

2017 Autumn Excursion

Lima Life Workshop and National Taichung Theater

The 2017 WTIC Annual Fall Excursion began with an engaging reception at the culture center Lima Life Workshop in Miaoli County, located in central Taiwan. During the visit, ninety WTIC members had the opportunity to learn about various Taiwanese aboriginal tribes and the Hakkanese people by viewing an eclectic ceramic artwork exhibit and enjoying a Hakkanese cuisine feast. Vegetables from the feast were grown by the hospitable host of Lima Life Workshop, Mr. Dinko Nas Nan, who hails from the Beinan / Puyuma tribe, one of sixteen aboriginal tribes in Taiwan. Mr. Nan also raised the cage free poultry that was part of the feast. The food from the feast left such an impression on WTIC members that many bought fresh and pickled vegetables and poultry from Lima Life Workshop. In addition to the gourmet delights, WTIC members also enjoyed a moving song recital and dance performance by Mr. Nan, his wife, who is of Hakkanese descent, and his children. WTIC members even joined the gracious hosts on stage for dancing and singing!

Following the workshop reception, WTIC members took a guided tour of the National Taichung Theater in Taichung, Taiwan's second largest city, which was followed by a cheerful afternoon tea and cake session. The culture complex, which officially opened in September 2016, was nominated by international news agency Reuters as one of nine landmark buildings in the world along with the Freedom Tower in New York, USA. Designed by internationally renowned Japanese architect Toyo Ito, the building is constructed almost completely from curved walls with no pillars, in order to amplify the building's acoustics. The visually and acoustically-stunning building boasts six floors spread across 40,000 square meters, housing three theaters, including an outdoor amphitheater, rooftop garden, café, and gift shop. This magnificent and must see tourist attraction also meets the earthquake resistant standards of nuclear power stations due to Taiwan's frequent earthquakes. The building's teapot shape also serves as a metaphor of the delight visitors will experience upon seeing the rich and diverse artistic contents within the building.

Overall, the Annual Fall excursion was a resounding success with WTIC members, who thoroughly enjoyed the diverse arts, culture, and architectural programming organized by our hardworking volunteers. Thank you!