

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



# Contents

Chairperson's Remarks .....	3
Impact 2023 .....	5
Highlights 2023 .....	6
Financials 2023 .....	17
Sponsors, Donors, Partners & Volunteers .....	18
Board of Directors .....	20
Our Volunteers .....	21



# Chairperson's Remarks



**Frances O'Rourke**  
Chair of the Board  
Shanghai Sunrise

## Strategic Highlights

For Shanghai Sunrise, our students, sponsors and community, 2023 was a year of change. With the pandemic behind us, we started the transition back to in-person events. Assessing our new reality of a leaner volunteer base and fewer sponsors, we regrouped with our wonderful executive director, Christine Melchers, leading the change.

Our strong Board of Directors team continued to grow in 2023. Derek Chang joined Shanghai Sunrise as treasurer, and Giada Ferrari joined as HR and volunteer manager. It has been extremely rewarding to tap into the team's vast knowledge and contribute towards the bigger Shanghai Sunrise mission together.

In 2023 we raised more than RMB 2.4 million. We assisted more than 307 students in continuing their high school and university education. After a 16-month pause, we held our first in-person event, Take Your Student To Lunch in June 2023. The post pandemic Pairing Ceremony for newly paired sponsors and students in late 2023, provided an important opportunity for students, sponsors and volunteers to connect and have fun.

“

The team looks forward to furthering the Shanghai Sunrise mission together with the new Board Members.

”

## Looking Ahead

We are proud of what we achieved in 2023 and look forward to even better times in 2024 with new volunteers, insightful student-sponsor activities and more students graduating and moving on to brighter futures.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to all our sponsors, volunteers and partners for your ongoing support and dedication.

Yours sincerely on behalf of the Board,

**Frances O'Rourke**  
**Chairperson of the**  
**Shanghai Sunrise Board**



# Impact

By the end of 2023, Shanghai Sunrise's operations were run by:



**2**

staff members



**21**

core team members  
who volunteered  
**4,500+** hours



**32**

regular  
volunteers



**11**

new  
volunteers

During 2023, Shanghai Sunrise paid education-related expenses for **191** high school and **116** university students.



**191**

high school  
scholarships



**116**

university  
scholarships

We are proud to announce that in 2023, **114** Shanghai Sunrise students graduated from high school and university. Of these, **35** high school graduates continue to be sponsored by Shanghai Sunrise to attend university.



Overall, since our founding in 1996, Shanghai Sunrise has achieved the following:



**37+** million RMB raised



**12,380+** scholarships  
awarded



**3,700+** students supported

# Highlights

At Shanghai Sunrise, the vision of creating a brighter future for disadvantaged youth extends beyond merely offering educational opportunities. During the 2023 financial year, together with sponsors, partners and volunteers, we provided new creative and developmental opportunities for students.



## Goodman Internship Program

One of Shanghai Sunrise's biggest sponsors, the Goodman Group, provided seven university students with a wonderful opportunity to practice their theoretical knowledge through valuable working experience, at Goodman China's Shanghai office.

The internship program consisted of in-depth interviews with Goodman's senior managers, in-office working experience and mentoring sessions over lunch breaks. At the end of the program, an internship certificate was awarded to each student. The feedback received from students is both heartwarming and empowering:



"I worked at Goodman for two weeks during my summer internship. I was able to fully immerse myself in the work atmosphere and culture of a foreign organization through my internship, which gave me invaluable experience. I gained a deeper understanding of the real estate investment sector at Goodman by learning about the actual operation process, which includes pre-investment research, mid-term planning, project execution and post-execution strategies for maximizing return on investment.

I learned a great deal and gained a lot of experience during my internship at Goodman, and I could not have done it without the assistance and encouragement of all of my Goodman coworkers.

Thank you to Goodman China Foundation and to Shanghai Sunrise for this initiative."

- Shen Xin. English major at the Shanghai Institute of Technology

# A Career Day with HAYS and The WUERTH Group



HAYS and The WUERTH Group collaborated to provide students with detailed information on how to find and apply for a job and prepare for a job interview. The sessions were very interactive. Role playing gave students the opportunity to address their questions and concerns. At the same time, they received valuable feedback from leaders and professionals from different functions of the two organizations.

At the end of the afternoon, students split up into small groups and practiced their interview skills in Chinese and English.

Thank you to HAYS and The WUERTH Group for organizing this great event. Thank you for providing the students with the tools to achieve fulfilling careers in the future!





*"Just play. Have fun. Enjoy the game."*  
Michael Jordan

## Smash Badminton

Once again, the Smash Badminton Club hosted an afternoon of badminton for eight of our students at the Xijiao Sports Centre.

Cai Jin from Smash Badminton Club provided the students with training tips and explained the rules of the game. Everyone participated in a fun, mini tournament to practice their newly learned skills.

Thank you to our kind "smashers" who donated their time so that the students could enjoy a leisure day out.







## Adidas Impossible Is Nothing Family Day

Adidas generously invited a group of our Shanghai Sunrise students to attend their Impossible Is Nothing family day.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the ample activities offered. They tried out various sports, played games and enjoyed delicious food. One of the highlights of the day was an exciting basketball match between the students and an Adidas employee team.

Thank you so much to the wonderful Adidas China team for inviting us and enabling our students to enjoy a beautiful day of sports and fun!



Shanghai Sunrise also explored various ways of collaborating with international schools and other students to raise awareness about our cause and raise funds for our students.

## SCIS Halloween Tent o' Treat

During Halloween, the Shanghai Community International School (SCIS) kindly provided us with a spot at their Tent o' Treat event.

The Tent o' Treat took place with families from SCIS visiting our SHSR tent for face painting and Halloween tattoo "treats." In addition to being able to speak to parents about the SHSR cause, the school donated proceeds from their Pumpkin Patch to our students.

Thank you SCIS for having us and for your kind donation. We look forward to building a lasting relationship with fellow educators.



“  
An investment in knowledge  
always pays the best interest.  
”  
Ben Franklin

## SCIS Winter Carnival

The SCIS Winter Carnival was an exceptional gathering, jam-packed with delightful activities and surprises for everyone.

Shanghai Sunrise hosted a DIY ornament table, with all proceeds going to underprivileged youth in and around Shanghai. Thank you to SCIS for having us for a second time! This was a wonderful event for us to meet with various individuals in the school community.

## Students Inspiring Those around Them: Girl Scouts of Shanghai

The Girl Scouts of Shanghai hosted a booth at the Concordia Christmas Bazaar in support of Shanghai Sunrise.

The Girl Scouts' booth was filled with festive goodies including Christmas socks, 3D Christmas cards, DIY jewelry, face painting and hot chocolate. The Girl Scouts put in additional effort to raise funds by walking and promoting their merchandise all around the campus.

We at Shanghai Sunrise are so proud of the Girl Scouts for raising a whopping RMB 4,640; for underprivileged Shanghai youth! Thank you to these young role models and their parents for spreading Christmas cheer and enabling the gift of education.





## Christmas in October

Seven of our high school and university students participated in an intimate art event, designing Christmas cards for Shanghai Sunrise. The workshop started with a casual conversation on the tradition of sending a handwritten card for special occasions. Led by Zoe, an artist and art teacher, the students had the opportunity to get creative. Gathering around a big table, they had fun browsing through inspirational ideas, trying new techniques, chatting and laughing, all while creating their personal Christmas card designs.



The event concluded with a light lunch and a joint effort to come up with the perfect banner for our group picture. We are absolutely amazed by the talent and creativity of our students and very grateful they could find time to join us and connect with each other over this beautiful project.



Thank you to Jacqui for graciously hosting us and to Zoe for creating the artistic atmosphere and sharing wonderful tips.



Without the generous support from our Donors and Partners, we would not be able to function the way that we do. In 2023, we saw an opportunity to reconnect with our local community



In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, The Irish Community of Shanghai held their St. Patrick's Evening on 11 March 2023. Shanghai Sunrise, as their charity partner, attended this auspicious event where funds were raised.

The proceeds received from the St. Patrick's Evening equate to funding two Shanghai Sunrise students for three years. This remarkable achievement wouldn't be possible without the support of The Irish Community of Shanghai, The Irish Chamber of Commerce, LeCheile, The Shanghai GAA and Friends of Northern Ireland.

Thank you for your continued support and effort to sponsor education for a brighter future.



BOSS Group representatives and their sponsored students gathered for a fun-filled morning in October.

The university students connected over games and conversations about campus and student life. After a delicious lunch, students played a round of mini golf together. We would like to thank our generous sponsor, BOSS Group, for enabling this event, and Top Golf Lounge for providing a beautiful venue and great food.



## The Rooster Pumpkin Carving

This is a Shanghai Sunrise favourite. The Rooster on Jiangning Road continued its Halloween tradition of hosting a pumpkin carving competition in support of Shanghai Sunrise.

Thank you to everyone who joined this spook-tacular evening and to The Rooster team for their continued support.

## SEA Charity Luncheon

The Shanghai Expatriate Association kindly invited us to their SEA Charity Luncheon.

We are beyond grateful to have been included in this beautiful event with inspiring conversations around Shanghai charities and the possibility to share our cause. And last, but by no means the least, for a generous donation received at the event.

Thank you to the SEA for continuing to enrich and contribute towards our immediate communities.





celebrating in-person meetings

## Take Your Student to Lunch

Shanghai Sunrise sponsors have the opportunity to build a relationship with their sponsored students. At the Take Your Student to Lunch event, sponsors and students meet in person, share stories and spend time in a fun setting.



This event is a favorite amongst sponsors and students alike. In 2023 we had one of our very talented students perform a song on his guitar and another student, who recently completed her studies, shared her very personal story and experience with Shanghai Sunrise and sponsors. Everyone participated in our own Get to Know Bingo to give our guests an opportunity to meet one another and built high towers using spaghetti and marshmallows. Once again, we are beyond grateful for everyone's generosity. A huge thank you to the Jinjiang Hotel for helping make this a memorable event.



## Shanghai Sunrise Pairing Ceremony



The 2023 Shanghai Sunrise Pairing Ceremony was held at The Ritz-Carlton Pudong on 26 November 2023. One of our charity's signature events, it gave new students and their sponsors the opportunity to meet and connect. We believe this personal connection and the opportunities it brings make our program so special.

Our students have many talents and participate in a variety of academic and cultural activities. One of the highlights was a beautiful music performance on the traditional Chinese Guzheng.

All-in-all the Pairing Ceremony was a success. This event would not have been possible without the support of many. We would like to thank The Ritz-Carlton Pudong for their generous contribution to our cause by hosting this year's event. Thank you to our sponsor Croissanterie for providing their delicious sandwiches. We would also like to extend a vote of thanks and warm welcome to our new high school students and our new sponsors.



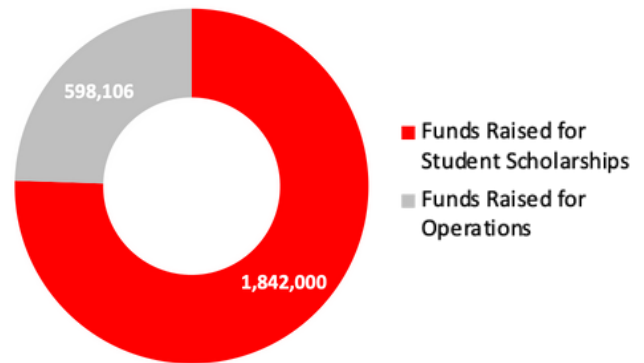


# Financials 2023

**Total donations 2023: RMB 2,440,106 raised**

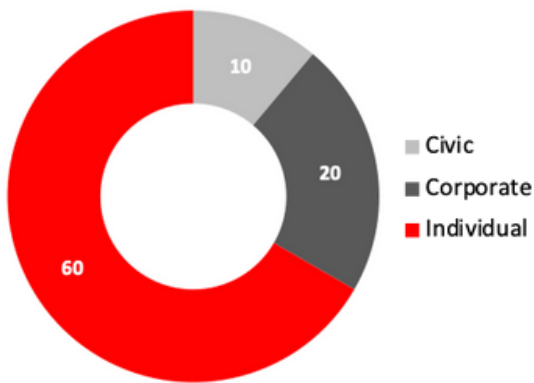
## Our promise

Shanghai Sunrise makes the promise that 100% of donations go towards the students' education. This is a promise we have kept since our inception in 1996 despite rising operational expenses. To cover our program expenses and operating costs, we raise funds through donations, events, programs and sales.



## Donations to student sponsorships 2023

In the 2023 calendar year, with the support of **90** sponsors, **307** students were able to continue their education in the 2023-2024 academic year. Donors include generous corporations, individuals and civic organizations.

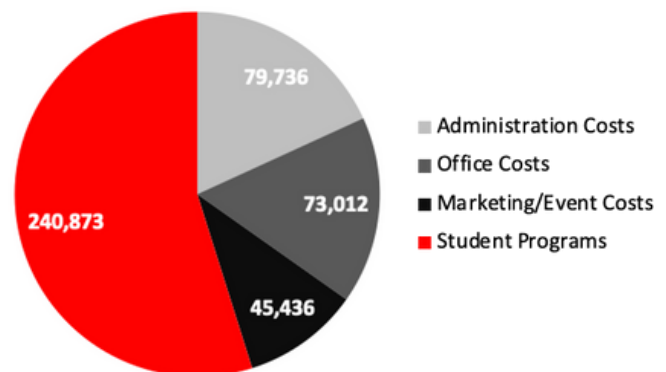


**191**  
 High School  
 Students,  
 RMB 1,146,000  
 raised



**116**  
 University  
 Students,  
 RMB 696,000  
 raised

In 2023, Shanghai Sunrise invested **RMB 439,056** in its infrastructure and student programs. Expenses were kept low by reducing rental costs.



# Sponsors, Donors, Partners and Volunteers

Shanghai Sunrise is a registered program of the Shanghai Charity Foundation (SCF). We are grateful for their ongoing support and belief in our work.

The SCF is a public non-profit organization approved by Shanghai non-government organization registration authorities. As a Shanghai Sunrise partner, SCF assists Shanghai Sunrise in identifying underprivileged youth who qualify for our sponsorship program.



[www.scf.org.cn](http://www.scf.org.cn)



At Shanghai Sunrise, we are proud to acknowledge and express our heartfelt gratitude to all our sponsors and donors. The following organizations provided sponsorships for 10 or more students and were significant contributors in 2023.



Without our generous sponsors, donors and partners, our mission of creating access to education through scholarships for underprivileged Shanghai youth would not be possible. Thank you for your continued generosity. Your support changes the lives of our students by enabling them to complete their education. Here are additional corporations, institutions and communities that sponsored Shanghai Sunrise students.



At Shanghai Sunrise all contributions matter. A huge thank you to our 60 philanthropic individuals who helped us achieve our mission.

# Board of Directors

Shanghai Sunrise is led by a strong and committed Board of Directors who are all sponsors and volunteer their time in support of our students and various programs.

## Board of Directors as of 31 December 2023

### **Frances O'Rourke**

General Manager - Asia Pacific  
Think Global Limited

### **Sara Tanhaee**

VP of Global Sourcing  
Honey-Can-Do

### **Benson Zhao**

Senior Commercial Service Manager  
Knauf Group

### **Jacqui Gray**

Director of Sourcing  
MSMode and America Today

### **Felix Wong**

Directorships  
DW Properties International (UK) Ltd. and  
Thomas & Co. International (HK) Ltd.

### **Derek Chang**

Investor and Risk Management Consultant

### **Giada Ferrari**

Entrepreneur, Executive Coach (PCC) &  
Leadership Trainer

### **Christine Melchers**

Director at Christine Melchers Consulting  
Ltd.



# Our Volunteers

At Shanghai Sunrise we depend on the various skills and knowledge provided by our volunteers to make all of the above-mentioned programs, events and daily operations a success. They serve as the first point of contact, source new sponsors, keep our social media and marketing material up-to-date and are in regular contact with our students and teachers. Volunteers also keep Shanghai Sunrise's finances and human resources running.

Each volunteer brings unique experience and engagement, contributing towards what Shanghai Sunrise is today.

We thank our volunteers for dedicating their time and for their unwavering support in bringing the Shanghai Sunrise mission to fruition. We appreciate each and every one of you.

Together we can make a difference.



# Contact

## Shanghai Office

555 Wuding Road, Room 732  
Jing'an District, 200041  
Shanghai

## Contact us

+86 136 8161 7871  
info@shanghaisunrise.com

## Our Website

www.shanghaisunrise.com

Follow us on  
social media



WeChat



LinkedIn



Instagram



Facebook