

Chui's Student Excellence Scheme (徐氏卓越學生計劃)

Report Form

Learning Report

During the days before the competitions, we had spontaneous rehearsals, which we would not have been able to achieve in Hong Kong. Singing on the street in an early morning, residents enjoyed listening to the melodies and some even stopped by, taking photos with us. Due to the different acoustics on European town's streets, we have also fine-tuned our vocal techniques in preparation for the competition. We believe this would have amounted to an inevitable part in members' memories towards the Tour, as the culture in Hong Kong may not allow appreciative passers-by to enjoy our performances, let alone rehearsals. On the windy sunny days in Wernigerode, singing on streets were particularly enjoying and rewarding.

Meeting New Friends with Music



Music Exchange with Oblivion, a Russian Choir.

In the tour, we have been to the Friendship Concert, where we got to perform at the Market Place. Seeing other teams and residents of Wernigerode, we have been able to meet new faces, thus increasing members' choral exposure in the event. Various teams from different countries have been selected to perform and to interact. We mingled with the team from Malaysia, and we have learnt about other teams' practice schedules and members' backgrounds. During the dinner afterwards, we met teams from Beijing where we also exchanged each other's information. We have been able to learn more about other choirs' practices and hence take it as a reference in carrying out future choral rehearsals.

Precious Comments from the Experts



The Choir with the three adjudicators of the Festival.

Also, during the Festival, we had an evaluation performance, receiving valuable comments from internationally renowned choral conductors and vocalists from Belgium, Lithuania, and South Africa. Participating in a choral festival held in Europe, Asian choirs like us definitely required locals' comments, on the stage style and performing standards. Outsiders of our Choir would also be able to observe characteristics and problems that were unforeseeable to us. Receiving comments on how to improve our gestures on stage, how to show the audience our passion for singing, we managed to alter our style few days before the competition. This has also aided us in improving our future performances.

Awarding Our Hard Work



Photo of the Choir with certificates of the two Gold Diplomas during the Prize Ceremony in the Marketplace.

The Prize Ceremony drew an end to our main purpose throughout the Tour – to participate in the 11th International Johannes Brahms Choir Festival and Competition. We have been awarded two Gold Diplomas in Category S – Sacred Music a cappella, and Category B1 – Mixed Choirs. We were thrilled to be receiving such awards and would be qualified to join the World Choir Games in the following year. We envisage the executive committee of the coming session to be active in participating in world-class choral events in order to further broaden members' horizon in developing their musical sense.

All in all, we are grateful to be given the opportunity to travel overseas, in pursuing our interests in choral singing, and also broadening our horizons through sight-seeing around, to understand more about other cultures. We were able to further develop by learning more about other choirs' cultures, increasing fellow members' choral exposure, and most importantly, how we chose, studied, and learnt in-depth about European songs and languages, to fulfil the Competition's requirement – performing songs written by Johannes Brahms.