



青樹教育基金會

[www.evergreeneducation.org](http://www.evergreeneducation.org)

# News from Evergreen Education

The Evergreen Education Foundation Official Newsletter  
*Improve Information Literacy in Rural China*

November 2011

## Inspire

one thousand lamps, one thousand smiling faces

## Collaborate

Develop and manufacture a solar lamp learning kit

## Grow

Advance participatory, problem-based learning in rural China

### Inside this issue: Follow the EEF journey

Solar Lamp Project	1
Art Auction Fundraiser	2
Mentorship Rewards	3
VCF merges into EEF	3
ITIE 2012 Conference	4

“Shaping Outcomes Course” Online

[www.evergreeneducation.org/wikipub/tiki-index.php](http://www.evergreeneducation.org/wikipub/tiki-index.php)

## Solar Points of Light throughout rural China

Our Founder and President Faith Chao envisioned the idea of one thousand lamps, one thousand smiling faces throughout rural China; these prophetic words were the inspiration for the Solar Lamp project. EEF is developing a simple solar powered desk lamp and having it manufactured in China; the lamps will be delivered as a kit to schools in rural China where high school students will final assemble it as part of a classroom lesson. Charging in a single day, the lamp will operate during 4 hours of nighttime study in houses with no electricity. EEF is also creating and publishing a Teacher’s Guide to assist the teachers in



creating lesson and assessment plans, which combine academic lessons with participatory learning (laboratory or shop class). The suggested lessons will include electricity basics, solar energy, battery, and semiconductor fundamentals. A key strategy for the Solar Lamp project was to find a development and manufacturing partner in China, who would finish development and do the manufacturing. The fruits of the VCF merger were evident when Rodney Amen was able to connect with Innogetic Technologies of Zhuhai, Guangdong, an engineering development business. When Rodney met with the company owner, Mr. ZC Wang whole heartedly supported Evergreen’s mission. After several weeks of work, the lamp design is completed and prototypes are being constructed. The first production run of lamps destined for schools in Gansu and Shaanxi provinces will be in January 2012.

Using corporate partnerships and projects like the Solar Lamp Kit, Evergreen plans to create more advanced vocational training subjects to introduce and motivate student interest to learn future job skills such as manufacturing supply chain, project management, or creativity lessons. But we need your donations to bring this vision to reality.

## 2011 Evergreen Rural Library Projects and Information Literacy Workshop

The 2011 Evergreen Rural Library Workshop was held in Huai’An No. 1 High School, Jiangsu, May 27-30; and was centered around training for small projects, and included two courses: Shaping Outcomes: Outcomes based Planning and Evaluation course was jointly led by Jo Bell Whitlatch, Professor Emeritus from San Jose State University, and Prof. Liyun Hu from

Yunnan University, and “Information Literacy” - A course developed by Shanghai Jiaotong University Library and delivered by Haiyan Song and Xie Gao. Around 80 rural librarians and teachers, selected based on their 2011 small project proposals, worked closely with 8 teachers and teaching assistants in training sessions featured with case



studies, group discussions and small course projects. 87% of the trainees rated the workshop as “good or great”.

## Fundraiser Auctions Works of Famous Chinese Artists

On January 16, 2011, Evergreen Education Foundation, sponsored by Silicon Valley Asian Art Center, successfully auctioned dozens of paintings and calligraphies by famous Chinese artists. The auction, which raised over \$300K, marked the most important fund raising event in the history of the foundation and is also the largest among donations from private donors. The event attracted the attention of art collectors near and far. Local media in Silicon Valley broadcasted the auction in real time on the web to international bidders.

The curator of Silicon Valley Asian Art Center, Mr. Jianhua Shu, served as auctioneer. Mr. Shu met Prof. Faith Chao, our founder, and several other members of the foundation in 2010. After learning what the foundation had accomplished since 2001 for Chinese schools and students in rural and remote areas of China, Mr. Shu was deeply moved and decided to help our foundation to raise funds from local Chinese communities, generously donating all his time and effort.

One of the paintings auctioned was by the late Chinese artist Qi Baishi, one of the most important classical painters. It was painted in 1946, at the height of the artist's career, during a tour in southern China.

Another important piece was by Fu Xinyu, the cousin of the Last Emperor of Qing Dynasty of China and an accomplished painter. Prof. Chao donated these paintings to the Foundation. Several paintings by important contemporary Chinese artists and local calligraphers were also auctioned.

The money raised will be used to support several projects in Chinese schools sponsored by Evergreen Foundation. One of the projects is a portable solar lamp (story on page 1). An experienced product development engineer, who came to Evergreen from the VCF merger, volunteered his expertise and time to design the lamp with a company in Zhuhai, Guangdong, China.

The lamp kit parts will be manufactured by the company in China, and then shipped as learning kits to schools that participate in this project. The parts will be assembled by students of these schools. Thousands of students will benefit from the solar lamps. "One thousand lamps, one thousand smiling faces" is the slogan of the project.

Another project supported by the funds is the Evergreen oral history project that has been on going in regions with Chinese minorities. In the wake of rapid economic modernization and widespread use of Internet and Mandarin, indigenous peoples are seeing the population who can speak their native languages rapidly shrinking, and their traditional cultures diminished by TV and Internet. The project will preserve these traditions by interviewing local elders telling stories in their native language and archiving their voices and images in digital format.



TV News interviews Mr. Shu



Qi's Seven Shrimps



Calligrapher Hou Bei Ren

This auction was the first in a series of joint fund-raising events by the foundation and Asian Art Center. In mid-December, 2011, another fund-raising event will be held at Silicon Valley Asian Art Center. Look for details coming shortly and posted on our website at [www.evergreeneeducation.org](http://www.evergreeneeducation.org)

Inspire

"One thousand lamps, one thousand smiling faces"

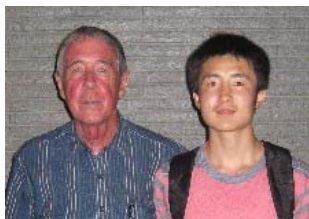
Prof. Faith Chao

## Grow: Mentorship from the heart

EEF Board Member, John Lee, a long time volunteer and is very active in the EEF mentorship program, reflects on his mentorship experiences...

Like many volunteers in our Foundation, I wear multiple hats. One of the hats is being a mentor; a role that I feel has impact on young adults' life as they progress through academic ladder and into work life. My last dozen years have been fulfilling, satisfying, humbling that keep me on the ground and not in abstract matters that other hats demand. I find satisfaction in mentoring and hope that other mentors would share their wonderful stories too.

EEF kids are from disadvantaged environments where their parents may not be able to provide the much needed guidance, nor are schools and universities in China known to have similar counselor arrangement. We are happy to talk these over. While I have been mentoring a young person named Haizhu from Qinghai Province who is now attending Dalian University, I have been doing exactly that. I encouraged him to participate in his University's "English Corner" to gain exposure meeting English speaking visiting instructors and professors. It so turned out that my neighbor, a retired sea captain is taking up Chinese lessons in Dalian and I have them hooked up. It was great to see Haizhu flourish. Furthermore, as of last summer, besides returning home, he volunteered at a school together with other Dalian University volunteers and got a taste of community service. Here is his experience and feelings expressed in his own words:



Haizhu with Captain Crowell

---

### Grow

"I find satisfaction in mentoring and hope that other mentors would share their wonderful stories too."

John Lee

---

*Dear John:*

*I was one of by the EEF funded student. Last year, I was admitted to a key university in China, Dalian University of Technology. But because of (my) poor family, could not afford to pay high tuition fees, I almost dropped out. In (these) extreme conditions, I have the honor to contact more than teachers, (but also have) EEF 's help, I successfully entered the University, let my university dream not burst.*

*EEF not only gave me Education Assistance Fund, but also for me to find an overseas counselor -just you, John. My hometown is in the northwest of China - Qinghai. Where not many people go to the basic education (schools) every year.*

*In my most vulnerable time, EEF gave me strength, let me (get to where I am) today. (If there is) No EEF, I do not know what is going on. EEF will be a seed of love deep in my heart. Now it has ingrained. Thousands and thousands of words of only one word, we should learn: Thanksgiving, with our own practical action to help those who need help. Thanks EEF again!*

*Sincerely,*

*海珠 (Haizhu)*

## Synergy created as VCF Merger Strengthens Evergreen Resources

In 2004, 5 Microsoft Xbox project employees from California, during business trips to Chinese factories, learned of the poor conditions in rural Chinese schools; and founded the Village Children's Fund (VCF). From 2004 to 2008, VCF funded the building of three schools in Guizhou Province. However the recent world economic conditions

have rendered the VCF charity model unrealistic; not discouraged, the VCF Board wanted to continue helping Chinese rural education. On April 10, 2011 VCF directors Michael Wong and Rodney Amen met with the Evergreen board, who agreed to absorb VCF. Mr. Amen was elected to the Evergreen

board; VCF brings complementary resources to Evergreen's existing expertise bringing strong backgrounds in engineering, manufacturing, and technology management. Together, our hope is that by joining Evergreen, more extensive projects and organizational advancement can be achieved



青樹教育基金會

Contact Us  
Phone: 1-415-602-4754

Email us:  
[info@evergreeneducation.org](mailto:info@evergreeneducation.org)

On the Web:  
[www.evergreeneducation.org](http://www.evergreeneducation.org)

The Evergreen Education Foundation Official Newsletter  
*Improve Information Literacy in Rural China*

**Support the Evergreen Education Foundation** to improve information literacy in rural China. Your donation to Evergreen may be US tax deductible as we are a 501c3 non-profit organization (*Fed tax ID 68-0474814*). Guide Star search for: "The Evergreen Education Foundation" in Richmond, CA.

Use the donation form to designate programs or just send a donation check for the general fund.  
**Evergreen Education Foundation, PO Box 5131 Richmond, CA 94805 USA**

Donate using Pay Pal on the web: [www.evergreeneducation.org](http://www.evergreeneducation.org)

We are also looking for Volunteers...  
Mentors – only a small time commitment to make a big difference.  
Volunteer in our organization  
Fundraising and Event Planning  
Information Technology and Network professionals  
Educators and Library Science professionals  
Project Engineers and Scientists  
English-Chinese Translators  
Newsletter Editor (English)

Email us: [info@evergreeneducation.org](mailto:info@evergreeneducation.org)

## Collaborate

ITIE 2012 will offer interactive sessions, creative workshops, networking opportunities, and exciting study tours.



## ITIE 2012 : Urban Libraries Serving Rural Communities

The Information Technology In Education 2012 conference (ITIE2012) with the theme "Urban Libraries Serving Rural Communities" will be held in October 2012, in Hangzhou China. We will focus on two crucial questions:  
1) The 21st century poses new challenges to the library's role

in education, and its role as a community information and cultural center. How can the libraries successfully meet these challenges?  
2) How can we effectively narrow the digital divide, and provide more equal and fair opportunities for all sectors of society. This disparity is espe-

cially apparent between the underserved rural communities and urban centers in China.  
We have interactive sessions, creative workshops, networking opportunities, and exciting study tours. It's not too early to make plans to join us!

See our special ITIE 2012 webpage: <http://www.evergreeneducation.org/itie2012/>