

READERS THEATRE 2015 AND AUTISTIC DONATION DRIVE

By Jacques Ollie and Ch'ng Looi Chin

s part of the Language Society activities in UiTM Campus 2, two activities namely the Reader's Theatre 2015 and a donation drive for the Kuching Autistic Association (KAA) were organised. The Readers' Theatre 2015 (RT 2015) served as a platform to collect donations for the Kuching Autistic Association (KAA). Though the process of organising the events was daunting, with guidance, resilience and teamwork, we managed to hold both events successfully, giving the audience splendid RT performances and at the same time instilling the awareness of social responsibilities towards autistic children.

It all began with the idea of promoting the reading habit among the students to enhance their English proficiency in a more relaxed manner. It did not stop there; we wanted to do more for our community. Thus, we organised an Autism Donation Drive to raise funds for KAA during the RT 2015 via various language games and the selling of KAA merchandises. However, the most important reason for organising the donation drive was to make the students aware of the difficulties faced by autistic children. We want the students to understand autism. Both events were carried out on 10th September 2015 at FSG Auditorium, UiTM Campus 2. It was a challenging night for us but success was beyond our expectation. We managed to collect almost RM1800.





READERS' CHEATRE 2015

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A week later, we made a half-day visit to the Kuching Autistic Association Centre (KAA) with our lecturers. When we reached there, Dr. Catherine, the Secretary of KAA, showed us the arts and crafts produced by autistic students for sale. She also brought us to some of the facilitated rooms where the children are taught to be self-disciplined and perform some routine activities, and she explained how the children are taught at the association. It was breathtaking to see the wonders of arts that they had created. At the end of the visit, we were served light refreshment as a token of appreciation for our help. We felt touched by their gesture and hospitality.

This whole experience was life changing. The teamwork that we had learnt from each other was incredible as it cannot be learnt from any beautifully crafted books. The most important thing was that we were able to help the community selflessly. We are grateful and feel blessed to have such an opportunity to contribute to UiTM as well as to the community. It was indeed an eye opener for us. We love RT 2015!

Cheque presentation at Kuching Autistic Association (KAA).

Committee members of Readers' Theatre 2015: (Back row)
Ningkan, Jack, Felix; (Middle row) Dr.Sandra Sim,
Madam Roselind Wee, Madam Ch'ng Looi Chin (Project Leader),
Dr. Catherine (Secretary of KAA);
(Front row) Ollie (President of Language Society, KS2).



