

Transcript of
Dr. Hwa A. Lim
Chairman, UNESCO CID SFS
Speech at



May 6, 2017

Dear Guests, Performers, and Participants,

Thank you for coming to “Creativity Seed Plan – Launch and Charity Fundraising Event.”

Most people know the United Nations (UN). From the UN website, there are 195 countries in the world, of which 193 are UN members.



But few people know that under the umbrella of UN there are 17 Organizations and Agencies. The UN performs most of its humanitarian work through these agencies. Some of the best-known ones are the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) headquartered in Rome, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquartered in Paris, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) headquartered in Vienna, World Health Organization (WHO) headquartered in Geneva, World Food Program (WFP) headquartered in Rome, The World Bank (WB) headquartered in Washington DC...



Personally, I am proud to say that I am affiliated with two of these organizations: the Food and Agricultural Organization and UNESCO CID. This also explains why I travel so much, and that I have not done too many dance performances in the past two years.

Last week, at this very same place, we organized “World Dance Day” with the theme “Dance for Zero Hunger” – an International Dance Day co-launched by UNESCO CID and World Food Program,

Founded in 1973, *Conseil International de la Danse* (CID) has about 1,100 institution members and 8,000 individual members from some 170 countries. AHSA, the host of today’s event, is an institution member, and president of AHSA Carmelita Chao is an individual member. We are proud to be a Section of this great organization.



The CID is an umbrella organization for all forms of dances, that is, CID treats all forms of dances on equal footing. It does not promote any particular view of dance, recognizing its universal character as an art form, as a means of education, and as a research subject.

Reflecting the principles of United Nations, CID is nondiscriminatory and is open to all approaches of dances, without prejudice for race, gender, religion, political affiliation, or social status.



Kongfu Yoga with Nilesh N. & Toolieka P.

Thus today you will see not only different human dance forms, we will also talk about robot dancing, though, due to time constraints and space limitations, we can only have some representative dances, and robot classes.



More importantly, I want everyone here to think this way: If I point at the moon, I do not want you to just stare at my pointing finger. I want you to be able to see dance and their broader implications. What you can do with dances, not just “I do this dance or that dance”; or worse yet, that “this person is dancing wrong” or that “that person is dancing funny”. It is the bigger heart that you have within you as a dancer that makes you a great dancer!

By including robots, we are not only looking forward to the future, we are also broadening the goal of United Nations so that in the future we will be talking not only about humanity, but also robotity; not only about humanitarian, but also robotitarian.

The idea is not to have robots and humans competing against each other, but rather robots and humans collaborating as teams. For example, a robot and a human as a team facing off against another robot and another human as another team. This way, each in a team will benefit from the other’s peculiar powers: The robot will bring accuracies and precisions in repetitions – if uncreative – moves, while the human would bring intuition and insight.

At the end of the day, the whole thing will also help propel robot technologies forward.

We have here the “Creativity Seed Plan”, which aims to

1. To expose low-income children to the forthcoming world of robots and ready them for the eventuality.
2. To raise funds for 30 low-income, marginalized children (worldwide) to participate in upcoming “1st Silicon Valley World Creative Robot Competition” (SVWCRC2017) program (Oct 5–8, 2017)

Enjoy. And I hope by this point, you will be making observations of the moon instead of just staring at my pointing finger:

We are trained to think of skills as something we develop for the workplace. But think of them as strengths, and they open up a huge number of opportunities. Dancing well is developing such a skill.

Thank you.



Sue L., and Geno C. worked through the night to get the venue ready for Creativity Seed Plan



Carmelita Chao, Founder of SVWCRC and Creativity Seed Plan, during a TV interview.



Dr. Hwa A. Lim, Chair, International Committee, SVWCRC.



Some of the performers of the evening.