

## Guangzhou tour

“Let’s start from the beginning of the song again and practise till everyone knows their part...”, I think that everyone must have heard that from every conductor on the stage, maybe not everyone, but absolutely me! So let me just start off with this tour, shall we? On 14 April to 17 April 2017, all MOY students went to Nansha which we, MOY students, are joined together with the Nansha primary school and the Zhanjiang primary school to perform on stage to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> HKSAR handover.

Recalling the memories of the practices, I had the chance to seat with the students in Zhanjiang and try playing their piece, it was an extraordinary experience as through a simple practise, I’ve actually learnt a lot from the primary students there. At the time, I was sitting with a boy, he was very friendly as he introduced himself to me and told me a lot about their orchestra. During the conversation, I was curious of how much time and effort they put on practising the instruments and asked him, what he answered shocked me. “We have our instrument class every week and we will practise everyday after we finish school. Everyone will practise at least for an hour. Also, there is just 3 teachers in the school that teaches instruments so we have to help each other out all the time as the teachers are already very busy teaching us.” I was astonished and lost at words on what he said and I actually felt ashamed of myself. I don’t usually put a lot of effort and time on practising the instrument and even barely touch my instrument each week. Through this conversation, I don’t just repent on how I could not even spare some time to practice my instrument, but also understand how lucky and fortunate I am to have a chance to grow up in Hong Kong. In Hong Kong, we usually learn our instruments in small groups or one to one with the instructor which we could ask for help easily if we are stuck in a difficult situation. Sometimes I will think if Zhanjiang students had a chance to grow up in Hong Kong, with their hard work everyday, they can surely climb ahead of all the Hong Kong students as they have very determined minds. Moreover, through the practices, I found out that all the students in Nansha and Zhanjiang actually had a lot of passion towards music as they wanted to act like a performance every time they practise their instruments which is what I would like to learn from them, be calm every time you practise or perform, and the most important is to play professional and put your heart into music.

Lastly, it was an incredible experience and trip and I have learnt a lot from the students from Nansha and Zhanjiang, I could just say that they’re all my teachers and I inspire their great passion in music. I hope that I will have a chance to meet them again in the future! I would like to thank all the teachers and instructors throughout the trip as they have helped us through lots of difficulties and helped us solved lots of problems.