

The Dr Graham's Homes OGBs - Heal the World Project

Note from the Project Director

This cover version of Michael Jackson's 'Heal the World' dedicated to our school Dr Graham's Homes located in the hills of Kalimpong, India, is more than just another virtual choir.

This short music film was put together not just to showcase the talent of our school but to give the world a small glimpse of the vision and incredible impact of our school on the lives of so many people across the world. This project brought together 31 alumni of Dr Grahams ranging from the ICSE Batch of 1962 all the way to 2016!!

The Vision & Origin of the project

Music has always been at the heart of DGH, especially choral music and as I began to watch various virtual choir productions during the Covid 19 lockdown, I began to envision a music production with the Dr Graham's Homes OGBs (Old Girls & Boys). What started off as a personal dream slowly became a reality!

The Process and Challenges

Through my organization, Inspire, I was able to get our team to start work. The coordination for this project turned out to be quite tough and took much longer than I anticipated. It has been 3 months of hard work, vision casting and discussions, contacting the alumni, collecting audio and video files that were sent from more than 15 different locations across the globe, overcoming challenges like asking for audio & video files to be redone because of poor quality or video files that did not sync with the audio files and even connectivity issues while one of our singers was sailing on a ship!! And that was just the beginning!! Then began the process of arranging the music and vocals, editing, re editing, mixing and submitting multiple drafts before everyone was happy. The limitations of virtual music productions are huge especially since more than 80% of the participants were recording files like this for the first time and were mostly using simple android phones! It has been challenging yet hugely fulfilling!

Despite all the limitations we are proud of the final production not just because we believe it is beautiful musically, but because through this we have also achieved so much more, like reconnecting old friends, reliving memories and emotions, sharing our love for our school with others and even motivating and encouraging people to contribute and make a difference!



The Larger Vision behind the production

While the song has come together beautifully, we also wanted to use this opportunity for a larger purpose and a bigger vision. We decided to not just make a music video but to use this as an opportunity to give back and make a difference. This is why we chose the song “Heal the World” which is particularly relevant in the broken and unsafe world we are living in, especially for children! In different parts of the song we have used footage of the Homes showing why we believe it is a beautiful place giving children a chance for a happy childhood.

Towards the end of the song we encourage those watching, especially OGBs, to give more children this opportunity. It is a call to sponsor a child and talks about helping children who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to grow up safe and healthy

This project is now more than just a music production, it is our opportunity to make a difference and give more children an opportunity to enjoy the kind of childhood that we had!

We are so thankful to our Editors, singers, speakers, sponsors without whom this wouldn't have been possible. I am deeply honored for all the support and for the opportunity to be able to do this for my Alma Mater

We hope you will enjoy watching this as much as we enjoyed creating it and would also consider being part of something bigger and more meaningful

Warm regards
Danny Khawas

DGH OGB ICSE Batch of 1995
Member of Global OGBs Association Managing Committee
Trustee of The Northern Grahamites Association – Delhi
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