



Sing Out Asia Acapella in Jakarta 2016

REPORT

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Becoming part of Sing Out Asia (SOA) is a blessing. I could not have been more fortunate. I joined SOA in 2015. And guess what? Your role in SOA doesn't stop when the program ends. It gives you chance to enrich your skill and broaden your knowledge. SOA formed its member to be a considerate leader with a good attitude and strong character based on the principle of family.

When I heard that SOA was going to hold an Acappella Event in Jakarta, I was bouncing off the walls to lend my hand in arranging the events. It was my first time to host such a great a week-long event, moreover it's foreigner. I wanted to show the good side of Jakarta inspite of its famous-traffic jam. During the preparation to hold a concert in my university, State Islamic University (UIN) Jakarta, I learn a lot how to deal with students council, to make sure every detail needed before-during and after the concert. And what I anxious the most is audience. I wonder how many students would come. How if this and that clinging in my head. This event really taught me a lot. It somehow challenges your ability and it's beyond what you imagine.

Every sweat and fatigue was paid-off when we saw the long-queue to enter the venue before the concert. More than 1500 students registered coming to the event. It's amazing. I can't believe we could make it. We were overwhelmed when we see happiness on the Street Corner Symphony (SCS) member's faces. Is it only about the concert? Definitely not! SOA Acappella in Jakarta 2016 is not only about concerts. . It's also about creating family, celebrate diversity and cultural interaction. We did concert in Ushmar Ismail, UIN, Jakarta Japanese School and also Jak-Japan Matsuri but we also had a camp in Puncak, Bogor.



The world needs the young generation to be more tolerant of each other's views, ideology, and beliefs. 14 members of Enjuku, 3 UIN students and 13 SCS members and 2 alumni of SCS are the participants of the camp in Bogor. The camp is the opportunity for young people of Indonesia and Japan to show their culture, to learn from others and to make friends. In the camp, we leant about Indonesian traditional dance Saman, and we learn a custom on summer in Japan, Nagashi-somen.

It's incredibly very fun. In Nagashisomen we have to catch flowing noodles in bamboo meanwhile all the people gather around the streaming. People in the end of the bamboo will not get the noodles if the others didn't give them chances. It teaches us to think about others. Togetherness and tolerance. What a great experience!

We also did a cross culture activity that gave us courage to interact people face-to-face even if we don't use the same language. We were encouraged that language is not the only thing we can communicate with. We can use non-verbal communication to each other and we understand it. It's fascinating.

Through this program, I can meet a lot of great people with their very own talents. I may not join the team for singing a cappella together but I was mesmerized on how hard work they are. Especially for Japanese. They practiced until late and they are really hardworking. It reflects Japanese culture. A thing what Indonesian should do. Sensei also gave us opportunity what we wanted to do during the free time and we decided to do a fashion show. In this occasion, we were encouraged to be creative. This is what exactly youth should do. We have to make a decision in a short time. Through this camp, we didn't realize that actually we already had developed our skills gradually in communication, time management, tolerance, time management and manner. In the farewell party, SOA also invited all SOA family, our seniors. That gives us a chance to know our seniors and we could share our experience in SOA and what we should do as a part of SOA in Indonesia.

It's my greatest pleasure to know SCS members, Golden voice Nanami Sato, tender & caring Ukai Nao, my cutest forever-17-mate Ayaka Awamura, smiling angel Rina Ando, cheerful Marina Abe (*I really need more time with you), comedian & sleepy head Naoki Kawada, gentleman & kawaii 日比健人 Kento Hibi, big head & noisy Yusuke Yamasaki, king of spicy Naoya Kouyama, cool guy on earth Kenichiro Takata, cool captain Tsubasa Maruyama, funny face Keisuke Sugitachi, playful Kohei Yano & happy virus Yuji Tsukitani. Knowing new people in a new place, creating beautiful memories together is what SOA is expert at. During the events, I get a new family again. Enjuku, UIN, SCS... We are family. We are Sing Out Asia family. I will always cherish the friendship we build through this program in my memories. WE ARE UNITY~~~!!!! ^^

