

FYP in Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village



Four CIMP's students were invited by Gratia Foundation Limited to produce a fund raising movie in Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village as their Final Year Project. Gratia Foundation was founded by a group of devout Christians who care about the country. They registered as a non-profit charity organization in Hong Kong Special Administration Region in 1999. They aim to look after the welfare of poor families in China through various services by following the example of Christ's spirit of loving people.



In this project the four CIMP's students had a valuable experience to learn how to co-operate with a company. To complete a commercial movie production they co-operated with the company by arranging some formal meetings and presentations. And they finally entered the production stage in 15-28th December 2009. They have visited the Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village which located at the northwestern of Fujian in China for video shooting. Sanming CCHC Gratia Children Village is a non-profit-making children village jointly established by the Gratia Foundation of Hong Kong and the Chinese Christian Herald Crusades (CCHC) of the United States. They provide holistic care to homeless children, including basic necessities of life and education, hoping that they may grow up healthily.



During these two weeks they have required to apply the knowledge which gained from the previous year to achieve the production stage. Besides, they needed to experience the culture and native life in Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village. Although it is quite different from Hong Kong, they enjoyed and feel pleasure to live with 90 children and staffs in Children Village. In additions, they have gained a lot of life's morals and belief besides academic knowledge and all of them were useful for their rest of life and to be well prepared for their futures.

Now they have entered the postproduction stage for video editing and website building. Four of them are striving for their final production stage and they are full of passion to produce a quality fund raising movie so as to benefit the children in Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village.



Feelings from the four CIMP's students:

Cheung Sung Ching, Dunstan (Group Leader)

I think this is a very rare opportunity to come to Fujian Sanming Herald Gratia Children's Village. In this fourteen days journey, it is quite meaningful to me and I think words can't express all of my feelings on this substantial journey. We worried a lot of things during the planning stage. At last, we all turn to love this place and not willing to leave.

We born to grow up in an affluent society and we got an experience to live with a group of children who having a poor living conditions. Although we can't say we have a great difference between, I really learned a lot from them.



Actually before I come to Sanming, I think the only responsibility is to complete my FYP. Hence, on the first few days, I just concentrate on shooting and due to this reason I turned to neglect the children there. Because of their smiles, hugs, words, care and love, these finally motivated me to integrate in their lives. When I picked up the video camcorder, cameras, my purpose has changed. Every time when I press the shutter / rec. button were designing to capture the valuable moment of their happiness and trueness, and it also written down a worthy memory for me and Sanming Herald Gratia Children's Village. All of them having their own stories, but they are quite sensible and hopeful.

The last but not least, a song performed by the children was deeply impressed me. It taught me our life is full of hopes and love although it is full of disappointments. Try to be hopeful and optimism everything will be fine tomorrow.





Au Tsz Yan, Fiona

It is my pleasure to involve in this project and I gained a lot from this valuable experience. In this trip, I realized that the problems of impoverishment are quite serious in China and it widely affected the children life. In fact, beneficence is the most direct way to meliorate their life but Sanming Herald Gratia Children Village thinks that love is also an essential element of developing a children life. Since most of the children there have a complicated background and pitiful childhood which may affect their development. So they have put in a great deal of resource to arrange a number of activities and seminars so as to educate them to love others and even their life. Besides behaviors and morality are also important and they have a list of strict rules to train up them as a good citizen in China.



I quite appreciate that they try to concern more about their development rather than just give them a place to sleep and study. In Hong Kong, most parents work hard for earning more and more money to give a better living condition for their children. They never think that love is also an important aspect for their children's development. As this reason, it turns out many social problems these days, for example drug abuse and suicide etc. This is a good opportunity for us to meditate upon this example. Moreover I have learnt a lot from the children. Most of them lost their parents when they were small but they are still tough and optimism. This is definitely worth learning from them.

Tam Lai Chu, Vivian



I'm glad to have this trip. There are many lovely children, kindly teachers and some special things that I didn't meet before. We can learn a lot from them, for example, they will not waste any food, they eat everything in the bowl even they don't like the taste. Also, if they feel full or they can't eat too much, they wouldn't add more food or drink. It's a good habit!

Then, I want to introduce a nice shop there to all of you. The idea of this shop is very well. First of all, the children need to save "money". Keep their clothes tidy and clean, helping the other people or keep quiet when they're line up. All of behaviours can cumulate 'money' for buy things in the shop, such as the commodity and snack. Let children know, they need to work hard, do their best and keep the good behaviour, which is useful in their daily life.

Finally, I feel this trip is very worthiness for me. Hope more people would help them in the future.





Kwok Kwun Lun, Clay

Before I go to Mainland China I was contradicting with my feeling. Because I love children and I was looking forward to this trip. On the other hand, there were many e-mail told me that Mainland China is very danger place for visitors, because of the dismemberment and robberies happen in China frequently. It was scary me and that is why I never want to go to China. However, my Final Year Project (FYP) brought me to this place finally.



At the beginning of the trip, everything is fresh for me. Because I went to China with family since I was 9 years old and this was the first time that I went to China by train. Sleeping on the train over night was a funny experience for me. Because we had many expensive equipment and some of them are borrowed from the college, so we need to guard our equipments in shifts overnight.

After 13 hours, we finally arrived at the Sanming CCHC Children Village. As my Putonghua is not strong enough to communicate with the people there so I was shy to talk with everyone there especially the children. Although I can understand what they are saying, I can't express myself. So I can't build up a good relationship with them specially Simon and Amber, the main characters of this movie. I was upset because I am the interviewer in this video and I cannot fulfill my duty.

So I tried my best to learn Putonghua and work-hard to communicate with the children with some body language. On 20th December, we went to Amber and Simon's home and had an interview with their father. After the interview of Amber, she talked with me initiative in the car and gave me some snacks during the return trip. Also she gave me a nickname and I was touch because of her action.

This trip is a nice moment for me. I was cried at the last day. Because those children gave me a nice memory in my life and they wrote me a lot of letters. I don't want to leave them and I know I will miss them all. As I mention before, I love children very much. I enjoyed living with them and helping them on their homework. I enjoyed eating with them and playing with them. In this Children Village, we are not only working on the FYP, we are also building up a relationship with the children. If there is another chance to involve in this kind of project, I will strive on this opportunity.



