SHARING BY MS LETTIE

Music has brought me immense joy for as long as I can remember. When people find out that I have an ardour for teaching and performing classical music, they often attribute my abilities to innate talent. In truth, my achievements thus far have been the result of determination and hard work.

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Aside from intensive practice and research to consolidate my performance skills, becoming a musician requires substantial courage and resilience. Whilst overcoming the challenges that come with navigating a harsh industry full of scrutinizing judgements and soul-crushing rejections, I realized that my inner strength stems from doing what I love. Whenever I perform on stage, or whenever I witness my students' progress, the euphoric delight I experience makes all of the hardships I have endured worth it, and it is what

urges me to persevere when I grow weary of this heavily romanticized notion of being a struggling artist.

Of course, I would not have been able to juggle studying, teaching, and performing without the support of the University. I feel blessed to have lecturers who treat me more like a colleague than a student and are always open to having intellectually stimulating conversations about music education. Their valuable insight has inspired me to help a new generation of students to embark on their own musical journey. I am truly grateful to the library staff as well, for they have efficiently sourced rare material and played a crucial part in my research on music performance.

Receiving the For Our Future Scholarship has been the most rewarding validation of my ongoing efforts in contributing to the development of Hong Kong's music scene, as both an educator and performer. I feel more encouraged to take on upcoming challenges that lie ahead as I continue to realize my dreams. Ultimately, it would be an absolute privilege to utilize my musical knowledge to invite greater support and appreciation for arts and culture from our local community.

Ms LO Chi-hoi Lettie studied the Master of Arts in Music Education (One-year Full-time) and was a recipient of the following scholarship and award: -For Our Future Scholarship 2021/22 -President's Appreciation (Arts and Culture) 2021/22