

2026 Taitung Craft Design Camp Marketing & Admissions Brochure

Adviser: National Development Council , Ministry of Culture

Organizer: Taitung County Government | Execution Unit: AFTERRAIN DESIGN CO., LTD.

Co-organizer: National Taiwan University of Arts

I. Project Background

The Taitung Craft Design Camp invites both domestic and international youth to participate in an immersive program that integrates camps, competitions, and exhibitions. Through on-site learning, participants will explore diverse craft practices, the aesthetics of everyday life, and the cultural and natural landscapes of Taitung. The program encourages creative exchange, collaborative creation, and mutual learning, while fostering continued artistic development and cultural promotion to strengthen local culture and innovative design.

The theme of this year's camp, "Mountains, Coastlines, and Settlements: Connecting Places and Crafts Through Space," invites participants to draw inspiration from Taitung's distinctive geographical environment and cultural context. Through visits to mountain and coastal landscapes, community explorations, cultural experiences, and hands-on craft making, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how different environments and ways of life have shaped local craft traditions. By exploring the relationships among place, culture, and materials, they will discover new sources of creative inspiration and develop a stronger awareness of space and locality in their design practice.

During the 12-day immersive program, participants will explore the connections between craft, land, space, and local communities, creating works that embody both regional characteristics and contemporary perspectives. Through their creative practice, they are encouraged to respond to the unique qualities of each place while expressing their own interpretations of Taitung's cultural landscape and local identity.

To broaden participants' perspectives and stimulate their creativity, the camp features a diverse range of activities, including local field explorations, interdisciplinary lectures, and networking sessions. These experiences provide opportunities for participants to learn from one another, exchange ideas, and refine their craftsmanship, while fostering meaningful connections with Taitung. Ultimately, participants are encouraged to transform their experiences and impressions of the region into creative works that thoughtfully reflect their understanding of its landscapes, communities, and culture.

II. Activities

A total of 20 participants will be selected by a panel of Taitung artisans and design professionals to join the camp. During the program, participants will be assigned to four craft studios in Taitung, where each studio adopts a dual-mentor system consisting of a master craftsperson and a design mentor. The craftsperson will provide instruction in materials, techniques, and traditional craftsmanship, while the design mentor will offer guidance on design concepts, creative development, and production methods.

Through an intensive hands-on learning experience, participants will develop a deeper understanding of craft materials and techniques before transforming their ideas into original works for the competition. Throughout the camp, a series of interdisciplinary cultural lectures centered on the theme of "Taitung" will provide opportunities for knowledge sharing and dialogue, encouraging participants to explore broader perspectives. These sessions aim to strengthen participants' understanding of the cultural foundations of creative practice from a local perspective while introducing the diverse values and approaches of craft and design across different cultures.

The camp will conclude with a final presentation, competition, and awards ceremony. Participants will be evaluated based on their learning engagement, project presentation, and the quality and creativity of their completed works. A total prize pool of NT\$200,000 will be awarded, including one Gold Prize (NT\$60,000), one Silver Prize (NT\$40,000), one Bronze Prize (NT\$30,000), one Merit Award

(NT\$20,000), and five Studio Excellence Awards (NT\$10,000 each), recognizing outstanding achievements across the participating studios.

III. Event Duration:

- **Application period: From now until August 5, 2026 (Wed), 5:00 PM**
- Admission announcement and notification: August 10, 2026 (Mon)
- Application fee payment deadline: August 13, 2026 (Thu)
- **Camp: August 16, 2026 (Sun) – August 27, 2026 (Thu), 12 days in total**
- Final Presentation, Competition, and Awards Ceremony: August 27, 2026 (Thu)
- Craft Design Achievement Exhibition: Scheduled to be exhibited for at least 14 days following the awards ceremony.

* The organizer reserves the right to modify, supplement, suspend, or terminate the event at any time. In the event of force majeure circumstances, such as natural disasters or public health emergencies, the event schedule and program content may be adjusted accordingly. Any changes will be announced on the official website or the official Facebook page.

IV. Application Information

1. Number of applicants and qualifications

(1) A total of 20 domestic and international participants will be admitted to the program, including at least one participant from Taitung and at least one international participant. Applicants must be 18 to 35 years of age (inclusive). Applications may be submitted either individually or as a group of two to five members. For group applications, each member is required to create and submit an individual work for the competition.

(2) A waiting list will be established based on the number of applications and the selection criteria. Adjustments may be made according to venue capacity and participant allocation.

(3) To encourage broader participation among young people interested in craft design and creative development, previous first-, second-, and third-place winners of past Taitung Craft Design Camps are not eligible to apply.

* Remarks.

- Domestic Youth: Applicants who hold R.O.C. (Taiwan) nationality. Preference will be given to those who have attained or are pursuing college-level education or above, including current students, recent graduates, or applicants able to provide valid proof of enrollment.
- Taitung youth: Young nationals who meet the following criteria: (in order of selection priority):
 1. A local resident of Taitung.
 2. Attending/graduated from school located in Taitung County.
 3. Persons with a studio registered in Taitung County.
- International Youth: Applicants holding a foreign passport. Preference will be given to those who have attained or are pursuing college-level education or above, including international exchange students and short- or long-term residents, who must provide valid proof of enrollment where applicable. Entry visas, residence permits, or other relevant immigration documents must remain valid in accordance with the regulations of the Republic of China (Taiwan) (e.g., with a validity period of at least 180 days, where applicable). Exceptions approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under applicable treaties or agreements are not subject to this requirement. Selected applicants will be required to submit the relevant supporting documents.

2. Application procedure and announcement of selection

Participants must complete the online application. Applicants who are successfully selected and complete the registration fee payment will be officially admitted to the camp.

(1) Online Application:

A. Complete the online application form:

- Google Form: <https://forms.gle/zLLPfkfBuGvmFcUY6>
- Taitung Art and Culture website> <https://culture.taitung.gov.tw/news>

B. Application period: From now until August 5, 2026 (Wed), 5:00 PM, based on the online submission timestamp.

C. Please complete all required fields in the online application form accurately and truthfully.

- Basic Information: Individual or group application; applicant's name (Chinese name, native-language name where applicable, and English transliteration), date of birth, nationality, national ID or passport number, registered address, mailing address, email address, telephone/mobile number, occupation, educational background, and eligibility for Taitung Youth or International Youth status.
- Preferred Workshop Ranking: Please rank your preferred craft studios. This ranking will be used as a reference during the selection process; final workshop placement will be determined by the review committee.
- Personal Portfolio: Please upload 1 – 5 images of your previous works for review.
- Additional Information: Research, experience, or reflections related to craft practices or materials.
- Declaration Form: The signed declaration form must be submitted on the first day of the camp.

(2) Announcement and notification of the admission list.

The list of selected participants is scheduled to be announced on August 10, 2026 (Mon) on the official website and Facebook page. Selected applicants will also be notified by email or telephone.

- Craft Taitung – Taitung International Craft Stream Project (Official Facebook Page)
<https://www.facebook.com/crafttaitung>
- Taitung Art and Culture website> <https://culture.taitung.gov.tw/news>

(3) Registration fee and payment period

A. Selected participants are required to pay a registration fee of NT\$3,500, which covers camp courses, basic materials, accommodation, and daily lunch throughout the program.

B. The organizer will contact selected applicants directly and provide payment instructions. The registration fee must be paid by August 13, 2026 (Thu). For group applications, all group members must complete payment by the deadline. Failure to complete payment on time will be regarded as a withdrawal, and the vacancy will be offered to applicants on the waiting list.

C. As the organizer will make advance arrangements for group accommodation, venue reservations, and related procurement, registration fees are non-refundable, except in cases where participants are unable to attend due to force majeure (such as natural disasters), or for reasons beyond the control of either the organizer or the participant.

Participants who withdraw from the program for reasons other than those stated above, including withdrawal after the camp has begun, will not be eligible for a refund.

V. Camp Information

1. Camp Schedule

Schedule	Content	Location
Day 1	<u>Afternoon</u> Participant Check-in, Design Lecture, Taitung Expo Visit	Taitung City
Day 2	<u>Morning</u> Opening Ceremony Craft Studio Exploration Tour <u>Afternoon</u> Enter the Assigned Workshop	All Workshops
Day 3	Familiarization with the Workshop and Its Surrounding Environment Instruction and Guidance by Design Mentor and Craftsperson	All Workshops
Day 4	Workshop Session (1): Design Review and Critique of Concept Sketches by Design Mentors	All Workshops
Day 5-10	Workshop Session (2): Artwork Creation	All Workshops
Day 11	<u>Afternoon</u> Exhibition Setup <u>Evening</u> Networking Dinner	Taitung City
Day 12	<u>Morning</u> Final Presentation International Cultural Lecture <u>Afternoon</u> Final Competition and Awards Ceremony	Taitung City

2. Workshops and Instructors

(1) Workshops

Serial number	Workshop Name	Craftsman	Craft type / material	Workshop Loc
1	JIAO glass beads	Jun Lu	Glass beads	Taimali
2	Mukasa mi Kivangavang	Chien-Chung,Huang	Rattan Weaving	Taitung City (Jianhe)
3	Papulu C Macrame	Jin-Jiang,Chen	Driftwood,Macrame	Beinan Township (Fushan)
4	The coconut woman	Chuan-Yu,Liao	Coconut Leaf Weaving	Donghe Township (Doulan)

* Please refer to the attachment for the introduction of the workshop/craftsmen instructors.

(2) Cultural and Design Lecture:

The lecture series approaches the theme from three complementary perspectives, broadening participants' understanding of craft and design while exploring how materials can express the distinctive qualities of craftsmanship. Drawing inspiration from Taitung's unique cultural and geographical context, speakers from diverse professional backgrounds will share their experiences and insights, encouraging participants to integrate local narratives and personal perspectives into their creative practice.

1. **Craftsmanship Between Mountains and Sea:**

Interdisciplinary cultural practitioners will explore how Taitung's diverse landscapes and geographical environment have shaped its distinctive aesthetic identity. Through dialogue and shared experiences, participants will be encouraged to deepen their perception of place and cultivate greater sensitivity toward the relationship between environment, culture, and creative practice.

2. **The Language of Settlements:**

Craft artisans collaborating with the camp and cultural scholars will engage in conversations on Indigenous craft traditions and the ways local communities perceive and interact with their natural environment. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the cultural knowledge, values, and lifestyles embedded in traditional craftsmanship.

3. **Curated Exhibition Tour:**

Participants will visit the principal exhibition venues of the 2026 Taitung Expo, where they will explore exhibition curation, brand presentation, and place-based storytelling. Through this guided experience, participants will examine how materials can serve as vessels of cultural memory and learn to interpret exhibitions from the perspective of craft creators.

3. Competition Format: Workshop Residency and Camp Activities → Learning and Creation → Final Presentation, Competition, Awards Ceremony, and Exhibition

- (1) Official participants are required to attend the 12-day camp program and will be assigned to one of four local craft studios, where they will learn specialized craft techniques under the guidance of master craftspeople, design mentors, and cultural lecturers. Throughout the

program, participants will receive hands-on instruction, professional mentoring, and opportunities for discussion and knowledge exchange. Basic materials, tools, and equipment required for the workshop sessions will be provided by the respective craft studios.

- (2) During the camp, participants are required to create an original work that integrates the craft techniques learned in their assigned studio and submit it for the competition. The primary materials used in the work must be those introduced by the assigned workshop. Participants wishing to incorporate additional materials into their work should carefully consider the compatibility and proportion of mixed materials and are responsible for providing any supplementary materials, tools, and equipment.
- (3) Final Presentation, Competition, Awards Ceremony, and Exhibition

A. Final Presentation and Awards Ceremony

On the final day of the camp, participants must present their completed physical works during the Final Presentation and Competition. Each participant will deliver a three-minute oral presentation, after which the judging panel will evaluate both the presentation and the completed work before determining the competition results. The winners will be announced during the awards ceremony, and the selected works will subsequently be exhibited.

The presentation should include:

- Title of the completed work and its design concept
- Documentation of material experimentation conducted during the camp
- Records of concept sketches and design development
- Description of the materials, techniques, and distinctive features of the work
- Reflections and key learning experiences from the camp

B. Evaluation Criteria

Master craftspeople from the participating studios and the judging panel will conduct a comprehensive evaluation based on participants' learning engagement throughout the camp, application of craft techniques and materials, quality and originality of the completed work, and final presentation. Award recipients, together with reserve recipients where appropriate, will be selected accordingly. Competition results will be announced and prizes presented during the Final Presentation and Awards Ceremony..

A. Competition scoring criteria:

Item	Content	Weight
Gold Award, Silver Award, Bronze Award, Merit Award		
Craftsmanship	Demonstrates the ability to apply, reinterpret, and innovate traditional craft techniques.	30%
Material Application	Exhibits creativity and skill in handling, understanding, and transforming materials into expressive forms.	25%

Work Completion	1. Aesthetic and creative expression reflected through form, color, decoration, and overall integrity. 2. Alignment between the final piece, its conceptual design, and the local cultural theme. 3. Quality of on-site presentation and ability to articulate the work during the Q&A session.	25%
Creative Concept	Originality and inventiveness of the design concept and execution.	20%
Honorable Mention		
Workshop Learning Performance	Engagement, attitude, and participation throughout the workshop, as well as the clarity and quality of the final presentation.	100%

✧ Each work is eligible for only one award.

B. Awards, prizes and others:

Awards	Places	Awards and Others
Gold Award	1	Prize money of NT\$60,000, 1 certificate/medal
Silver Award	1	NT\$40,000, 1 certificate/medal
Bronze Award	1	NT\$30,000, 1 certificate/medal
Merit Award	1	NT\$20,000, 1 certificate/medal
Honorable Mention	5	NT\$10,000 for each work, 1 certificate/medal
Certificate of completion of workshop	All participants will receive a certificate of completion of workshop.	

● The prize money for this event is subject to taxation and will be withheld in accordance with the tax laws of the Republic of China by the Taitung County Government; the same applies to foreign nationals. The withholding amount will be handled according to government regulations.

● All winners and winning works will be announced and awarded during the final presentation and award ceremony.

● The number of awards may be increased, reduced, or left vacant based on the quality of submissions, as determined by the jury in consultation with the organizers and executing units.

● If any participant or work is found to be ineligible, or in violation of the competition guidelines or related rules, the organizer reserves the right to revoke the award, prize money, and reassign placements. Participants may also be held responsible for compensating any financial or reputational losses caused to the event, competition, or exhibition.

C. Other Awards and Obligations

- All award-winning works will receive a set of professional photographs (digital files), with at least 10 images per work. These will include overall views, detail shots, background-removed images, and portraits of the creator with the work and the artisan.
- The top four winning works must be provided to the organizer free of charge for one year for archival purposes, promotional use, or other exhibitions (depending on actual planning). This period is tentatively from the date of the final presentation until July 31, 2027. Transportation, packaging, insurance, and other logistics for loaned exhibitions will be handled by the implementing unit responsible for subsequent use.

(4) Notes on camp participation

Workshops and Camp

1. Applicants are encouraged to conduct independent research on the selected artisans and workshops, including the materials used and their cultural context, before submitting their ranked preferences and proposed project concepts.
2. An online orientation session will be held for selected participants prior to the start of the camp. Attendance is strongly recommended to ensure a smooth and informed experience.
3. The organizers and implementation team will photograph, film, and conduct interviews throughout the event for promotional and archival purposes. Participants are expected to cooperate with these efforts.
4. Most workshops take place in the artisans' original studios or creative spaces. Facilities may vary and are subject to on-site availability; they may not be indoors or equipped with amenities such as air conditioning.
5. Some workshops are located in remote areas with limited commercial infrastructure. Participants requiring personal transportation must plan accordingly, bear the associated costs, and assume responsibility for their own safety. The use of public transportation is highly recommended.

Exhibition and Works

1. All works must remain on display for the duration of the final exhibition, which will last a minimum of 14 days following the competition and awards ceremony. The top four prize-winning works will be retained by the organizers for future promotional or exhibition purposes. All other works will be carefully packaged and returned by the organizers. Participants concerned about the safety of their pieces may opt to retrieve them in person or assume full responsibility for transportation arrangements and insurance coverage.
2. All creative works produced during the camp remain the intellectual property of the participants. However, participants are required to provide comprehensive documentation of their work and grant the organizers and implementation team the non-exclusive, royalty-free right to use images or materials related to the works for documentation, publicity, publication, exhibition, interior display, media coverage, and other promotional activities.

Others

1. All participants are considered to have acknowledged and agreed to abide by the rules and regulations governing the camp and competition. In the event of unforeseen circumstances resulting in changes to the schedule, venue, or exhibition arrangements,

the final implementation shall take precedence, and necessary adjustments will be made accordingly.

2. The organizers reserve the right to final interpretation of all event-related schedules, documents, information, and guidelines. In cases of force majeure—such as natural disasters, public health crises, or other emergencies—the organizers may revise, postpone, suspend, or cancel the event as necessary. All updates will be announced through the official website or the designated Facebook page. For any matters not explicitly addressed herein, the organizers’ official announcements and interpretations shall serve as the authoritative reference.

VI. Contact Window (Available: Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

[2026 Taitung Craft Design Camp]

AFTERAIN DESIGN CO., LTD. afterainblue@gmail.com ,(02)2239-0880 Ms. Wu

National Taiwan University of Arts (02)8275-1414 #227 Ms. Chen

Taitung Bureau of Cultural Affairs, Taitung County Government (089)320378#506 Ms. Wang

Facebook | <https://www.facebook.com/crafttaitung/>

VII. Attachments

1. Workshop / Craftsman Introduction

JIAO glass beads | Jun Lu



Jun Lu, a member of the Paiwan tribe of the Dawang tribe, and his wife Xuan Chu operate the brand "JIAO glass beads." He and his wife created an independent brand in the hopes that the traditional technique of Paiwan glazed beads can be reincarnated like a budding horn and extend more opportunities. Jun Lu is in charge of creation, while Xuan Chu is in charge of marketing and operations. Together, they offer custom-made glazed beads and a family-friendly bead-making experience. The birth of JIAO glass beads not only inherits the meaning of the traditional Paiwan glaze bead pattern but also draws inspiration from nature. It may be the pattern of seawater waves, the color scheme of flowers and plants, or the totem on insects that are the ingenious life concepts that distinguish Jun Lu's glazed bead creation.

Mukasa mi Kivangavang | Chien-Chung,Huang



Through the craftsmanship handed down by his elders, the enduring presence of ritual and memory is preserved. With each generation, ancestral wisdom is reinterpreted to create new relevance in the present. Huang Chien-Chung of Mukasa mi Kivangavang channels this legacy into contemporary life, drawing from what he has both inherited and rediscovered to extend its influence in meaningful ways. By reintroducing rattan and animal-hide artifacts into daily use as functional and symbolic items, he transforms them into heirlooms—narratives woven into objects passed down through generations. These creations become vessels of memory and continuity, intended not only for the present but as guideposts for descendants three generations ahead. In bridging tradition and innovation, Huang grounds his work in ancestral wisdom while shaping a future defined by lasting cultural resonance.

Papulu C Macrame | Jin-Jiang,Chen



Whether using delicate cords or robust nylon ropes, Chen Jin-Jiang transforms a wide range of materials into expressive works of art. His creations span from wearable accessories inspired by indigenous totems to intricately knotted lounge chairs, hanging plant holders, and even furniture and large-scale installations that incorporate driftwood. Through his practice, Chen brings the traditional art of knotting into the fabric of everyday life. Historically, knots served not only as practical tools for binding but also as early forms of record-keeping before the

advent of written language. In his work, Chen masterfully intertwines these dual functions—utility and symbolism—using the knot as both medium and message. Each piece becomes a reflection of indigenous heritage, conveying stories of cultural identity and daily life through a deeply tactile and visual language.

The coconut woman | Chuan-Yu, Liao



Liao Chuann-Yu creates art that is both inspired by nature and ultimately returned to it, choosing coconut leaves as her primary weaving material. Her creative process begins with a mindful search—observing the shape, growth, and condition of each leaf. Once harvested, the leaves are meticulously treated and handwoven into functional and artistic objects such as containers, hats, and bags. Her work reflects a raw yet refined natural aesthetic—pieces that are not only durable and utilitarian, but also imbued with a quiet beauty. Through her craft, Liao transforms ephemeral organic matter into lasting expressions of ecological harmony and artisanal elegance.