

Sacred Hearts

## HIKI NO

### What I Learned KAILANIANNA ABLOG

Uh, my full name is Kailanianna, space, Ablog; K-A-I-L-A-N-I-A-N-N-A, space, A-B-L-O-G.

I am currently a junior.

I was the reporter, editor, and writer for the Sacred Hearts story on Miss Erin Flynn.

Um, well, Miss Erin Flynn is the biology and physics teacher at Sacred Hearts Academy. Um, over the summer, uh, we heard word that she won one of the biggest science awards that a science teacher can get; uh, she was presidentially acknowledged as a science teacher.

Well, personally, um, I've had Miss Flynn as a biology teacher back in freshman year. Um, she was always such a great teacher; she treated everyone equally, she made the subject very fun. So, just hearing that a teacher that taught me back a couple years ago winning such a big award, it was just amazing. It's not only an honor as her student to have been able to learn from her, but as a school community just having one of us be acknowledged on such a high scale, it's—it's a story that deserves to be heard.

Well, Miss Flynn, she's very easygoing. Uh, she's very understanding to her students; she understands that biology or physics may not be the most fun subjects to learn in high school, but she makes it that it's applicable to the students' lives. She kind of inserts um, anecdotes so that we feel closer to her as a teacher, and more willing to learn the material as a result.

The first concept about how to approach the story was basically Miss Flynn as a person herself, as a member of the staff, as a beloved teacher at the school. Um, initially, we were just going to do a little profile and then insert the fact that she won the award afterward. But then, after having some changes, we decided that the award should be the main focus of the story, and kinda leading into why she deserved that award and why she won it.

Uh, well, with the Hiki No editing process, we send a—a little draft of sorts of the video, and then we receive feedback from a professional mentor. And from there, we kind of take their suggestions and kind of implement them onto the—our product to hopefully make that better. Um, we did about six uh, drafts that we submitted and edited. A lot of the times, the things we had to tweak around with were perhaps how a sound bite sounded, or where a certain ... sorry. [CHUCKLE]

We did about six um, drafts or rough cuts. Um, a lot of the changes that we had to do either required us to move a sound bite, or move a little bit of B-roll back and forth to a different area to help the story flow better.

Well, every single suggestion that we received as a team to kind of help change the story, it does get a bit frustrating, especially since, oh, if you think about all the hours that you spend initially doing the project, and then you submit it, come to find out that all that work you would have to change. In the end, it—it does get frustrating, because you put so much effort into each um, rough cut, but in the end, as long as we learn more from the changes we make, if we become more flexible and open to different suggestions, in the end, it makes for a better product and a better learning experience.

Uh, what I learned in the process of doing this Hiki No story is to always be flexible and open to different ideas and suggestions. Um, personally, I am very stubborn, so when it comes to projects, I do have to think really hard about um, different suggestions that I get, and see in the end how will it better benefit my product as a result. Um, overcoming the frustration, it's more of just internalizing, you know, why was this given, you know, and how can I make my product better from those suggestions.

I think the main thing that I learned from working on a Hiki No story was that anyone can be a reporter; anyone can do a video story. Um, before, I never really would have imagined myself sitting in the seat or working with editors or a mentor um, on a story that will air on TV. And I think a lot of people shy away from the thought of having to work on such a big project, because it can be intimidating, it does take a lot of effort, a lot of time out of your day. Um, being teenagers, we like to go home instead of staying back to work. But it kinda teaches you a really good work ethic; it teaches you to be very flexible with different suggestions, and I think it—working on this project helped me to realize I do have a knack at video editing. It helps me realize a part of myself that I never really would have found unless I participated in this.

It kinda makes—um, realizing that I can do something that I never initially thought I would, it ... it makes me want to appreciate myself more as a person. Um ... a lot of the times, we are our ... sorry. [CHUCKLE] A lot of the time, we are our own critic; we're the worst critic on ourselves. And a lot of the times, it kind of hinders us from wanting to try new things. So, I think if we can overcome that fear of failing or that initial intimidation, and just finding that part of yourself, it's amazing, it makes you feel better as a person, it makes you feel more well r—well-rounded, and it really helps your self-confidence to say, Yeah, I worked on this project, and it turned out great.

I worked with Mariko Galton. Uh, we have very good work ethic together. We bounce off each other's ideas a lot. Um, we are also really good friends in real life, so that proves to help a lot with h—the way we think a lot. Um, she helped me with the scriptwriting, um, the initial shooting of the interview, and she kind of puts in input on how to edit the piece. It's easier to have a different mind work with you in this type of project, because it's one thing to say, This my project, I worked on this by myself. But to have that support from someone that's close to you, that knows the subject matter that you're working on very well, it ... it kind of rejuvenates you, especially if you've been working so hard on it, it's taking a long time. It's just refreshing to have someone to be alongside you on that journey and ... that ending destination being the airing of the show.

Well, she does bring a lot of different opinions. Uh, she suggests a lot of things that I wouldn't have initially thought to ... input into the project initially. So, like I said, um, having someone next to you is refreshing, it's rejuvenating. She kinda gives another view onto the subject, so it allows me to analyze it from both my perspective and someone else's perspective, and seeing how—where those lines meet, how that can bring out the best in the story.

Uh, the value of the Hiki No experience is knowing that you can do something, as long as you put enough time and effort into it. It's not only your own personal growth, it helps you to work better with others. For example, I had to work with uh, Mariko Galton; she helped me edit and shoot. Um, also, we also have to kinda collaborate with the mentor as our own teacher, and it's just this huge group project, and it kinda gives you a taste of how the real workforce would be, because a lot of the times, you do need to

collaborate with other people. So, this kinda sets um, us up to being better workers in the end, being able to collaborate and o—being open-minded to different suggestions.

[END]

### MARIKO GALTON

Um, Mariko Galton; M-A-R-I-K-O, space, G-A-L-T-O-N.

I was the videographer, and I worked with the overall setting, the placement, the audio, and some editing.

I think I learned um, communication, because I'm the type of person that, you know, wouldn't speak out. I would be the one that would kind of shy away from talking to others. But when I worked with the s— on the story with Kailani, I learned how to open up a little more and share my opinions and viewpoints on how to do something.

So, when we finished taking all the interviews and we structured it, I felt really accomplished. But when Terri gave us our feedback, I kinda felt defeated, because I thought we did really well. But then, after a while I understood why uh, she gave us those changes, because when we looked at the overall structure, it was kind of um, disorganized. And then, after the overall result, um, it was more structured, it was organized, and it—it flowed better.

Okay. Um, so, when we finished all the interviews, I felt very accomplished, because I thought we did very well. But when our ... mentor, Terri, she gave us our—her feedback, I kind of felt ... defeated, because I thought we did very well on the overall um, placement and the structure, and the—just the whole interview. But then, after I saw her um, suggestions on how to do things, I felt better. Because before we started, um, it was a little all over the place, and it wasn't as structured as her suggestions um, helped us with. So, I think overall, um, I got used to it, and it helped me grow as a videographer and everything.

So, I am also stubborn, so when someone suggests something, I—I always wonder why, because I have a very strong mindset. So, um, it was hard at first for—for me to understand her suggestions. And it—like, I was like ... I had mixed feelings about it, and I was a little frustrated. But then, after a while, like I said before, I got used to it, and then I took her suggestions and I made it—made it—oh, sorry. [CHUCKLE]

So, I took her suggestions and I applied it to the—the video and the overall structure of the script. And it actually really helped, because the ending result was very rewarding.

I think what makes a good story is a story that catches someone's attention, something that relates to the audience, something that's not exactly that happens every day. When Miss Flynn won the award, it was very outstanding, because not everybody can get that award, and it's the Presidential Award, and she got to meet the President. So, I thought that was a very interesting story.

I think she's a very nice person, and she's very heartwarming. She's very welcoming, she doesn't um ... she's doesn't like, judge you when you first—when she first sees you. She ... tr—[CHUCKLE]—she um, takes the time to get to know you and understand your learning um, type, and she tries to apply her

teachings and you—your experiences, and—so you can learn better. I think overall, she’s just a very—a very gentle person, but she’s very passionate about biology and physics.

Yes, because usually, science is a very boring subject. And um, her personality made it more exciting, more fun, and just um, it was a better learning experience. Because I personally did not like science when I entered high school, but when I took her class, um, she made it more ... more fun, and um, I learned a lot more than when I did—when I was at another school.

So, at first, it was kind of challenging, because we are both stubborn and uh, we’re very similar, but we are very compatible. Um, she’s very understanding and I’m very understanding, and overall, the experience of working with her was um ... extraordinary, because I haven’t worked with anybody quite as ... like her.

So, normally, I like to work alone; I don’t like to talk to people that much. But when I had to work with her, I learned that communication is a very big deal, and especially we live in a society that it’s communication that structures everything. So, I thought that um, working with her especially was a great experience, because her experiences and my experiences, it um, kinda paralleled, and I got to grow as a person as—uh, and as a student when I worked with her.

Okay. Mm ... what I learned from the Hiki No experience was communication, but also understanding and the ability to um, take criticism and um, apply it. You don’t—you shouldn’t take it to heart; it’s just trying to uh, make your story better. So, that’s one of the things that I really learned. Because I like to take things to heart, ‘cause I’m a very sensitive person. But then, I learned that you shouldn’t take it to heart, because it’s just for the better, and there’s always room for improvement.

[END]

**ALYSSA MYERS**

Okay. Um, Mrs., M-R-S, period, Alyssa, A-L-Y-S-S-A, Myers, M-Y-E-R-S.

Video productions teacher at Sacred Hearts.

Well, working on this Hiki No story, I was really impressed um, watching them uh, kinda brainstorm, from the scriptwriting, um, to the actual editing, and then getting feedback. I was just so impressed with how they worked together. Um, I—I want to say they were the ideal candidates or students for this Hiki No piece. Oh ... yeah.

Um, Kailani and Mariko, they seemed to be almost the ideal, I guess, candidates for a Hiki No story. They’re very independent um, when it—everything from brainstorming story ideas, to um, scriptwriting, to doing the interviews and editing. Um, I really ... I guided them through the process, but I—I really was impressed with how well they worked together and how well they took feedback, um, from our mentor and um, from myself as well. So, overall, I thought um, the process was ... fairly painless.

[CHUCKLE]

I really think they definitely got a lot of real world experience as far as um, you know, working with um, clients, per se. So, when they had to se—schedule the interview with Miss Flynn, to the—the student—oh, [INDISTINCT].

I think from the Hiki No experience, uh, Kailani and Mariko definitely gained a lot of real world experience as far as, you know, working with um, other adults, as far as scheduling the interviews with Miss Flynn, and then also um, just being on a production set. So, being able to take the lead when it came to um, the filming of the interviews, or telling—you know, telling Miss Flynn, Oh, can you turn a little bit that way, or—and in—in other situations, they wouldn't be telling their teacher, you know, you gotta do this or that. But they kind of were able to take that lead there, and so, it was an interesting kind of, I guess, turn of events there. Um, they definitely learned uh, how to become better communicators through this experience, um, not only with their—within their group, but—and with me, but with also working professionals such as Terri. Um, and so, being able to communicate their feedback with her, and kinda bouncing ideas off of each other, I think it was definitely valuable for them.

I think working through the revision process and the—the back-and-forth with our mentor um, I think they definitely learned patience, um, and how to kind of um, let go of their stubbornness as they both said they were, and um, take a step back and say, Oh, yeah, you know, I can see this being um, better this way or that way. Um, and through the process, I've definitely seen them grow as far as, you know, when we first got feedback for the first rough cut all the way to the fifth or sixth rough cut. Um, they ... they definitely improved there in that regard.

I think it gives them a lot of self-confidence as far as, you know, um, being able to produce a product that—for such a prestigious um, program such as Hiki No. And being able to um, take the lead on this project, it's—it was them two, Kailani and Mariko working together with me guiding them, but they really took the lead on it, and I think in the end, I really saw how uh, proud they were um, to have—to say they—they did this, and um, especially featuring one of their favorite teachers, too.

I think it's important for students to have this real world project-based learning um, because it ... gives them ex ... oh, can I start all over? Sorry. Um ... oh. Good, I can think. [CHUCKLE]

I think it's important for students to have this real world experience, um, project-based learning because it allows them to, I guess, gain—gain experience that they wouldn't get out of a book or, you know, through a PowerPoint. Um, they are out there in the field, um, talking to people, filming actual events, and you know, right in the middle of the action. And that's just something that they aren't able to achieve through a book or, you know, a website. So, having that experience from ... from a teacher's point of view, I just feel like it's so valuable. When I was going to school, I—I wish they would have had something like this, you know, um ... where I could make mistakes, you know, real mistakes that um ... I don't know [INDISTINCT] that. [CHUCKLE]

I wish I had this opportunity to—I wish I had the opportunity to ... um ... sorry.

Yeah; I wish I had the opportunity, you know, to make mistakes um, and learn from them in a kind of real world setting. Um ... after—sorry. After ... graduating from college and going into the journalism industry, it was kinda just like you're kinda just thrown in there. And I didn't have that experience when I was in high school, and so, it's just a wonderful opportunity for these girls to be able to experience that.

[END]