

Shelby Davis Extends \$1M in Match Funding to UWC Thailand

US philanthropist Shelby Davis commits \$1 million USD in matched funding to UWC Thailand to strengthen education for peace and sustainability.



On the occasion of his first visit to UWC Thailand, Shelby Davis, one of the leading supporters of international education in the United States, committed \$1 million in matched funding to the school. This further strengthens Davis' unique commitment to the UWC movement and its mission to make education a force for peace and sustainability. UWC Thailand, which joined the global network of 17 United World Colleges one year ago, will now benefit from \$1 million as part of the Davis-UWC IMPACT Challenge, an initiative which aims to incentivise alumni, parents, friends and family to donate funds to the UWC schools and colleges. The donation will further enhance UWC Thailand's extensive scholarship programme which

allows students enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, and selected through one of the 159 UWC national committees worldwide, to attend the school independent of their financial means.

On presenting his gift to UWC Thailand, Davis, a UWC International Patron, said: *"I hope my investment in UWC and the future leaders the movement educates will serve as an inspiration to many to support aspiring youths from around the world to gain a world-class education embracing diversity, peace and sustainability so they are equipped to tackle today's complex challenges, tensions and conflicts. In the years to come, the world needs extraordinary leadership to navigate these challenges and to make the most of new opportunities - and I believe the UWC movement is ideally suited to educate the leaders and change-makers we need."*

UWC Thailand was founded by German entrepreneur and philanthropist, Klaus Hebben, and joined the UWC movement in 2016 as the 16th United World College. Each of the 17 UWC schools and colleges around the globe bring together young people from a wide spectrum of backgrounds to live and learn together. Entry to UWC schools is highly competitive, but independent of financial means thanks to one of the most extensive scholarship programs for secondary education - supported by generous philanthropists like Shelby Davis.

Following a highly successful investment and fund management career, Davis devotes much of his philanthropic giving to education. The Davis-UWC IMPACT challenge was launched in

August 2015 thanks to an initial donation from Shelby Davis of USD \$15 million – one million for each of the 15 UWC schools and colleges at the time by way of matched giving.

Sir John Daniel, Chair of UWC International, said: *"This is great news and on behalf of the UWC movement I express our profound gratitude to Shelby Davis for his continued generosity. His commitment to the UWC movement enables us to continue selecting our students on the basis of promise and potential, regardless of their socio-economic background."*

About Shelby Davis:

Shelby Davis was the founder of Davis Advisors, a mutual fund management company managing more than \$60 billion. The company is now being run by his son Christopher. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1958, Shelby began his career with the Bank of New York where he worked for eight years. He entered the bank as a security analyst and after five years was put in charge of equity research. Shelby was named the bank's youngest vice president since Alexander Hamilton before starting his own firm.

Since retiring from the running of Davis Advisors, Shelby has become a major philanthropist. After supporting scholarships for American students to study at UWC schools since 1998, Davis started the Davis-UWC Scholars Program in 2000, which, to date, has provided need-based university scholarships for more than 7,500 UWC graduates enrolled in 94 U.S. colleges and universities. Established to provide opportunities and funding for alumni of UWC schools and colleges as they progressed to university, the program has since grown to become the world's largest international scholarship program for undergraduates.

About UWC and UWC Thailand:

Founded in 1962, UWC (United World Colleges) is a global education movement that makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.

To achieve this, 17 UWC schools and colleges on 4 continents deliver a challenging and transformational educational experience to a deliberately diverse group of young people to inspire them to become agents of positive change. UWC places a high value on experiential learning, community service and outdoor activities, which complement high academic standards delivered through the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma.

Scholars are selected by UWC national committees in 159 countries and territories. In line with the belief that education should be independent of the student's socioeconomic background, 70% of national committee-selected IB Diploma students receive full scholarships.



UWC fosters a lifelong commitment to social responsibility and, to date, it has inspired a worldwide network of more than 60,000 alumni, who believe it is possible to take action and make a difference locally, nationally and internationally.

UWC Thailand was founded in 2008 as Phuket International Academy and joined the UWC movement in August 2016. It is a day school with boarding facilities currently educating 450 students ranging in age from 18 months to 18 years and offers a holistic educational program with a special focus on mindfulness. For 16-18 year old students, UWC Thailand offers the International Baccalaureate Programme - the most recognised international school diploma.