



1. If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

If anything was possible, my dream job would be a music producer.

My love for music has been evident to me ever since I was a child. Born to parents who both love singing and a family who is into arts and music, I started my musical journey when I was 7 years old. I even joined a worship band as their drummer when I was 8.

Given the ability to learn musical instruments fast and on my own, I have enjoyed experimenting with my musicality and started to join songwriting competitions when I was in high school. Through my network and acquaintances, I was able to see the world of music production, starting with having my own songs recorded in small studios.

Producing your own songs is costly. The sound engineer's professional fee is no joke, and every hour inside the studio is paid for. As a student, I didn't have the means to pay. Therefore, I told myself that one day I'd be able to produce my own songs and just be my own recording engineer and music producer.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

Yes, there were a lot of stressful moments in my past workplace, like everybody else. But there was one instance that I could never forget, and it was during the first few months of the pandemic.

In the school where I was working, a series of meetings have been conducted in preparation for distance education. Nobody knew what to do; everyone is clueless, and so am I. During the final meeting with the council members, I was invited and assigned to conduct a series of trainings on how to use Google Workspace, especially the Google Classroom, write a module, record and edit video discussions, as well as other relevant tools for distance education.

I didn't know where or how to start, because even I wasn't trained for these things. However, because everyone believed in my capability to learn as many tools as I could in a short amount of time, I didn't have a choice but to accept. I was willing to do so anyway.

After polishing the training curriculum and deciding on the dates, with the help of some of my colleagues, we were able to commence the training successfully. The sessions went on for 2 months as all stakeholders (*from admin staff, teachers, parents, and some students*) must be trained before the start of the school year.

On top of conducting the training, I had to also prepare my lessons, record video discussions for each lesson, edit them, and write the modules for the 3 grade levels I was handling. It was hard



for me to catch up, as I was still in the middle of training some batches. And so, I pulled 2 all-nighters at school to finish my own materials until the first day of school.

On the very first day, everyone else was set for the module distribution and posting of video materials in the Classroom. However, I was still in the middle of recording my video discussions and printing my modules without any sleep at all. I can still clearly remember what transpired on that day.

To overcome it, I asked for help from my colleagues with collating my modules. In that moment, I fully admitted my inability to extend beyond my limits. I believe that one way to overcome stress is to ask for help, especially when things happen beyond our control.

3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

In my previous position, or positions, rather, since I had 3 roles (teacher, multimedia specialist, and tech support), I found teaching both the most challenging task and one that I enjoyed the most.

Teaching was challenging for me since it's one thing I feared the most. I really hated speaking in front of others, let alone teaching them. Aside from my speech anxiety, I believe I didn't have the patience to teach and didn't know how to teach. My 4 years in college were spent in front of the computer, communicating with codes and technical stuff. I was clueless on how to transfer my knowledge, especially to the young ones.

However, I told myself that the first step is always the hardest and that doing things I don't know at first will contribute to my personal and professional growth. The first time I entered a classroom, I was nervous, yet I tried to compose myself as much as I could because it's true that your first impression as a teacher always lasts.

But as the days went on, I found myself enjoying it. I loved interacting with my students, as they earnestly listened to my stories. One thing that also made me love teaching was the fact that my students, even after graduating, go back to see me and thank me for teaching them. Even until now, some of them are already in college, they would message me and invite me over for a cup of coffee just to talk about the mundane things in life and how I made an impact on their lives. I, too, love learning from my students as well.

In conclusion, I now believe that when you come to love what you hate at first, you'll excel at it. In fact, just by taking that first step, you're opening lots of opportunities for growth, both personal and professional.

4. How would your past colleagues or managers describe your work ethic?

I can still clearly remember how my past colleagues would describe my work ethic.



1. Hyper focused person

Most of them would tell me that I was a hyper focused person. They tell me that when I am in hyperfocus mode, they too, were inspired to work productively.

2. Always gives quality outputs

My colleagues tell me that I don't like giving simple outputs and that mine are always unique. I also notice myself going beyond what was required, and it makes me happy.

3. A Perfectionist

This is something that I both love and hate about myself.

While being a perfectionist makes my work efficient and of quality, it is also mentally taxing as minor errors trigger me. Personally, I couldn't tolerate my mistakes, and that would lead me to overthink and dive too much into introspection.

However, my colleagues thank me for noticing things that they can't and informing them of the errors, especially when it's about critical data such as the students' grades and lesson contents.

4. Initiator

When I have new ideas, I always tell my colleagues and am the first to act.

5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

I'd like to categorize my accomplishments. Let me start off with my personal accomplishments.

As an aspiring songwriter, I submitted my song entries to some major competitions like Himig Handog and PhilPop, but I couldn't make it to the list. However, I took my first break in 2014 when I joined a National Songwriting Competition called "Freedom Song writing Competition," wherein the OPM legend, Noel Cabangon, was a judge.

I was a second-year college student back then, and I just wanted to try if I could make it. I asked one of my college professors, whom I admired, to co-write on one of my song entries. I wrote 2 songs, one in Filipino, and the other in English. Among the many submissions from all over the country, only 15 songs were chosen. Those 15 songs will comprise the Freedom Song album and will be distributed physically and to online platforms.

When the results came out, I was shocked and grateful that 2 of my song entries made it to the final list. Those 15 songs were performed live at the grounds of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Together with my band, we were given the chance to perform with other songwriters, and in front of Noel Cabangon, that made it to the Top 15.

And to my surprise as well, one of my songs won the 2nd place and the other one won a special award.



In 2015, I auditioned to Elements Music Camp, headed by Maestro Ryan Cayabyab. Only 60 campers from all over the Philippines were chosen for an all-expense-paid camp at Kuh Ledesma's resort in Laguna. And to my surprise again, I have been chosen and am the only one from Bacolod.

At the camp, we were mentored by the OPM legends such as Chito Miranda, Gloc-9, Gerard Salonga, Ebe Dancel, Quest, Joey Ayala and a lot more. Even Aiza Seguerra was there.

This experience had become a turning point in my musical journey. It opened a lot of opportunities such as getting scouted by a major record label as a songwriter. In fact, one of my songs that they published was used as part of the movie, Camp Sawi's playlist along with Moira's song, Malaya.

As for my professional accomplishments, it would be my contribution to the successful launch of distance education in the school where I used to work. As I mentioned, I trained the stakeholders in preparation for the new normal classroom set up. The timely preparation and readiness of the stakeholders made us the first school to open the school year back in 2020 in Negros.