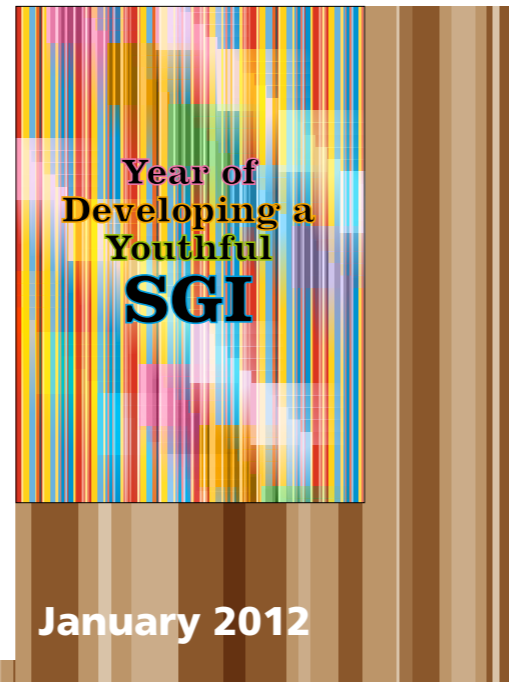


This year, the SGI welcomes the “Year of Developing a Youthful SGI”. It is now time to set forth with a youthful spirit to build an age of peace and friendship, together with our mentor SGI President Ikeda. In a world filled with conflict and mistrust, compassion will be the force that can transform our age for the better. In this issue, we explore compassion and its importance.



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16 To be compassionate requires us to respect each person. In this “dialogue”, Wong Wai Leong explores the importance of respecting each person, including our maids.

18 In view of the gloomy aspect of the coming year, Bernard Leong finds hope and reassurance in the compassion-filled teachings of Nichiren Buddhism.

45 While pursuing his dreams to become an animator, Rob Koo sank so deep into depression that he contemplated suicide. Through the practice of Nichiren Buddhism, he climbed out of the abyss of hopelessness and worked his way to becoming one of Hollywood’s award-winning and sought-after animators.

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