
- Several groups organized activities to help students to manage stress and improve mental well-being.



- Several groups raised awareness of issues such as racism, autism spectrum disorder, appropriate use of social media, hygiene, and service.
- Some groups took action to help protect the environment, such as cleaning the school and areas of the surrounding neighborhood, creating a video and posters about animal extinction, creating a checklist of daily actions for environmental protection, and teaching classmates about pest control.
- Some groups showed appreciation by creating and giving gifts to others who are serving the community, such as security guards, cleaners, janitors, waiters, and librarians. Some also assisted the janitors with cleaning work as well as the librarians with work in the library.

In these and other ways, the junior youth groups were able to apply the principles and concepts they have been exploring through their participation in the METL Programme, work together to make contributions to the well-being of their communities, and experience the joy of serving others.



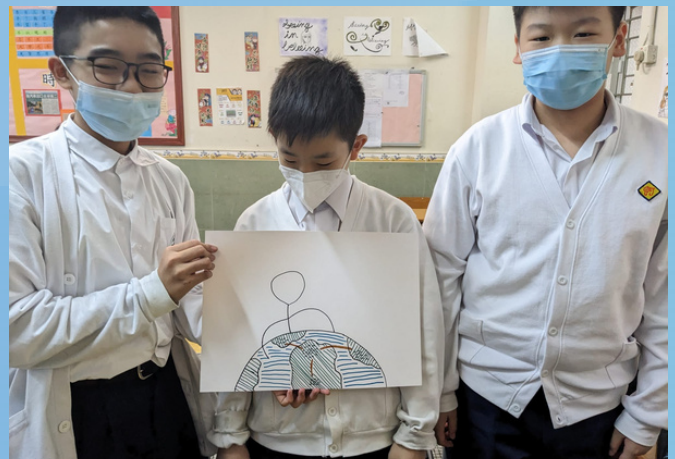
Pooi To Middle School

During the 2022-23 academic year, 23 Form 1 students from Pooi To Middle School participated in the METL Programme as a weekly 90 minute after school activity. This year, the school changed their approach to participation in the METL class. Instead of the students being selected for participation by teachers, the school allowed students to sign up on their own. As a result, we could see a higher level of motivation among the participants this year. The students were active in asking questions and were willing to help each other in reading the story and finishing the exercises in the book. They also remembered and used the vocabulary they learned from the story. Students at Pooi To discussed stories and exercises from the text *Walking the Straight Path*, exploring themes such as perseverance, unity, honesty, integrity, and forgiveness. The animators observed that some students were able to expand their vocabulary over the course of the year while also gaining more confidence to express themselves in English.

Overall, most students engaged actively in discussion of the moral concepts contained in the book, sharing reflections on the importance of unity in overcoming challenges faced by humanity, such as climate change and extremes of wealth and poverty, and also expressing their understanding of concepts and quotations they had studied in the texts through art and song.

In their end of year reflections students shared the following:

- One student commented that participating in METL helped her learn how to work together with other people, expanded her vocabulary and enhanced her ability to express herself, enabled her to help others to improve their English, and assisted her to gain confidence to present her ideas in front of her classmates. She also reflected that whereas she felt that she was sometimes rude to others before, through participation in the METL Programme, she became more polite and kind to others.
- Another student shared that she learned how to become a better person, and has developed more confidence to try new things and express herself.
- A student commented that through participating in the METL Programme he learned to be more friendly and honest and that his mother praised him because she noticed he was being more kind than in the past.
- One student shared that, he learned about different qualities and that he developed the ability “to express myself in answers without forcing others to have the same thought as me.”



CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) at School of the Nations offers educational programmes and courses seeking to promote teacher development and community well being.

Teachers as researchers programme

The teachers as researchers initiative emerged from a recognition of the need to provide a space in which teachers and aspiring teachers can consider their educational aims and practice in light of spiritual principles such as the oneness of humanity and the nobility of human beings. The programme, which focuses primarily on educators at the middle school and secondary levels, is organized around the central aim of supporting teachers to empower students to take charge of their own intellectual and moral growth and contribute to the progress of society.



The methodology of the programme includes a series of seminars exploring a conceptual framework for the moral empowerment of junior youth and youth, and action research projects undertaken by teachers that seek to apply various aspects of the conceptual framework to their educational practice.

Participants in the teacher training programme include current teachers as well as undergraduate students of education at the University of Macao who are carrying out their internship at the School of the Nations.



During the 2022-23 academic year, 32 teachers participated in the teachers as researchers programme. Among the insights that emerged from their experience was the importance of seeing the period of early adolescence as an age of promise, rather than crisis, and exploring ways in which an environment is created that supports the flourishing of this age group.

CCE looks forward to engaging with more teachers in this learning process in the coming year.

Summer Programme

CCE organized its first summer programme after the pandemic, receiving continuous support from parents. This year, a total of 143 primary school students and 18 middle school students participated, coming from different schools across Macao.

The summer programme focused on moral values, with themes such as "unity," "patience," "respect," and "cherishing resources." There were 13 different activities and workshops available, including archery, magic, balloon twisting, art, music, cooking, team building, and social skills workshops. The students looked forward to participating in different activities each day.

Spanning four weeks from mid-July to mid-August 2023, the summer programme concluded with a formal closing ceremony. During the ceremony, students performed on stage, received certificates, and afterward enjoyed a carnival and lunch. Both parents and students returned home satisfied and happy.

This summer programme provided students with a fulfilling and enjoyable experience during the holidays. It not only helped to foster their moral values but also provided learning opportunities and skills development. Furthermore, it facilitated communication and unity among the students. CCE will continue its commitment to organizing meaningful activities and providing students with more opportunities for learning and growth.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

BADI FOUNDATION	USD
INCOME	94,458
Donations and Grants	91,883
Individual Donations	34,162
Institutional Grants	57,721
Other Income	2,575
EXPENDITURES	105,288
Moral Empowerment through Language Programme	62,612
Programme Coordination	61,397
Other	1,215
Administration and Operations	42,676
Human Resources	35,074
Operational Costs	7,602
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) for the period	(10,830)

Note: The unaudited financial statement presented above is for the period 1 January through 31 December 2022

SCHOOL OF THE NATIONS	USD
INCOME	11,553,139
Tuition Fee	8,283,642
Government Subsidy	2,108,465
Other Income	1,161,032
EXPENDITURES	11,784,291
Student Related Costs	9,988,276
Operating Costs	961,281
Depreciation	834,734
RESERVE	(231,152)

Note: The unaudited financial statement presented above is for the period 1 August 2022 through 31 August 2023.

DONATIONS AND SUPPORT

Instrumental to the efforts of the Badi Foundation to contribute to material and spiritual progress has been the financial support we have received from individuals, companies, and a variety of grant-making organizations. Those who wish to offer financial support can do so in the following ways:

Macao

Donations in Macao currency (MOP) may be made via the following account:

Account Name: Badi Foundation
Bank: Tai Fung Bank
Account Number: 213-1-00067-7

International

Contributions in international currencies can be made via the following account:

Account Name: Badi Foundation
Account Number: 713-7-00941-7
Beneficiary Bank: Tai Fung Bank Ltd., Macao
Bank Address: 418 Alameda Dr. Carlos D'Assumpcao, Macao, China
SWIFT Code: TFBLMOMX

Please send an email to admin@badi-foundation.org so that we can follow up on your contribution.

We express our sincere gratitude for the generous support received in 2022 - 23 from individual and institutional donors, including the following organizations:



Vafa Foundation

GOVERNANCE

The Badi Foundation was established in 1990 under the regulations governing nonprofit, charitable organizations in Macao. Under the administrative laws of Macao, the foundation's administrative structure includes a Board of Curators (equivalent to a Board of Directors) and a Board of Administrators. The boards are comprised of members experienced in fields such as development, education, law, business and financial management.

The Board of Curators oversees the overall direction and policies of the foundation and ensures that it practices the highest levels of trustworthiness and accountability. The Board of Administrators, the senior management team of the Badi Foundation, assures that projects and activities are steadily advancing, pursuant to the guidelines established by the Board of Curators. The foundation's School of the Nations in Macao is administered by the school Director and administrative team, in consultation with the School of the Nations Council.

Board of Curators:

Bijan Farid
Sheedvash Amirkia Farid
Candy Fok Sayers
Sona Farid-Arbab
Victor Ali

Board of Administrators:

Candy Fok Sayers
Victor Ali
Vivek Vasudevan Nair

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