

## **About the Delegation**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has run the International Youth Ambassadors Program since 2009. The program allows talented university students from Taiwan to participate in international exchange activities and broaden their horizons, while demonstrating the vitality and creativity of Taiwan's youth and highlighting the positive role that the Taiwan plays in the international community.

The theme for 2016 is "Dynamic Youth, Friendly Taiwan." Our youth ambassadors will travel overseas to attend meetings and seminars, hold cultural exchanges, and stage performances to promote mutual understanding between Taiwan and host nations, while raising awareness of Taiwan's contributions to humanitarian causes and sustainable development in partner countries.

One hundred students have been selected to participate in this year's program; they have been subdivided into five delegations. Each delegation will be led by a senior diplomat, accompanied by a deputy head of delegation, delegation secretary, and assistant stage manager. The 2016 Youth Ambassadors will visit 17 cities in 16 countries in the Asia-Pacific, North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East over a three-week period. They will introduce Taiwan to audiences through music and dance, as well as lectures and visits, in hopes that audiences will come to better understand Taiwan.

## **Introduction to the Performance**

The performance, entitled *Dynamic Youth, Friendly Taiwan*, is divided into six acts and runs 90 minutes.

The performance opens with the “The Dazzling Pearl, Taiwan” featuring aerial photography of the ROC (Taiwan)’s most famous scenic spots. Also featured will be a historical timeline of the Taiwan that highlights the nation’s economic success and democratic transition over the years, as well as the depth and splendor of the nation’s culture and history.

The second act is titled “Nasi, Life as an Endless Journey.” It features the traditions of Taiwan’s indigenous Paiwan group, including their myth of the hundred-pace snake.

The third act introduces the Holo and Hakka cultures, which are major pillars of Taiwan’s culture. Here are performed a Hakka tea-picking song, a raucous Holo marriage ceremony, and a religious ceremony. Featured are the traditional culture, architecture, handicrafts (such as Hakka oil-paper umbrellas and traditional carvings), folk beliefs, clothing, food, and totems of these cultures. Also interpreted in dance are the Yanshui Beehive Firecracker celebration, a Ma Zu pilgrimage, floating paper lanterns, and a temple festival.

The fourth act brings out the beauty of traditional Chinese culture through the performance of traditional opera, martial arts, tai chi, folk arts, tea ceremony, calligraphy, and Chinese musical instruments. Onscreen, meanwhile, are depicted calligraphy and a map of Taiwan.

The fifth act draws attention to Taiwan's cultural creativity in an energetic dance performance that depicts Taiwan's achievements in sports and high-tech. Background images show the creativity of Taiwanese youth.

Showing compassion that doesn't stop at borders is a clear message that the ROC (Taiwan) has conveyed to the international community for many years. In the sixth and final act, youth ambassadors will depict the release of a sky lantern, symbolizing goodwill and luck. Onscreen will be shown how Taiwan's youth are involved in humanitarian assistance abroad, as well as images of Taiwan's culture.

## Program

Title		Dynamic Youth, Friendly Taiwan
Introducing Taiwan	Opening	The Dazzling Pearl-Taiwan
	Indigenous culture	Nasi, Life as an Endless Journey
	Holo and Hakka culture	The Blossoming Peach Marriage Ceremony of the Southern Min Dance of the Immortal Guardians
	Beauty of Chinese Culture	Spirit • Rhythm • Flow
	Cultural Creativity	Dynamic Youth
	Closing	Friend Taiwan—Love & Peace