



Dear Friends of Bo Ai,

As we embark on welcoming another Christmas Season and a New Year, Bo Ai sends to you and to your family a **Very Warm Christmas Greeting and a Joyous New Year!**

First of all, **we thank you all for remembering and supporting our School.** We are very grateful for the many ways our friends, donors and benefactors engage with Bo Ai and contribute to it. You are the ones who **keep our children learning and maturing** and **our school operating with hopeful and inspired vigor.** Whether it has been compelling new initiatives in the classroom, campus repairs taking shape or an abundance of accomplishments undertaken by our students and staff, we take this opportunity to **share with you our growth, aspirations and achievements with you in this 2018 Christmas Missive.** It is now time to look out and see what we've become, what we are becoming and refresh our vision for the future.

NAMES THAT LIVE

At the Middle School Multi-Purpose Building Entry Hall, there is a roster of **NAMES THAT LIVE**, names of individuals or organizations that Bo Ai recognizes and are indebted to for helping our students to make progress and transformation possible. In 2018, **104 Chinese Nationals** and **169 Foreign Nationals** came to Bo Ai to work towards the common goal in making a difference for our students and for our collective future. Space does





not allow us to name everyone of our special friends. All are **NAMES THAT LIVE in Our Hearts**. Amongst them are **Officials from the ShanDong Technology Company, Government Official & Secretaries from Changzhi, Qinyuan and Fazhong, Principals and Teachers from Beijing, Changzhi, Qinyuan and FaZhong, Officials from the Education Department of Changzhi, Qinyuan, 4 Robotics teachers from Taiyuan and Robotics teacher Gu Zhi Ju, daughter of Principal Xin from QuangZhau, Attorney Zhang Hai Yen of YuZi, Shanxi who volunteered to be Bo Ai's pro bono Attorney.** Amongst the **foreign nationals** is a contingent of 32 persons from the **Hong Kong Bo Ai Foundation**, the **7 & 6 Canadian expat groups now residing in ZhongShan** came two times, the 45 person group from **Holmglađ 坚乐 High and 2 Elementary Schools of Hong Kong**, the 29 person group from **University of Macau University Siu Bong College**, the 38 person group from the **Houston Fort Bend Community Church**, the 4 person group from **Touching Lives Overseas of Canada** and the 6 person group of **Hong Kong Island Evangelical Christian Church**. **Mr. & Mrs Man In Kuen** came from Canada and Hong Kong and **Lawyers Leonard Girard and Pamela Jacklin** from Portland. **Bo Ai appreciates** each and everyone of them and is grateful for their journey to Bo Ai and for their affection and devotion. .



A SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING



Thanksgiving Season is a time to reflect on the many blessings that Bo Ai has been grateful for. At any instant, good tidings warm the heart and the soul. I am happy to share with you that in last school year, out of **56 elementary schools in the Qinyuan County** with a total of 1650 students, our **Bo Ai 5th grade students ranked Number One.** Our **8th Grade students scored number 1 out of 7 Middle Schools in the Qinyuan County.** Yet we have to continue to work hard so our sixth grade graduates will continue on to attend Bo Ai's 7th grade Middle School. As it is now, **the better 6th grade graduates leave Bo Ai** and attend other Qinyuan high schools or farther out high schools.. One of the reasons is that we do not have the High School (10th, 11th and 12th grades) and as well the parents want their children to leave Bo Ai School, a village school environment. **Bo Ai has promoted two directors, Director Wang Kai Qi and Director Susan Zhang Wei, to the positions of Vice Principals.** Vice Principal Zhang Wei went to Beijing in September for training. Vice Principal Wang will do so a few months later. Both will also attend Principal Seminars conducted by

the Changzhi Education Department. In the absence of a Formal Principal whom Bo Ai regards could carry on the Bo Ai Tradition, **Principal Xin Dien Feng** has kindly consented to be our **Interim Temporary Principal**. **Bo Ai has hired 8 new teachers**. Of the 8, three of the teachers were sent to our school and paid for by the County Education Department. **Five of the last year Bo Ai teachers** who passed the government tests during the summer, **left Bo Ai** and are now in the government iron-bowl government-school employment. We wish them well and glad that they will pass on what they have assimilated and learned at Bo Ai to their new schools. **Three of the Bo Ai teachers are now pregnant** and will bear **second child offsprings** and will be on maternity leave. So we have to **juggle the teaching schedules** in their absence.

Since the Building phase of the Bo Ai School in **2003**, I have been stationed and stayed at the Bo Ai School for the majority of the School Year, about **9-10 months of the year at the school**. I did not have the fortuity of going home to spend Thanksgiving many of these years. At the urging of our sons and daughter and the grandchildren to spend Thanksgiving with them, Patrick and I **will go home this year to spend Thanksgiving with them**. **Allelule!!**

THE LIFT

I remember very well our **granddaughter, Indie**, when she was a year old. She loves testing her boundaries, trying to master the stair backwards, climbing, challenging gravity, exploring the world. I love her spirit, her drive and I think it will serve her well. Her parents' job and my job are to support her, to show her options, to inspire, to reach and to do good and a chance to be her best self. . And she's clear about what she wants – so when it's time to be picked up, she **would wiggle her hands up to the sky to get a lift**. And so it is at Bo Ai. We endeavor to give **our students, our teachers and staff a LIFT to the best of their abilities and to a stronger future**.

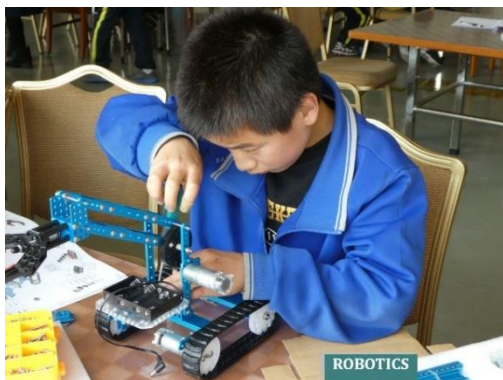
The **LIFT** at Bo Ai is to advance **on many fronts**. In **March** in the coming year **ten of our students and two teacher chaperones** have been invited to join the **HK Holmglađ (坚乐) Elementary 2 School** Camping trip for three days and two nights at **MaWan**. . **The rest of the one week trip** will be spent visiting **Museums, Institutions, Schools** to see how students are taught and classes are conducted..... Bo Ai will be responsible for the round trip airfares travelling expenses, which is approximately **US \$ 440.00**. **We welcome any donation** towards this program and are certain that this will enrich our student experience in visiting a foreign country. A first time on an airplane will be a life long memory. This trip also will widen their knowledge horizon and foster new friendships with the Hong Kong students.



At Bo Ai, we will not only be thinking of the many blessings we are grateful for. We keep in mind all those who are lonely and remain in need of our support and care. **Each month on a rotating basis ten students from Grade 7 – 9 would visit the FaZhong Old Folks Home** and would wash their faces, their hands, talk to them, sing songs, do a dance, bring them some small gifts or food. The majority of the old folks are men who had not been married, have no families. **How**

they ardently anticipate our kids' visitation each month! At Thanksgiving time, Bo Ai held a **Benefit Bazaar** to raise **funds to give to the poor and needy**. Each class had a Bazaar booth of used but in good condition books, toys, games, clothing, food items, arts and craft etc. It **raised 4,048 yuan** and this will be used to buy food and necessities. Bo Ai has **identified 30 old folks in our area** who really need help. The funds will be used on a continuing basis during the year **to give them hot meals and warm clothing or other necessities**.

Bo Ai places **great emphasis on moral education**. Amongst this are **voluntarism, charity to all and a spirit of thanksgiving**. We are very happy to report that **Hang Jia & Yen Ya Wei** our 2014 Ninth Grade Graduates together with several of their classmates at their School banded together and collected **recycled paper, recycled books, recyclable materials**. Together they collected 8.48 tons of material, sold it to a Recycle Company and made a profit of **7,444 yuan**. This they **donated to Bo Ai** for its operation. They **have put what they had been taught at Bo Ai, put it into action and made it to benefit others**. What a heart warmer to all of our staff at Bo Ai!!!



Advancements in technology have dramatically changed the world we live in. Robotics is a way of the future. Ahh! Finally after much student anticipation, Bo Ai received a **gift of Robotics** from our dear friend, **Sammy Yiu and his friend, Mr. Yu**. On Friday afternoons reserved for Encouragement Programs, you will find 22 students tinkering with robotics and gadgets. **Gu Shi Yu, daughter of Principal Xin**, came during the October 1st Holiday and **spent a week, tutoring** our two Computer teachers and the students on the programming of the

Robotics. The **HK Bo Ai Foundation** donated a series of **41 Board Games**, called **Learning Through Games**, which is very popular in Hong Kong and where they are also played in Game Parlors and also in many other countries. **The Games impart, coach and sharpen traits** like **logic, reasoning, eye-hand coordination, math skills, strategy, cooperation, memory, observation etc..** The Macau students learned the games and taught the games to our students and staff. We thank our dear friend, **Louise Ho**, who brought the Games to Bo Ai. Louise also continued on **teaching Phonics** to our students and teachers.



FRIENDS WHO CARE..

Throughout the year, many friends visited **Bo Ai**. **Many government officials visited** as Bo Ai is regarded as a model school. Retired Principal **WANG JIN HOA from Taiyuan** gave a very stirring, practical and helpful **talk to our Bo Ai parents** at a monthly Bo Ai PTA Meeting. **Our sister schools, the HONG KONG HOLMGLAD 坚乐 HIGH SCHOOL THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2** sent a



45 person team and taught English, made paper mache of Bor Lor Buns, arts craft of HK Night Scenes, Star Gaze with a Super Telescope. The **SISTER ANNIE SKAU MEMORIAL FOUNDATION** made it possible that three of our teachers were able to go to Hong Kong in October to visit the **Holglad High School** and the two **Elementary Schools** for a week for an **academic exchange**. Thanks to **Ada Lee** who was super kind to

accommodate us to **stay at her home**. The **HONG KONG BO AI FOUNDATION** sent a 32 contingent and implemented the **annual dental checkup and toothless treatment** for all our students, staff and villagers, **taught English**, gave a **Chiropractic talk**, mouth inflated zillions of **colorful balloons** to decorate the quadrangle and the students, **Michael Tse**, the **most consummate favorite person**, again gave the kids their much savored **CARNIVAL**, complete with face painting, cotton candy, popcorn, sausages etc. There were 18 stalls of **GAMES**. The **kids earned points** during the year for **games and food**. Again the **Hong Kong 大家乐** donated different foods and **Michael** worked tirelessly in the kitchen, supervising the **Gastronomy**. **Mr. & Mrs. Lin Je Yong** donated towards the **Leaking Pipe Project**. The **MACAU UNIVERSITY SHIU BONG COLLEGE** together with **Louise Ho** came to our school with a 29 person team. **Louise** taught **Phonics**, a much needed discipline at our School. The University students **tutored the Learning Throught Games** with our students, conducted the **Windows to the World classes**, **Famous Persons Series**, **Science Lab classes**. Here's a heart touching story! The University of Macau held



its Graduation Ceremony contemporaneous with the Bo Ai Mission Team time. Two University of Macau Graduates, **Mandy and Fiona**, have such a strong friendship bonding with our students that they **forfeited their graduation ceremony** at their University and instead **joined the Mission Team to Bo Ai**. **Bo Ai held a Special Celebratory Graduation Ceremony** for them at the Bo Ai School Grounds with all our students and staff in attendance-and accompanied unabridged with a **promenade down the aisle, CAPs & GOWNS AND FACSIMILE DIPLOMAS!!!** The

Houston 38 member Team from **HOUSTON FORT BEND COMMUNITY CHURCH** besides sending a team of three doctors to do **medical exams and treatment**, gave talks on 师德 the **righteous & noble education**, adolescent health, the **dangers of smoking and drug addiction**. The **CANADIAN TOUCHING LIVES OVERSEAS** came and taught the students and staff the **knitting craft**; the **CANADIAN EXPATS AT ZHONGSHAN** donated **outdoor table tennis tables and the robotics**, the **Island ECC Group** taught making **paper lanterns and cookie making** and played the **Learning Through Games** with the students. **Canadian expat MR. MAN IN KUEN** stayed a month and helped supervise the **leaking pipe project**. We thank many more whom we did not include here but nonetheless whose generous and continued support **make Bo Ai realize the future we envision**.

FINALLY



OPEN GROUND FLOOR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION BUILDING

I am pleased to have the opportunity to share with you in this Christmas message a snapshot of where we've been and where we are going. **Many of our students remain to be SPONSORED. The RUNNING TRACT AND SOCCER FIELD** behind the Middle School **need to be built** to qualify as a Middle School. Bo Ai is a private school and Bo Ai needs to raise the funds to build it. The **GROUND FLOOR OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION BUILDING is an open air floor space and NEED TO BE ENCLOSED** so as to protect the water pipes from freezing in the cold winters and the space to be utilized in the winters. Many students leave Bo Ai after graduating from Grade 6 because Bo Ai does not have the Senior Grades- Grade 10-12. Therefore Bo Ai **MIGHT NEED TO FINISH THE KINDERGARTEN – 12 GRADE ROUTE**. We are continually **searching for a DEDICATED PRINCIPAL** from the outside who is worth the mettle and who and whose spouse would want to stay at a village environment where there is no entertainment, no nearby restaurants or shopping centers. We now have **TWO VICE PRINCIPALS** promoted from our Bo Ai directors and they **need to be sent to Beijing or to Taiyuan for continuing Principal education and training**.

And so, with our School renewed and our roots planted firmly in Feng Cun, **we look forward to the future with confidence and anticipation**. Thank you for helping us educate and prepare our students **NOT FOR SCHOOL BUT FOR LIFE**. Finally, **Peace on Earth** and may the **Good Lord bless you and yours** with Joy, Hope, Love and Good Health. May you have a **wonderful Christmas and a Happy and Fruitful Year of the PIG!**

Blessings,
Christine Chan
Bo Ai School, Feng Cun, Shanxi Province.

FOLLOWING THIS LETTER, PLEASE PERUSE THREE PAGES OF PHOTOS

Overseas Helping Hand P. O. Box 91004 Portland, OR 97291

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The following organizations, **Bo Ai Foundation Limited of Hong Kong**, **Touching Lives Overseas of Canada**, are **tax deductible non-profit organizations** in their respective countries. All three organizations are conducted for the benefit of Bo Ai School

HK CONTACT <http://www.boai.org.hk>
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OHH donation Form – NEXT PAGE



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BUILDING FUND & STUDENT EDUCATION **SPONSORSHIP FORM**

YES I would like to donate to the Bo Ai School Building Fund or
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\$420 – Full-year sponsorship for one child's tuition plus room and board

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