



Young Omani musicians resound at ROHM

SEPTEMBER17: Five young Omani musicians got an opportunity to play at the Royal Opera House Muscat (ROHM) last Sunday, an opportunity they are not likely to forget anytime soon. The musicians, all students from SQU's Department of Music and Musicology, were at the end of their one-month-long training with the ROHM and got a chance to present a small concert for the staff to mark both their internship and the beginning of the new season. Playing alongside Wael Kakish, the ROHM's Head of Education and Outreach, they performed a collection of songs from Lebanon, Turkey, Egypt and Oman. "It is to thank the interns and have them do something they love and that we care about," said Dr Nasser Al Tae, Adviser to the ROHM Board of Directors for Education and Community Outreach.

For the past one month, approximately 20 interns from SQU and GUtech were getting hands-on experience at the ROHM. The music majors from SQU worked with Wael Kakish, while the GUtech students, who are pursuing more technical degrees such as engineering and architecture, worked backstage with the technical crews, Al Tae explained. "The music majors helped us with research and programming. Those from GUtech, who are more technically inclined, are getting some much needed experience in operational sound, light and so on," said Al Tae.

Al Tae added that the internships were a productive step for the students that they can do during their summer holidays between semesters. The programme not only benefits the students, but is also a way for the ROHM to reach out to young, talented Omanis who may be interested in working there in the future, he added.

Maryam Mohammed Al Kaabi, a 23-year-old, in her final year of SQU's music programme, said she was thrilled to have the opportunity to do an internship at the ROHM. During her one month of training, she got to work with several people and learn more about music.

"When I heard about it, I thought it was a great thing. They do so many things here. I enjoyed working with the media," she said.