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## TNUA performers entertain guests at foreign ministry party

TNUA recently entertained dignitaries, diplomats and other guests with an exciting and festive show combining the tradition and modern technology at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Chinese New Year feast.

TNUA, put in charge of organizing the show it named "Hundred Years of Harvest" to mark the country's centennial, worked on the ideas of "having a good harvest, being satisfied with what one already has, showing humbleness and cherishing one's good luck."

These ideas were represented through music, dance, visual arts and other forms to demonstrate to the guests to the party – including foreign diplomats in Taiwan and local business leaders – the outstanding achievements of the country in arts and culture.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Timothy Yang pointed out that the theme of the spring party, "Hundred Years of Good Harvest," symbolized the Republic of China's achievements and heritage in those 100 years since its founding. He lauded the TNUA team's excellent production for the show. He said the performance deeply impressed all the guests of honor and foreign diplomats by demonstrating the vitality, passion and creativity of Taiwan's young students.

President Ma Ying-jeou and first lady Christine Chow, both of whom were among the guests being entertained, went onto the stage to shake hands with the performers to express their appreciation after the show. It was one of the best forms of encouragement for the performers.

The show was directed by TNUA President Prof. Ju Tzong-Ching, with members of the production team coming from the School of Music, School of Dance, Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, and Center for Arts Resources & Educational Outreach. It took the team three months for the team to prepare and rehearse for the show.

The production for the ministry's party has not just presented the school's creativity and energy to the foreign guests, won itself recognition and made its students and teachers feel proud, but also directly promoted the country's arts and culture to its friends.

Caption: TNUA President Prof. Ju, Tzong-Ching and Minister of Foreign Affairs Timothy Yang and the university's production team and performers at the foreign ministry's spring party.



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## Maestro Lectures feature masters from Sibelius Academy and trumpeter from Germany

The School of Music was graced with presence of conductor Finnish Jorma Panula, pianists Liu Hui-ying and Erik T. Tawaststjerna – all from the prestigious Sibelius Academy – and trumpet master Reinhold Friedrich from Germany before the winter break last month.

The guests all gave students one-on-one instructions, as well as concerts during their visits.

It was Prof. Panula's second visit to TNUA. He is one of the best known conductors of Finland, and an important composer and educator who has trained many talented musicians, including Esa-Pekka Salonen, the Conductor Laureate of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Prof. Liu, who was born in Taiwan, and her husband, Prof. Tawaststjerna, are both from the Sibelius Academy's Department of Piano Music. Prof. Liu also heads the Chopin Society in Finland. They held a concert during their visit along with young Finnish pianist Juho Pohjonen,



as well as Prof. Shien-ta Su, Prof. Nancy Tsung and music students from TNUA.

Prof. Friedrich comes from a music family and started playing trumpet at the age of seven. He has won several competitions, such as the Munich Competition in 1986.

He has learned under such masters as Pierre Thibaud, Carl Gielow and has made dozens of recordings, ranging from baroque to modern pieces.

Caption: (Right) Renowned Finnish conductor Prof. Jorma Panula speaks at the School of Music – the second time he has been invited to the Maestro Lecture series. (Left) German trumpet master Prof. Reinhold Friedrich demonstrates his art to TNUA students.