

A DREAM COME TRUE

Early January, music students in K.E.S, Kuwait English School, were told about a fantastic opportunity presented by the British Business Forum. The opportunity to be able to compose our own song, perform it, and possibly win an all-expense paid trip to London where we would go to the legendary Metropolis Studios to record the very song we composed with actual professionals. We were shocked and surprised; we even had a 2 minute silence after our music teacher told us! Nevertheless, we grasped the opportunity in our hands and got down to work from day one. I managed to bring together a few of my musical friends and we began rigorous sessions and eventually 3 months down the line came the day of the judging. I can certainly say, even though many of us have had much performance experience in hand, we were petrified, especially with such a grand prize at stake. After two hours of intense and close performances, we pulled through and the adrenaline rush was terrific. We were going to London.



How our band felt whilst being in London could probably not be described in words. We were overjoyed and full of anticipation of what was in store. We were told we'd be staying in the Hilton Hotel which was located in Central London; where all the famous west end theatres were! We were even told that if we wanted to eat anywhere at all, all we had to do was put it on a tab, and the company would just pay for us. As a male teenager, you have no idea how heaven like that sounded when I was told about it. Leading up to our trip was our end of year exams, and I can assure you that whilst we were in the hall, trying to solve the quadratic equation on the page in front of us, we must have ALL been thinking about London and just how amazing it will definitely be.



It was the 13th of June 2011, 7am in the morning, when we first entered the Metropolis Studios and we felt awe, shock, excitement and then, that sudden feeling of being surrounded by some of history's greatest artists. Whilst being taken to our studio, we were shown exact spots where some famous artists sat, recorded, and spent their time and we felt SO honoured and amazed. But nevertheless, we never felt alienated. Being teenagers in a famous recording studio, we expected to be shunned or even ignored but the people could not have been friendlier. They were all welcoming and extremely kind and never minded coming out of their way to explain things around the studio.



I think Sam Wheat, our producer and sound engineer HAD to be one of the most enjoyable characters we met on our trip. He was extremely friendly and approachable and always shared his knowledge with us about the music industry and bands. Although the best part had to be, when he was awesome enough to let us try out the various instruments around the studio for ourselves and we had a dream come true afternoon.

As the singer, my fondest moment was when I went into the 'Dead Room', which was the singer recording station, named after the fact that it is absolutely sound proofed and no sound echoes off the wall. The feeling just before I began to record, the feeling during my first breath before I started to sing, must have been the best of my life as I actually genuinely lost myself to the place right there. I actually felt like a famous singer of a band, recording one of his songs and that it just felt so surreal and unrealistic that I couldn't help not smiling about later on in the hotel room. It was in that room, those few minutes that I felt like a true singer.

