A year ago, I could not have imagined that my involvement in Union College’s musical Jubilee Road would play a crucial role in my role as a student ambassador at HKAC/AA. A missionary in training, a plethora of new and exciting adventures awaited me, such as hosting vespers and dorm worships, leading Bible studies, assisting with English homework, serving as a RA, and travelling to mission fields…. But, directing a musical just didn’t seem to fit the description. However, I soon realized this assumption couldn’t be further from the truth.

Although time was insufficient to properly produce Tom Williams’ Elijah—an original and creative adaptation of the account of Elijah in 1 Kings 17-22 and 2 Kings 2—Bart Pocerondo believed a sacred musical should be put forth, and due to my experience as an actress in Jubilee Road, asked me to direct this project. We quickly threw together a quartet to lead in different realms of Elijah’s production: Stefani Leeper, performance director; Ariel Lynch, assistant director; Bart Pocerondo, music director; Sarah Gordon, director of media and set production. We were like cogs in a machine; without one member, we wouldn’t have been able to accomplish this production.

Speaking of essential cogs, the cast numbered over 30 persons, not including all the additional hands assisting with lighting, sound, stage management, photography, media, makeup, costuming, set and props production.

While I would love to take the credit for overseeing such a large crew and producing a successful show, the truth is, the success lies in the hands of everyone involved, and that their success was made possible through the endless blessings of God.

1 Corinthians 12: 14, 18, 25-26 “14 For the body does not consist of one member, but of many. 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 25 That there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”

This musical taught me that God can and will call the unqualified, and qualify the called, when we are willing to work for Him and His glory.
This year a group of psychology students and professor attended the Asian Conference on Psychology & the Behavioral Sciences in Japan in March. It was organized by the International Academic Forum (IAFOR) in association with the IAFOR Research Centre at Osaka University and IAFOR’s Global University Partners. The theme of ACP/ACEP was “Surviving and Thriving in Times of Change”, and this conference encouraged me, enlightened me, and gave me a chance to see different academic fields from diverse cultural, religious and national backgrounds. We came together to reflect on how we think, as well as reason, believe, and behave as an individuals, communities and societies.

I engaged myself in Parallel sessions that I was interested in, such as “Emotional Development in Early and Middle Childhood”, “Enhancing Adult Motivation in Nutrition Education”, “Philosophy of Travelling”, “The Family as Carrier of Culture”, and “The Role of Time & Change in Romantic Love”. I was also inspired by the participants who were tremendously outspoken with their outstanding ideas and feedback to the presenters through out the presentations and Q&A sessions. I got to speak with the professionals who were from the Philippines, including Dr. Norenia with PhD in nursing at University of Saint Louis and D’aaron a Psychologist from Baguio City. They were sitting next to me during Japanese Tea Ceremony. On the same day, we had tea break at the time of poster areas, where professionals or students presented summaries of their papers. It was a fun passive way to skim what people are up to, and more thought-provoking when asking questions in person than reading articles online. It was when professionals and students led conversations about what they’d been working on, thus made it more captivating.

Nonetheless, we also got to tour around Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe such as the Osaka Castle, Dotonbori Bridge, Fushimi Inari-Taisha, the Golden Pavilion and Kobe Harborland. We as well had an opportunity learning their culture by roaming around, going to church on Sabbath, eating out, trying out street food, taking tons of photos around the city and lots of souvenir shopping to bring back home for family, friends. We especially thanked faculty and staff who supported us with food and immense help in the fundraising projects for the trip. To conclude, this was a blessed and an accomplished experience for me throughout our Japan conference trip!

Welcome our Academic Specialist

Tam Man Lin, holder of Master of Arts in Ministry degree, is currently teaching at Hong Kong Adventist College. She worked at Penang Adventist Hospital as Medical Social Officer cum Dormitory Dean at the Nursing School for more than seven years. After moving to Kuala Lumpur, she served as Departmental Director for Community Services, Children’s Ministries, and Women’s Ministries, helping single mothers by providing them free sewing machines and skills training. She empowered women by conducting Women’s Ministries Leadership Certifications at Peninsular Malaysia Mission. Her Vacation Bible School curriculum “China – The Wonderland” has been translated into Chinese and Indonesian languages and widely used in Malaysia, Indonesia, and The Philippines. She received award from Southern Asia-Pacific Division in Year. 2015 for her contribution.
On April 29, 2018, Hong Kong Adventist College has hosted a “Joint Sam Yuk Ball Game day” at the clear water bay campus. It was a perfect day to have students from Hong Kong Adventist College, Hong Kong Adventist Academy and Macao Sam Yuk Middle School to have friendly matches in Soccer, Basketball and Volleyball among each other.

To make the day even better, we have also included a time slot for teachers & staff and students to play against each other! That surely was the climax of the day. The final score was [7 – 3], teacher & Staff won. The teacher & staff surely taught the students a valuable lesson out of class!

My Walk with God

Ever since I was younger, my parents taught me that, "When you're learning something, take what you think Is good." And so I did. Before I became a student of HKAC, I spent 12 years in a Buddhist education, learning the essences of being right and just. I thought to myself, "As long as I am a good lad, being spiritual or not is just a secondary option." But Isaiah 64:6 says, "But we are all like an un-clean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags." It doesn't matter how kind or how loving we think we are. If we do not have God, none of that will matter.

When I come to HKAC, I had no idea what Christianity is, and I didn't know why we need to have a vegetarian diet or keep the Sabbath. All I could think about Christianity is that it was an old belief that holds people in line and that was before I even read a verse of the Bible. But when I was started to understand the knowledge of the Bible, I began to realize that it holds more truth than the society we live in today. To this day, I am still grateful to my fellow brothers and sisters, especially Richla, who showed me a way of what Christianity holds, and How abundant God's love is.

"We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away." To be a Christian does not mean that we are perfect. We still commit the wrongful deeds we were told not to do every single day. But we were now given a choice: To continue to be who we are and neglect the love of Christ, or stand firm and look upon Him in every step of life.

2 Corinthians 4:18 "While we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."
The 11th Triennial Alumni Reunion was launched on board to the Bermuda Cruise on May 13 to 20, 2018. More than 140 alumni and friends who came from Australia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Canada, and different states of United States, joined together to enjoy the 8 days/7 nights memorable cruise. “The Gains and Losses of Life” was the theme of this cruise. Pastor Samuel Hsiao, an alumnus and guest professor of the Taiwan Adventist College, currently serving as the Church pastor for the South Bay Chinese SDA Church in northern California, was the featured speaker for this reunion. His three sermons drew from the ups and downs in the life of Joseph to bring forth the insights on how we should handle the “gains” and “losses” in our lives. His deep thoughts and practical illustrations had inspired the audience to look at what we have in a different perspective. He encouraged us to embrace the past, take on the challenge of today, accept God’s leading, walk with the Lord, and shine for Him. President of Hong Kong Adventist College Dr. Daniel Cheung and his wife Dr. Corjena Cheung, president of Taiwan Adventist College Dr. Alice Chen and her successor Dr. Terry Tsui, gave very positive reports on the progress of the two colleges. Elder Geoffrey Jang from Toronto spoke on Chinese way of healthy living with hands on therapy given to many. Besides touring the beautiful island of Bermuda, all the alumni and friends also got to enjoy the rare opportunity to fellowship with one another. With God’s grace, we hope to see more friends joining us in our next reunion.