

SIMON DENG LI ART AND CULTURE EXCHANGE FUND

The Simon Deng Li Art and Cultural Exchange Fund, (DENG FUND) was set up in 2012 to assist the New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS) to develop new programmes designed to enable cultural exchanges between the two countries, especially those involving young people. Initially the fund was promised for five years, but, thanks to the generosity of Mr Deng, it has continued in subsequent years on a similar basis.

Simon Deng Li committed 200,000 rmb, paid each year in September, to assist projects selected by the executive of NZCFS. These projects need to comply with the objectives of the DENG fund and NZCFS. <http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/DENG-FUND-GUIDELINES-2018.pdf> Branches of the society and members of its Executive can apply by submitting initial concept plans, followed by a full project plan and budget by mid-November each year. A committee, set up by NZCFS Executive, decides on the funding awarded to each of the successful applicants. Full reporting on the progress of projects and the final outcomes are required. Usually four or five projects are selected from those submitted each year. The project directors apply for reimbursement from the Deng Fund as it is maintained annually by NZCFS.

As the projects developed, applicants were encouraged to seek additional funding from local authorities in both China and New Zealand, charitable organisations, branch funds and exchange participants themselves. This enabled wider participation and meant that the aims and objectives of the funding were spread further.

Through the generosity of Simon Deng Li, hundreds of young New Zealanders and their families and friends have developed fuller knowledge and understanding of Chinese people and the art and culture of China. It works two ways, with young people from China spending time with New Zealand schools, families and institutions. The good news of friendship is thus spread throughout communities through presentations and reportage. Lifetime friendships are set up and international understanding is enhanced.

Summaries of all projects completed or registered since 2012 follow below, starting from the most recent. Full reports on most projects are available by using the links provided.

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2018/19 - ROUND SEVEN

1 MCHAEAL KING WRITERS RESIDENCY

A NZCFS Executive project, directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$10,250**

This biennial residency has been taken up for September-October 2019 by Shanghai author Sun Wei. She will spend September and October based at Michael King Writer's Centre in Northshore, Auckland, where she will do research and continue her writing for her series of international stories titled "Mirror". This residency alternates with Shanghai in odd years hosting a New Zealand writer in residence in Shanghai, all costs paid by Shanghai. More information on the link.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/nz-dreamland-for-2019-rewi-alley-fellow/>

2 NZCFS EXECUTIVE CAPACITY BUILDING

A NZCFS Executive project directed by Dave Bromwich. **Deng Fund Grant: \$9,000**

This project will provide airfares for 6 executive members to be hosted by Beijing and Shanghai Youxie November 4-15, 2019. The delegation will attend forums, visit sites of historic interest and meet academics and other representatives with the purpose of gaining a better understanding of Chinese culture, and history, as well as an understanding of Chinese perspectives on important current issues concerning China and New Zealand.

3 CHINESE NEW YEAR CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A Hamilton Branch project, directed by Miao Fan. **Deng Fund Grant: \$10,000**

Hamilton will co-operate with Wuxi Cultural Centre (Sister City) to host performers who will join with Hamilton performers to present a big concert for Chinese New Year. Wuxi was unable to come in 2019, so the combined concert is rearranged for Chinese New Year 2020.

4 BAY OF PLENTY-JIANGXI CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A Tauranga Branch project directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$6,500**

Plans have been made for a delegation of 10 Maori students and 3 teachers from Te Puke High School for a Cultural Exchange with Nanchang Foreign Language School in April 2020. The students will share a wide range of Maori activities including traditional games, songs, and language. Touch Rugby will be introduced to NFLS by the delegation. As usual with schools projects, the Deng Fund grant will be augmented by students themselves and local contributions.

5 NELSON YANGJIANG SCHOOLS ART AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A Nelson Branch project directed by Barbara Markland. **Deng Fund Grant: \$6,000**

This return exchange took place in April 2019 when 8 students and 2 teachers were hosted in Nelson by NZCFS and families from the five local high schools. During 10 days in March, the Chinese visitors experienced many aspects of NZ life including school visits, outdoor education, marae hospitality, National Park visit, concerts, waka ama, barbeque, and visits to museums and art galleries. Full report on NZCFS website.

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2017/18 - ROUND SIX

1 URBAN PROFESSIONALS RESEARCH TOUR

An Auckland Branch project directed by Jenny Chu. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,000**

Eight urban professionals went to Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Qingdao to gain first-hand experience of best practice and knowledge from China in urban planning and venture-capture development. Comprehensive reports indicate outstanding successes of this mission. The China New Zealand Times has published reports from the delegates and they are also on NZCFS website.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/33979-2/>

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/auckland-event-the-story-of-city-and-people/>

2 HAWKES BAY YOUTH ORCHESTRA EXCHANGE 2018

A Hawkes Bay Branch project directed by Heiko Lade. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,000**

Hawkes Bay Youth Orchestra made a return visit to China to perform alongside students from seven schools in Guilin, Chengdu, Guiyang and Chongqing. The NZ Consul General in Chengdu and the Guilin Foreign Affairs Office were closely involved in arrangements. (see 2017 and 2016 below for other reports on this exchange programme.)

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/hawkes-bay-young-musicians-china-trip-16-27-april-2018/>

3 NELSON-YANGJIANG SCHOOLS ARTS AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A Nelson Branch project directed by Barbara Markland. **Deng Fund Grant: \$9,000**

This new exchange with Nelson's second sister city took place in the April school holidays. Six students were selected from four Nelson High Schools as cultural ambassadors, with skills in music, art, language, and drama. They were hosted for 10 days by Liangyang Senior High School, attending classes and being involved in the life of the boarding school. Participants presented reports at their schools, for Nelson Branch and for the NZCFS website.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/yangjiang-student-exchange/>

4 OTUMOETAI COLLEGE MEDIA STUDIES EXCHANGE

A Tauranga Branch project, directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$19,000**

In April 2017, funding was re-allocated from the cancelled Radio NZ Media Tour to enable eight students to exchange with the Middle School Attached to Nanchang University (MSANU). There was a strong focus on the media studies curriculum with students developing a variety of video documentaries and newspaper articles. A small Maori group provided a strong taha Maori input. A return visit from MSANU occurred in July 2018. Otumoetai College continues to develop annual student tours to China.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/the-2018-tauranga-branch-student-exchange-with-china/>

5 YOUNG LAWYERS PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE

A Wellington Branch project directed by Sam McIntosh. **Deng Fund Grant: \$10,000**

Six young lawyers went to Beijing and Shanghai to study China's legal system and culture. Leader Sam McIntosh has reported to NZCFS meetings and to the website on the success of this exchange through which greater understanding of Chinese law was brought back to Wellington. A full report is on the website.

<https://www.lawsociety.org.nz/news-and-communications/latest-news/news/young-lawyers-china-delegation-has-eye-opening-visit>

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2016/17 - ROUND FIVE

1 MT MAUNGANUI COLLEGE ART EXCHANGE

A Tauranga Branch project directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,000**

Five Mt Maunganui graphic arts students were chosen to visit Nanchang Foreign Language School (NFLS) in the April school holidays. They spent 24 days in Jiangxi Province, supported by the Jiangxi Foreign Affairs

Office. An MOU was established between the two schools for friendship and continuing exchanges. The students reported on their 'life-changing' experiences to their schools and at public meetings. A highlight of this exchange was the painting of a large mural at the new campus of NFLS, displaying Mt Maunganui and ten New Zealand icons.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/the-people-of-nanchang-nzcfs-tauranga-iris-graphic-art-exchange-2017/>
http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/THE-PEOPLE-OF-NANCHANG_Calla-Sayers-3.pdf

2 ELSPETH SANDYS ON ALLEY FAMILY TOUR

An Auckland Branch project, directed by Jocelyn Watkins. **Deng Fund Grant: \$7,500**

Novelist Elspeth Sandys was supported to join the Alley Family Whanau Tour in April 2017. Elspeth, a relative of Rewi Alley, followed his China story on the tour, and together with additional research, wrote a book which covers her own experiences, Rewi's biography, and relevant Chinese history. The book, "A Communist in the Family, Searching for Rewi Alley", published by Otago University Press, has been launched throughout the country in 2019. There was huge publicity for the Rewi Alley story and the China-NZ connections throughout NZ as Elspeth did her book tour.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/a-communist-in-the-family-searching-for-rewi-alley/>

3 THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRIT OF REWI ALLEY TOUR

A National Executive Project, directed by Dave Bromwich. **Deng Fund Grant: \$12,000**

This funding assisted 7 young New Zealanders to visit Rewi Alley sites in Shanghai, Wuhan, Baoji, Shangshipu, Lanzhou, Shandan, Beijing. They were accompanied by a group of Chinese and British students through a George Hogg Legacy, and 6 adults from Lanzhou University. They presented reports to their communities on their life-changing experiences. Two of the delegates went on to take up scholarships to study Chinese Language at Lanzhou City University in 2018.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/rewi-alley-youth-tour-2017-youth-engagement-in-the-international-spirit-of-rewi-alley/>

4 VICTORIA UNIVERSITY CHINESE SCHOLARS' STUDIO

A Wellington Branch project directed by Luke Qin. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,000**

This funding contributed towards setting up a studio at Victoria University of Wellington to house historic Chinese type-faces. These designs, arriving from Auckland, needed to be cleaned, conserved and archived. \$5,000 was contributed from the fund to assist with starting this work which was interrupted by the 2016 earthquake, preventing access to the studio. \$3,000 remains committed. More stories available on his link.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/chinese-scholars-studio-project-in-wellington/>

5 SONG FOR REWI – LAURENCE LARSON'S MUSIC

An Auckland Branch project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$3,400**

This funding assisted Laurence Larson's musical project to produce an album in both Chinese and English including 'Song for Rewi'. Laurence is popular in China and resident in Beijing. The album, totally produced in NZ, was released NZ and China in 2017. Laurence performed his song in Wuhan during the 2017 Rewi Alley anniversary celebrations.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TeJsmKb2KcE>

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2015/16: ROUND FOUR

1 MICHAEL KING WRITERS' RESIDENCY

A National Executive project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$9,750**

Shanghai writer Yin Jianling spent 2 months in September-October 2016 at the Michael King Writers Centre working on a project to be published later. Prior to this residency, Auckland poet, Heidi North-Bailey did an exchange residency in Shanghai. Following this residency, in 2018 New Zealand writer Frances Edmond took up an exchange writers' residency in Shanghai.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/auckland-poet-heading-for-shanghai/>

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/frances-edmond-to-progress-kathleen-hall-screen>

2 BAY OF PLENTY YOUTH TOURS 2016

Two Tauranga Branch projects directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant \$6,500**

1 In April 2016, John Hodgson took four Economics students from Bethlehem College to visit business people, traders and factories between Kunshan and DongGuan with extra time being spent in Nanchang focussing on International Business and Trade. On their return to Tauranga they made a round of excellent presentations to share their China experiences.

2 In December 2016, three final year students from Toi-Oho-Mai Polytechnic travelled to Nanchang, taking with them presentations on the Waikato-Bay of Plenty to share with government agencies, travel agents, and their host university in Nanchang, Jiangxi University of Science and Technology (formerly Blue Sky University). While they were promoting Bay of Plenty in Jiangxi, they were able to collect material to bring home and promote Jiangxi to the people of Bay of Plenty. This was another very successful innovation focussing on positive connections between New Zealand and China.

<https://toiohomai.ac.nz/life/news/tourism-students-head-china-trip-lifetime>

3 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES DELEGATION

A Hawkes Bay project directed by Deborah Robinson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$11,250**

Six young New Zealanders travelled in October to research environmental developments in China. They went first to Yunnan Province to visit Kunming, Dali and the Dongchuan Red Earth area. They went on to Beijing, Tianjin Eco-city, and to Baoding to see China's Power Valley. They visited Shanghai and the Dongtan Wetlands and finally went to Nanjing to meet with institutes and universities to discuss lake ecosystems. They reported back to NZ on the enormous scale of progress in environmental protection and conservation in China.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/2016-environmental-delegation-to-china-produces-some-surprising-results/>

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/diary-of-the-2016-nzcfs-environment-delegation-to-china-part-1/>

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/diary-of-the-2016-nzcfs-environment-delegation-to-china-part-2/>

4 HAWKES BAY YOUTH ORCHESTRA TOUR

A Hawkes Bay Branch project directed by Heiko Lade. **Deng Fund Grant: \$ 14,000**

The funding assisted 26 young musicians to travel to perform in Guilin (Hastings sister city) and Shanghai. Accompanied by 16 adults, they reported on their wide range of enjoyable experiences and the extension of their knowledge and understanding of China and its people as they rehearsed and performed together.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/hawkes-bay-orchestral-societys-cultural-exchange-to-china-a-great-success/>

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2014/15 ROUND THREE

1 STUDENT YOUTH EXCHANGES

A Wellington Branch project directed by Kirk McDowell. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,500**

This project was set up to assist students undertake internships and exchanges between NZ and China in association with AIESEC. The aim was to increase China-NZ understanding among university youth.

- 1 In July, Tess Pilkington from AUT did a six-week internship in Chongqing working in hospitals and with children with autism.
- 2 Nine students were selected to go to China in the NZ summer holidays. They were matched with various projects in China related to their own study areas.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/nzcfs-wellington-branch-february-2016-newsletter/>

2 BAY OF PLENTY CULTURAL EXCHANGE

A Tauranga Branch project directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$7,450**

This grant helped to fund travel costs for senior secondary students to exchange with the Middle School Attached to Nanchang University (MSANU). In April 2015, there were three foci: Cultural, Journalism and Horticulture. Students from Te Puke, Tauranga Girls High School, Bethlehem College and Otumoetai College and two teachers were hosted by MSANU, with strong support from Jiangxi Foreign Affairs Office.

<https://m.sunlive.co.nz/news/67576-cross-cultural-exchange.html>

3 DUNEDIN YOUTH CHOIR

Dunedin Branch project directed by Colin Child. **Deng Fund Grant: \$5,500**

To assist funding a combined choir from Dunedin Girls' and Boys' High Schools to perform at Shanghai (Sister City) International Spring Music Festival in May 2015. Reports were presented in the schools, and Otago media. A video of the successful trip has been shown around the country to publicise this musical event of international goodwill.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/barock-school-choir-takes-part-in-shanghai-spring-international-music-festival-may-2015/>

4 MICHAEL KING WRITERS FELLOWSHIP

An Auckland Branch Project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$4,500**

To fund a writer from Shanghai to be Writer in Residence at Michael King Writers Centre for eight weeks in Sept/Oct. This is a return exchange with the Shanghai Writers Assn. Celebrated Shanghai writer Xiao Bai arrived in September with his partner and infant daughter.

<https://www.creativenz.govt.nz/news/shanghai-author-takes-up-rewi-alley-fellowship>

5 YOUTH FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADOR

National Executive project directed by Dave Bromwich. **Deng Fund Grant: \$5,000**

To help fund a Youth Ambassador for up to six weeks in China to work on a project of their own design. Alena Woo, a Massey University Design Graduate used the funding to research the culture of doing business in China. She developed and published a professional resource on Shanghai business etiquette.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons/audio/2018676294/chinese-table-manners-and-how-they-can-enhance-your-business>

6 RADIO NEW ZEALAND MEDIA TOUR

A National Executive project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$9,500**

To fund half of the travel costs for a group of radio journalists to travel to and report on experiences and insights. This project was cancelled and the unused funds were transferred to the Bay of Plenty Student Exchanges.

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2013/14 - ROUND TWO

1 MANDATE OF HEAVEN EDUCATION PROGRAMME

A Wellington Branch Project directed by Christine Strickland. **Deng Fund Grant: \$8,000**

This project enabled primary schools to join a programme based around a Te Papa exhibition of Chinese treasures. 953 children from 6 low decile schools visited the exhibition of Chinese treasures that had never before been seen outside China.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/two-extraordinary-exhibitions-from-the-national-museum-of-china/>

2 INDEPENDENT STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Two Tauranga Branch projects directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$11,000**

1 Tauranga Branch and Rotorua Branch collaborated to send students on an exchange with the Middle School Attached to Nanchang University (MSANU). Four Tauranga students (each involved with some aspect of music) and to Rotorua students (studying Mandarin) went to MSANU for a month. A highlight was a combined concert. A return visit by Chinese epals were divided between Tauranga and Rotorua. Long-lasting friendships were formed between Chinese and NZ families.

2 Two students from Year 13 at Bethlehem College decided to research the differences between NZ and China education systems, while they attended MSANU. Their presentations when they returned to NZ proved very popular.

3 YOUTH FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS

A National Executive project directed by Dave Bromwich. **Deng Fund Grant \$10,000**

Three selected friendship ambassadors spent up to six weeks in China to pursue personal projects or engage in community activities.

- 1 Global Youth Think Tank. Toby Jordan went to China to assist with opening the lines of communication between under 30s in China and NZ
- 2 Local Values. Deborah Robinson studied China's mangrove forests to understand conservation activity, community awareness, local participation, and to connect with conservation groups in SE China.
- 3 A Greener Building Future for Shandan. Parley Reynolds went to Shandan to introduce farmers to the use of hemp and to teach production technologies.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/the-2014-class-of-nzcfs-youth-friendship-ambassadors/>

4 INSIDE RED CHINA DVD

A National Executive project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$13,270**

This project was designed to produce a digitally enhanced version of the 1957 documentary by pioneering NZ film maker, Ramai Heyward. Mandarin sub-titles were added and also the extra story of the recovery of the Maori cloak which had been presented to Mao Tsetung by Ramai Heyward. The DVD was widely distributed throughout the country.

http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/screening-of-inside-red-china-film-for-chinese-media-in-beijing/screening-at-nz-embassy-of-inside-red-china_1/

DENG FUND PROJECTS 2012/13 : ROUND ONE

1 REPRINTING "APPO HOCTON" BOOK

A Nelson Branch Project directed by Christine Ward. **Deng Fund Grant: \$7,500**

The story of Appo Hocton (Ah Poo Hoc Ting), New Zealand's first naturalised Chinese, was first researched and published by Nelson Provincial Museum. This project was to reprint 1000 copies and distribute these to all branches, schools, and museums. This extended the knowledge and understanding of the history of Chinese people in New Zealand. Spare copies were sold to help fund Chinese Culture Holiday Camps for primary-age children in Nelson.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/appo-hohton-new-zealands-first-chinese-immigrant/>

2 TAURANGA SCHOOLS EXCHANGE

A Tauranga Branch Project directed by John Hodgson. **Deng Fund Grant: \$3,000**

Air-fare support was planned for a Tauranga secondary school student to spend a school term in Nanchang, with cooperation of Jangxi Foreign Affairs Office, a local school, and homestay families. The project was deferred to allow time for better liaison.. The funds were transferred to Tauranga's next project.

3 MEDIA TOUR

An Auckland Branch Project directed by George Andrews. **Deng Fund Grant: \$12,550**

Six experienced journalists from radio, newspapers and magazines spent a busy week in Shanghai and Beijing. They reported extensively in various media on their experiences, both in China and on their return to NZ. This achieved the aim of extending knowledge and understanding of Chinese culture throughout New Zealand from excellent reportage in various media and publications, including NZ Listener, Sunday Star Times, and Radio Live Network.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/?s=media+tour>

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/update-of-the-results-of-the-media-tour-mission-in-may-2013/>

4 FOOTSTEPS OF REWI ALLEY TOUR

An Auckland Branch project directed by Ken Liu. **Deng Fund Grant: \$13,000**

A 10-day tour for 8 NZers to Shanghai, Beijing, Gansu and Jiangxi. Sites were chosen as places significant in the Rewi Alley story. As well as the Deng Fund, this tour was supported by the Consul General, NZ Asia Foundation, Minister of Maori Affairs and NZ Trade and Industry. The participants reported to NZCFS branches, to their support groups, in the media and on websites, and also, significantly, at Parliament. This

successful tour extended the knowledge of Rewi Alley's China story and developed fruitful connections with people and authorities in the areas where he lived and worked.

<http://nzchinasociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Follow-the-Footsteps-of-Rewi-Alley-2013-Tour-Susie-Shaw-Report.pdf>