

The Sunflower News

Friends of Thai Daughters

Newsletter / Spring 2019

A Message from Patty & Jane

"This is why we do it"

When we started FTD we made a quick decision to try to help some very poor girls better their lot in life. As we hit yet another major milestone in early March - TEN Daughters graduated from high school and all ten were admitted to the college of their choice, we said, "THIS is why we do it!" Dear FTD Family please share this happy moment with us while we celebrate our collective achievement. We also want to congratulate Daughter Meesa who graduated from Rajabhat University earning a degree in accounting.

Patty & Jane



Congratulations!

Ten Daughters graduated from high school in early March.

Find out more about our graduates inside!

The FTD Family Grows More Daughter Sponsors Needed

With the departure of our college-bound Daughters, we have ten more beds available to welcome our next generation of young girls. P' Mee, P' Too and Co-Founder Jane made several visits to hill tribe villages to meet and interview girls who have been referred by village leaders, schoolteachers or other organizations. They will arrive at the Sunflower Houses in April to start their new lives full of love, hope and joy.



International Ambassadors

Our program partner Global G.L.O.W invited FTD to participate in the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women's conference at the United Nations in New York City in March 2019. Daughter Jun and LitClub Mentor and FTD Board Director Aoy spent a week in New York to help amplify the voices of girls and women around the world.



Congratulations Graduates and Rising First Year University Students



Annie
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: Chinese



Faii
School: Phitsanulok University
Field of Study: Dentistry



Junn
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: International English



Lutha
Valedictorian #1 out of class of 176
School: Chiang Mai University
Field of Study: Agricultural Science



May
School: Mae Fah Luang University
Field of Study: Hospitality Industry
Management



Meesa
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: Accounting



Nakhamsee
School: Thammasat University
Field of Study: Social Science



Nara
School: Thammasat University
Field of Study: Social Science



Ploytika
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: International
English



Ratree
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: Tourism



Seeda
School: Rajabhat University
Field of Study: Hotel
Management

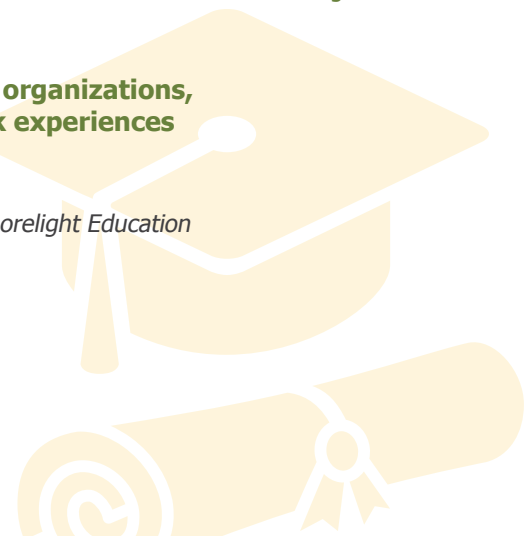
Special Recognition Younger students won school competition or recognized for:

- English (Som-O aka "Lucy")
- Chinese (Meepoo)
- Singing (Aon & Annie)
- Community Service (Nakamsee)
- Arts & Crafts (Lada)
- Exemplary behavior
(Chiang Rai elementary students)

Summer Internships

**Thanks to the support of the following organizations,
our graduates will have enriching work experiences
before starting their college careers.**

Bangkok: Michelin-starred Bo.Lan Restaurant, *Shorelight Education*
Chiang Mai: *Akha Ama Coffee Living Factory*
Chiang Saen: *Anantara Elephant Camp*
Chiang Khong: *Easy Trip Tour Company*



Winter Visitors

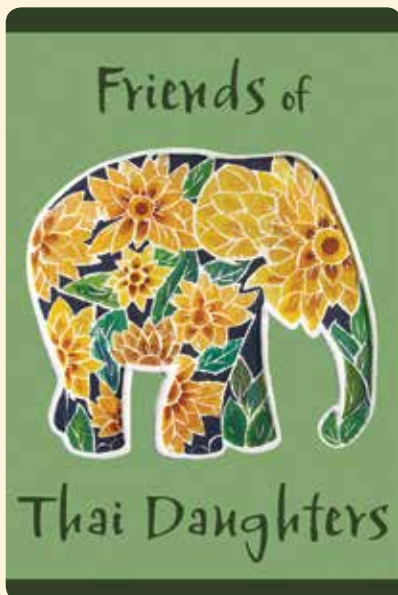
Thailand is a beautiful country any time of year, but especially so during the dry season November to February. Taking advantage of the favorable climate several donors, sponsors and tour groups ventured to the Golden Triangle to see our children, our Sunflower Houses, and some of our Daughters' hill tribe villages.



Co-Founders Patty and Jane welcomed Sharma Schacknow (Schacknow Family Foundation), Juliette Cohen, Dolly DiPesa (Rotarian, Boston business leader), Khrystyne Steacie, Catherine DiPesa, long time supporters Linda Hardenbergh, Seiichi Yasumura, and Ellen Ishkanian, Board Director Corrie Dretler, daughter Jessi, Mateo Block, Monet Izabeth, David Conboy of Karma Coffee, and Esther Kaufmann (Schneider Family Foundation), and special guests Chef Dylan Jones and FTD Advisor Chef Bo Songvisava and their sons.

Graduates Class Trip Fun in the Sun

Thanks to the support of a generous Donor, our Graduates and staff traveled to Krabi in Southern Thailand to swim, snorkel and explore the coastal countryside. Daughter Lutha said, "It is so different from our mountains in the north and the seafood is very delicious."



In 2002, Jane McBride and Patty Zinkowski were traveling in Northern Thailand when they encountered a group of 15 girls at risk of human trafficking, fending for themselves in an abandoned school. They decided instantly that they would help them and the idea of Friends of Thai Daughters was born. After three years of providing financial support from friends and family, they registered Friends of Thai Daughters as a 501(c)3 charitable organization in 2005.

FTD is a prevention organization, focusing its efforts on those most at risk of being trafficked. We use the U.S. State

Department's annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report as a source of information on the status of trafficking in Thailand and also for identifying risk factors.

FTD is an intensive, comprehensive and long-term program. We provide food, clothing, education, healthcare, housing and emotional support in a family environment. As of 2019, FTD operates shelters known as Sunflower Houses in Chiang Rai and Chiang Khong. FTD also provides funding, emotional support and guidance for non-resident Daughters including university students and graduates.



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**Preventing Child Trafficking
in the Golden Triangle**

Web: www.friendsofthaidaughters.org
Email: info@friendsofthaidaughters.org

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save the date
UPCOMING EVENTS - TICKETS NOW ON SALE



BANGKOK Gala
2nd Annual FTD Bangkok Gala

Friday, May 10, 2019
Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel
Tickets 3,000. Baht



QUEEN TRIBUTE Concert

"We are the CHAMPIONS" fighting for a cause ... come join your "Friends" on June 1st for a fun filled night of music and entertainment.

Saturday June 1, 2019
Lynn Auditorium, Lynn Massachusetts
USA

Tickets \$150. Per person includes concert & VIP reception

We encourage you to watch the OSCAR award winning movie Bohemian Rhapsody prior to concert!

For more information and ticket sales visit www.FriendsofThaiDaughters.org