2021 Anthropology Summer Internship Report

Name: Chiu Ka Lam, Raven Institution: Festivals Office, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, HKSAR Internship Period: 30/6/2021 - 19/8/2021 (200 hours in total)

I still remember how uncomfortable and nervous I felt stepping into Festivals Office on the first day of this internship as I did not know what lied ahead. During the course of the internship, I soon found out that every worry I had beforehand was unnecessary. Then after experiencing these two months, I am beyond happy to say that I enjoyed every bit of it, and I have found my interest in joining the arts administration field.

During the internship, I assisted in programs of the International Arts Carnival, an art festival that targets children and families. My main duties included preparing materials (like working pass and signages), writing and translating social media feeds, data entry and providing assistance on show days, which taught me a lot of lessons.



IAC 國際綜藝合家数 8月17日 01:59 · @ 【#國際綜藝合家歡2021|《第4個智者》拯救嬰孩行動!?】 慘啦要遲到啦! 上集提到,阿爾塔班救咗個瞓喺路邊嘅病人,所以趕唔 切同其他智者匯合,只好一人踏上旅途.... 嚟到今集〈紅寶石〉,佢終於抵達伯利恆,不過見唔到◉三位好朋友, 反而遇上準備執行殺嬰令嘅希律王軍......偏偏, 喙佢眼前就有一個媽媽抱 住個BB😱! 點算好呢? 佢要點樣化解危機呢? 图月17日,下午5時(),準時喺 國際綜藝合家歡嘅網站,收睇線上音樂劇《第4個智者》嘅第81集啦😆 《第4個智者》 由8月3日起一連5集,只要逢星期二下午5時打開我地歐網站,就可以同 智者一齊穿越沙漠,結伴踏上旅程! 英語演出,設中英字幕 Yourselves [#IAC2021 | "The Other Wise Man" - Save the baby movement?] Oh no, he's going to be late I In the last episode. Artaban saved a sick man lying across the road and missed the meeting with the trolls? other three Magi. From then on, he had to travel on his own. In this new episode, Artaban finally arrives in Bethlehem but is unable to find his friends. .. Yet, he's caught in the Army of Herod toothache! who is about to kill all the babies, and a young mother is right in front of him with her infant child 😨 🚦 What should Artaban do? How is he going to resolve the crisis? Visit our IAC website now to enjoy the third episode of the online Good luck! musical, "The Other Wise Man" 😂 ! "The Other Wise Man' Starting from Aug 3, visit our IAC website on every Tuesday at 5pm to travel with Artaban to look for the Messiah. Stay tuned and we will meet you on time!

In English with Chinese and English subtitles

i Signages prepared



The most exciting part of the internship was that I had the chance to assist on many of the show days, which I had not expected. During the first program, my main role was to assist in crowd control and tend to the needs of the audience before and after the show, like helping



iii The Mascots

were times when crowd control was extremely difficult as people were too eager to take photos with actors and actresses. In terms of these simultaneously occurring crises, the art administrator could still handle well and never miss a beat, which set an excellent example for me to learn from.

The second and the fourth shows I assisted in were very different from the first one as their target audience were small children aging from two to six. Since small children had short attention span and less experience in participating in performing arts, the shows were more activitybased. My main duties were giving out house program cards and greeting the audience. During the second show, however, quite a number of children were scared of the characters, the tooth trolls, as the tooth trolls were realistic with exaggerated acting and in the fourth show, although the plots were tedious for adults like me, the families enjoyed in the interactive sessions. These two shows caused me to understand that although in most performances, artistic elements are crucial, it is important not to neglect the characteristics and needs of target audience. Besides, after the fourth show, I asked the program officer why the show would be selected v House Program Card of the Second Show

them to take photos with the mascots and giving directions. I also had to cooperate with assisting theatre helpers and ushers, which honed my communication skills. During such a grand opening show, things did not always work out the way they were planned. There were guests who turned up late. There were viewers who were upset by the late start of the show. There



iv The Crowd Queuing Up for Photos



as it in my perspective, it did not have interesting plots and delicately made props and set. The answer I got was that art administrator did have the power to make decision, but in an art festival (or 'carnival' in this case), it was essential to remember that there had to be diverse



vi House Program Card of the Fourth Show

make decisions in the best interest of the audience. On top of personal judgements, they have to be capable of seeing through the lens of the audience, which is actually similar to the anthropological training of seeing from the insider and outsider perspectives. This thus prompted to reflect on myself and my vii Working Behind the Front Desk attitude towards these performances.

shows to suit the taste of different audiences. Although this show may not be the best among all, the seeming easy-to-make props may inspire the parents to make DIY crafts with their children and the children did acquire new knowledge of the life cycle of butterflies in the This made me realize that art show. administrators are powerful, yet they had to





viii House Program Card of Third Show

The most memorable show I assisted in was the third show, which included performance on a tram. It was physically demanding as we had to travel between Whitty Street Tram Depot and Central Library to assist in show openings, like handling show tickets and tending to the audience's needs, at both places. Meanwhile, a tram exhibition was held in the Central Library, which required our assistance. I remember that in one of shows, as the program officer would not be present in time due to the delay of the last show, I had to handle all the duties of the show opening. When I was busy tending to the families who came to watch the show and giving them tram tickets, an officer of the arts group suddenly asked me to remind another family not to take photos on the rail. The program officer, who just

arrived, discovered this and rejected it as we were already very busy. The program officer's action reminded me that even though our job was to assist the performances, we could still say no to unreasonable requests. There were also some similar incidents throughout the whole internship that instilled some workplace ethics in me, such as being polite



to every customer, early *ix The 120 Tram the Show Was Performed On* preparation for every event, effective labor allocation etc. I believe these values learnt would be invaluable for me in future jobs.

All in all, I was really grateful for the opportunity to work in Festivals Office offered by the Anthropology Department. This experience was very valuable for me and enabled me to develop an art administrator perspective, which may help me a lot on my future career path.



