

Annual Report

2022-2023



Study Association of Media Studies

University of Amsterdam

The 26th Board of Off-Screen



Clockwise, from the top left: Kennee Sikkes, Eunice Chung, Shanaya Chawla,
Lucia Pascua, Marlein Boender, and Francisco Andrada.

26/09/2022

Photographer: Luca Somlyai



Francisco Sá F. R. de Andrada
President and Head of the Reporter Committee



L. Marlein Boender
Vice-President and Head of the Promotion Committee



Kennee R. Tindoy-Sikkes
Treasurer and Head of the Acquisition Committee



Shanaya P. Chawla
Head of the Media and Academics Committee



Z. Lucia I. L. Pascua
Head of the Social Activities Committee



Eunice Y. Chung
Head of the Study Travel Committee

Preface

Another year of Off-Screen, another year filled with learning, growth, and the continuation of shaping this amazing student community. The year of the 26th Board of Off-Screen has come to an end and we as a Board look back to our year with much pride and gaining countless amazing memories. Although we started off our year with some initial hesitation from the final two GMA's and from ourselves, we found a way to navigate through the generational shift Off-Screen experienced this year; saying farewell to the members that decided to move on while welcoming the new Off-Screeners of today, embracing new ideas and starting new traditions.

In the very beginning of our year, during our Board weekend, we decided that we wanted this year to be a smooth transition year after celebrating Off-Screen's 25th birthday, focusing on shaping the upcoming years for the study association and making sure the new generation of Off-Screen members would be educated about what our association stands for. It is safe to say this year wasn't always easy for us. There were many moments where we had to work through disagreements and keep up the motivation to continue to work as hard as we could, even after disappointments or financial difficulties. However, we always found a way to get to the finish line and remain enthusiastic about our work, being supported by our committees and the loving community we had recruited at the beginning of the year.

We started this year with countless ideas and fresh new visions for Off-Screen's future, which we tried to pursue as successfully as possible throughout our Board year. We realized very quickly after starting hosting events that we didn't have the same amount of active participants as the previous year, which could often result in demotivation, but we managed to accept that every year is different and that it didn't mean we were doing a bad job. The community might have grown a bit smaller, but we quickly noticed that this meant we had a more personal connection with the members that joined our trips and attended our events. We want the 27th Board to know that a bigger crowd doesn't necessarily equal success, the connection to your members is what will be the most rewarding! We are looking forward to the upcoming year and wish you all the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Marlein Boender

Vice-President 2022/2023

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Vision

In the 2022/2023 academic year, the 26th Board of Off-Screen set out with clear goals. They aimed to nurture knowledge, inspire creativity, and strengthen relationships across diverse backgrounds. Rooted in the values of camaraderie, professionalism, and collaboration, the Board sought to enhance the experience of every Off-Screen member, encouraging them to achieve excellence with both ambition and kindness.

However, the year was not without its difficulties — there were moments when professionalism and communication faced challenges. The Board was quick to recognize these issues; they addressed them head-on, and as time progressed, there was a noticeable improvement in both areas. Throughout these challenges, the Board's dedication to Off-Screen and its members never wavered; they gave their best.

With an eye on the future, the Board pursued various initiatives to modernize Off-Screen while ensuring its longstanding traditions were honored. They focused on enhancing communication with members, improving event quality, and planning for the association's future. This included updating statutes, introducing a new visual identity, slightly refining the Board application process, and evaluating the Board's structure.

The guiding principles for the year were captured in three words: diversity, efficiency, and adaptability. The Board emphasized the importance of celebrating the diverse cultures within Off-Screen, ensuring operations were efficient, and maintaining adaptability in an ever-evolving media industry.

As the year drew to a close, it was clear that the Board had worked diligently to strike a balance between preserving tradition and embracing innovation. Their commitment to Off-Screen's values, combined with their ability to adapt and grow, ensured a positive and enriching experience for members.

Francisco Andrada

President 2022/2023

President Francisco Andrada

Reporter Committee

Amanda Amaral

Lili Vincent

Liam Israel

Madeleine Julé

Senna van Ruiten

Introduction

Francisco Andrada served as the President of Off-Screen and the Head of the Reporter Committee for the 2022-2023 academic year. His role emphasized efficient Board operations while ensuring every team member had a voice. His involvement struck a balance between offering guidance and allowing independence.

During the early part of his tenure, the Board encountered challenges in teamwork, productivity, and professionalism. However, with a structured approach, these were resolved to facilitate Off-Screen's initiatives and projects. Beyond internal operations, Francisco established valuable liaisons with external organizations, including ASVA, ALPHA, and officials from UvA. Despite the absence of a program coordinator at the University of Amsterdam Media Studies Department, Francisco worked closely with Willem Pool, the first-year student coordinator, to ensure consistent and positive communication with UvA.

This collaboration with Willem Pool led to an increased budget for introduction events, enabling Off-Screen to procure necessary equipment such as cameras and speakers, which are anticipated to benefit the association for years to come. By the year's end, Leone Schmidt stepped in as the program coordinator. While her time in this role within the academic year was short, after fruitful discussions, her decision to allocate an additional 7,000+ euros to Off-Screen during a pivotal budgetary time greatly benefitted the association. .

Reflecting on the year, Francisco appreciated the range of activities he was involved in, from member assemblies to Board meetings. His leadership was marked by support and collaboration. He expresses his gratitude to both Board and committee members for their dedication and efforts throughout the year.

Media Studies Introduction Week

The annual Media Studies Introduction Week, sponsored by the Media Studies Department of the University of Amsterdam, was executed seamlessly this year. With an increased budget of 3,000 euros and a collaboration with Willem Pool, Off-Screen offered a diverse range of activities for visiting students.

The Board invested in a Nintendo console, allowing students to engage interactively in our room. Essential promotional items like pens, banners, and stickers were also purchased. Additionally, the association acquired a camera and a speaker that will serve the association for years to come, leaving a lasting legacy. The Board's gratitude extends to Willem Pool and the Media Studies Department for their invaluable support. Francisco, as President, took the lead in organizing the event, with significant assistance from last year's treasurer, Kennee Sikkes. The outcome was overwhelmingly positive, with the event attracting numerous new members to the association.

ALPHA's Warm Welcome Week

The Warm Welcome Week, organized by ALPHA for the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Amsterdam, was successful this academic year. ALPHA offered to cover expenses for events, allowing associations like Off-Screen to host without financial concerns. Taking advantage of this, Francisco and the Board hosted a paint-and-sip brunch at BG5. About 60 to 70 students attended, enjoying painting and a spread of juices, pastries, and coffee.

Many participants appreciated the event, with some forming lasting friendships. Overall, Francisco found the experience rewarding and encourages future boards to collaborate with ALPHA, especially due to their financial backing for such events.

Website

This year, Francisco took on the role of managing the website. He is grateful for the support he received from the Daily Board, especially from the treasurer, Kennee Sikkes. Kennee was instrumental in addressing administrative challenges, notably those involving payments through the website and our webshop. While Francisco introduced some tweaks to the site's colors and structure early on, its essential design remained consistent.

He consistently ensured that the calendar was updated and that the site operated without a hitch. He believes in the website's current state but also sees the merit in making periodic refinements. He is optimistic that subsequent Boards will bear this in mind. All in all, their collective effort has kept the website in prime condition.

General Member Assemblies

Throughout the year, Francisco consistently organized the General Member Assemblies. These meetings, often held at the University Library and occasionally at the RE campus of the University of Amsterdam, served as pivotal decision-making platforms. Topics such as the annual agenda, policy plans, statutory changes, and modernization were discussed, generally spanning two to four hours.

The proactive approach of Francisco and the Board ensured that every assembly was structured and efficient. They always arrived with a clear PowerPoint presentation and a set agenda. Over the course of the year, discussions from these assemblies led to substantial revisions in our House Rules, warning regulations, and voting protocols.

While attendance varied, the Board is content with the outcomes. Meetings were both effective and inclusive. The positive strides made this year reflect the commitment to our association's continuous growth and improvement. In the future, Francisco encourages Boards to make GMAs more attractive to members and have larger meetings.

Modernization Efforts

One of Francisco's main goals this year as President was to update the association's rules. This involved revising the statutes, which encompass the House Rules, voting regulations, and warning regulations. Throughout the year, he collaborated with long-standing members, the Board of Advice, and the Board to finalize these changes. At the year's last General Member Assembly, the updated regulations were approved. While some plans, like introducing a trust person, didn't materialize due to time constraints, Francisco is hopeful that future Boards will consider them. Overall, he is content with the sensible updates made.

Committee Members Activities

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Francisco, as president, orchestrated two activities to appreciate the dedication of the committee members. Off-Screen sponsored both events, showcasing its commitment to its community.

In autumn 2022, Francisco arranged a bowling event complemented with snacks and drinks. It was an enjoyable experience that allowed the committee members to bond and relax.

By spring 2023 as the days turned sunnier, with the assistance of the Board, Francisco rented three boats to sail the picturesque canals of Amsterdam. The boats were well-stocked with snacks and drinks, making for a delightful day out. This outing was not only a gesture of gratitude but also a celebration of the committee members' efforts throughout the year.

Francisco wishes to express his sincere thanks to the Board for their unwavering support in executing these events. He hopes the committee members found them as enjoyable as they were intended to be.

Reporter Committee

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Francisco led the Reporter Committee. The committee had an array of plans, from video productions and workshops to photo sessions and editorial tasks. They successfully bonded, fostering an environment where everyone both explored new skills and honed their strengths. While everyone engaged in various roles, each member also contributed their expertise, be it in editing, graphic design, production, or photography. The addition of a Committee Coordinator was important in streamlining operations. Francisco suggests empowering this role further in upcoming sessions.

Yearbook

Under Francisco's guidance, the Reporter Committee crafted a unique square-format yearbook for Off-Screen. With a keen emphasis on vibrant design, the yearbook was visually appealing, like a coffee table book (similar to previous yearbooks). However, for improved efficiency, Francisco advises that future committees initiate the design process around October or November. He also underscores the importance of engaging with the book's publisher early on.

Video Production

The Reporter Committee produced a series of memorable videos during the year. Notable mentions include the Pub Golf video from the Dublin trip, a festive "Come Dine With Off-Screen"

Christmas cooking segment, red carpet interviews during the Off-Screen Gala, and a retrospective podcast for the Board. While there were slight delays in some releases, the videos were warmly received by the Off-Screen community.

Photography

For the first time, every individual Off-Screen event was documented through photographs. These images were shared on Facebook, Off-Screen's primary photo archive, and later on Instagram. After a brief challenge with some less flattering images, guidance from the Board of Advice ensured that the photos reflected the ethos of Off-Screen, presenting a positive and consistent image.

Vice-President Marlein Boender

Promotion Committee

Henri Toevere

Isabelle Parree

Joa Jokinen

Lia Léderer

Ricards Sergejevs

Sean Vis

Introduction

Marlein Boender fulfilled the role of Vice-President of Off-Screen in the academic year 2022/2023. As Vice-President Marlein was responsible for Off-Screen's administration, internal/external communication and social media platforms. Marlein was also the Head of the Promotion Committee.

Marlein experienced quite some stress when trying to balance out all of her daily administrative tasks. She struggled to manage the email account and the stream of new members in the beginning of the year, resulting in some delays in answering emails and DM's from members on other social media platforms. After a while, though, Marlein communicated her struggles with her fellow Board members and the Boa members, which resulted in receiving good advice on how to manage her daily tasks better. Marlein also made sure to not ignore personal or school-related responsibilities in order to keep a healthy work flow throughout the year.

Overall, Marlein believes the communication between her and her Board could have been better. There were often some misunderstandings and prejudices about each other's work and dedication to Off-Screen, which Marlein admits could have been caused by moments of demotivation and overwhelmed feelings towards her list of tasks. Marlein recommends always being honest with the other Board members when the responsibilities become too overwhelming, so a solution can be discussed before it is too late.

Administration & Communication

Things that went well:

- Marlein made sure to answer every DM that was sent to Off-Screen's social media platforms.

- Marlein made sure to always communicate in a straightforward and professional manner, both internally and externally.

Things that could have gone better:

- Sometimes it took Marlein a bit longer to answer the emails.
- Marlein could have contributed more to the Membership Files.
- The Shadow Agenda changed formats too many times throughout the year which resulted in some confusion about the events and when exactly they were supposed to take place.

Social Media

Things that went well:

- Marlein kept up a consistent and professional quality of the social media posts, making the feed look aesthetically pleasing throughout the year.
- Marlein focused more on the most popular and often used platforms, resulting in an increase of interactivity.
- Marlein gave her committee members an equal amount of opportunity to design all kinds of content.

Things that could have gone better:

- There were occasions where Marlein should've planned ahead more in advance in order to announce events and trips on time. This resulted in some posting delays which caused stress for her and the rest of the Board.
- Marlein did not manage to create and post enough aftermovies, resulting in less video content on the feed.

Promotion Committee

The Promotion Committee is responsible for creating Off-Screen's promotional content on its social media platforms like posters, banners, forms, video teasers and aftermovies. The Promotion Committee of 2022/2023 consisted of Isabelle Parree, Ricards Segerjevs, Sean Vis, Henri Toevere and Lia Lederer.

During the year Marlein prioritised that her committee members felt like their opinions on the promotional content was heard by her and the rest of the Board. She emphasised on making her committee feel comfortable in order to increase productivity. Marlein used the website called Trello in order to list all events of the year to maintain a good overview of her committee's to-do's. There

were occasions where there were some miscommunications between her committee members and the Board members, resulting in some disagreements on the design of a post or video. Marlein tried to resolve this issue by letting the Board members create a more specific moodboard and made them type out a description of their vision. She also experienced some moments where her committee members struggled to create a high quality design, but she resolved these issues by actively brainstorming and communicating honestly and openly with her committee.

Things that went well:

- Marlein maintained a friendly and professional relationship with her committee members, receiving positive feedback about the overall atmosphere from her committee members.
- Marlein sent frequent alerts and updates to her committee members to make sure they would meet their deadlines.
- The committee members encouraged each other by always helping out the designated designer and maintaining involvement throughout the process.

Things that could have gone better:

- Marlein allowed too much freedom when it came to communication between committee members - Board members, which sometimes resulted in confusion.
- Marlein didn't urge the committee to make the final aftermovies at the end of the year, resulting in missing out on more content for the feed.

Treasurer Kennee Sikkes

Acquisition Committee

Aleksandra Burykina

Augusta Dao

Anisha Lakhmani

Leo (Jeong) Heo

Introduction

Kennee Sikkes fulfilled the role of Treasurer and Head of the Acquisition Committee during the academic year of 2022/2023. As the Treasurer, Kennee was responsible for guarding the financial state of Study Association Off-Screen, while also doing the bookkeeping, direct debit, external relations, brand awareness and a number of administrative tasks. Although his year was met with complications, Kennee has successfully kept the association stable, creating bigger and better opportunities for the coming years.

As the Head of Acquisition, Kennee had a motivated team of four students that worked on events and merchandise. Unfortunately, the committee was only able to get one discount partner, but the committee has been negotiating with new partners that the Acquisition Committee of 2023/2024 can take over. Overall, with enthusiasm, all seriousness and sometimes a little banter, Kennee characterized himself as one of the most dedicated to the association and is excited to see what the 27th Board is planning.

Budget

Budgeting has never been a complacation for Kennee, thanks to his financial background, a deep understanding of the present economic landscape, and the guidance of former Treasurers. While the year got off to a smooth start, Kennee encountered several financial hurdles along the way, significantly impacting the association's finances. Fortunately, the University of Amsterdam (UvA) provided additional support, allowing Off-Screen to close the year on a positive note and offering the 27th Board the same opportunities as the 26th Board had enjoyed. The Budget Realization for 2022/2023 can be accessed through the following link:

[X Off-Screen Budget Realization 2022-2023.xlsx](#)

Membership Fee Withdrawal

At the start of each academic year, the members of the study association, Off-Screen, receive a reminder, indicating that their subscription to the association will be automatically renewed. Those individuals wishing to continue their membership are required to pay the same fee as in their inaugural year, with fees ranging from €15 to €20.

The direct debit for the 2022/2023 academic year was initially scheduled for November 15th 2022 but was eventually executed on December 1st 2022. This delay occurred due to a combination of factors, primarily stemming from a lack of guidance provided to Kennee, the individual responsible for managing IBANC, the program employed for direct debits within Off-Screen. Additionally, Kennee underestimated the workload associated with this task. Although the renewal reminders were dispatched promptly on three occasions, Kennee was unaware that it would take a week to adjust the program and for the bank to process the requests.

Subsequent to the direct debit process, a variety of issues arose, including false chargebacks and challenges related to the IBANs of specific members. Communication efforts were made with these members; however, some remained unresponsive, leading to their removal from the association. If they wish to rejoin, they have the option to renew their membership by purchasing it through the association's webshop.

Concerning those individuals who initiated false chargebacks, these matters were addressed at the end of the year after he has been notified that this task has not been fulfilled. Kennee received advice not to pursue legal action against them due to the substantial time commitment involved. Instead, the focus remained on maintaining the association's stability and addressing the neglect of the Acquisition Committee, which had struggled to secure partners and sponsorships.

Ultimately, Off-Screen successfully received the funds through the direct debit process, albeit at a lower fee than initially projected. However, this financial setback was offset, as evident in the Budget Realization report shared above.

Things that went well:

- Off-Screen's members have received clear reminders for the membership fee withdrawal three weeks in advance.
- Although Kennee started the process later, he got the right instructions from Riddhi Vyas (Treasurer 2021/2022) on how to work in IBANC.

Things that could have gone better:

- Kennee should have started earlier with the process of adding the financial details of new members in IBANC.
- Something that was out of Kennee's hands was that a lot of information in the Membership File and IBANC was outdated or unusable. This also caused problems with the export of the SEPA XML-file.
- Some people's IBANs were not filled in correctly on the website, which meant Kennee was unable to get the contribution from those members.

College of Humanities

In addition to the funds collected through membership fees, Off-Screen, the study association, also benefits from financial support provided by the College of Humanities (CoH). The University of Amsterdam (UvA) has allocated specific subsidies to our association, including:

1. Media Studies Introduction Week which could only be used during the first week: €3,000
2. Regular Subsidy: €4,000
3. Additional Regular Subsidy: €7,607.14, which was granted due to financial losses resulting from mismanagement and changes in the economy due to inflation.

In total, Off-Screen has received a sum of €14,607.14 in subsidies. The allocation and utilization of these funds were discussed by Kennee, Francisco (President 2022/2023), and Leonie Schmidt, who has assumed the role of coordinator for the Media Studies department, succeeding Michael Stevenson. Kennee wants to thank the UvA and the College of Humanities for their understanding and hopes that the next board will find

Things that went well:

- The College of Humanities has considered the seriousness of the huge losses that Off-Screen was making and in turn granted us extra subsidy so that the association could continue with the same events in the next year.
- The communication with the CoH, which was mainly done by Francisco Andrada (President 2022/2023) was very clear.
- The invoices that Kennee sent to the UvA were paid quickly without further questions or concerns.

Things that could have gone better:

- Getting to extra subsidies required us to request it multiple times. With the Media Studies Department going on a strike in June 2023 that did not make it easier.

ALPHA and AUF

Alongside the subsidies received from the College of Humanities, Kennee had the opportunity to request two other types of subsidies. These included the ALPHA subsidy from the umbrella association representing all study associations within the Faculty of Humanities, and the Amsterdam University Fund (AUF).

Each year, Off-Screen typically received approximately €850 from ALPHA to support various educational activities, such as museum tickets, gifts for guest speakers, and other related expenses. These requests have to be done before the deadline and Off-Screen also has to be present during the ARVs where ALPHA elaborates on whether an association will receive subsidy or not. For the current year, an extra €275.34 was obtained from ALPHA in recognition of their participation in the Warm Welcome Week at the beginning of the academic year. Initially, an expectation of €1,050.00 was in place, but this figure increased to €1,535.84 for reasons that ranged from website-related subsidies, study trip allowances, or the transfer of funds from the previous academic year (2021/2022). Due to ALPHA's inability to provide a precise breakdown, Kennee chose not to investigate further, as this difference of €485.84 helped alleviate some of the financial challenges mentioned in the preceding section.

Addressing these financial challenges could have been feasible through the Amsterdam University Fund (AUF). The most recent grant from AUF occurred during the academic year 2019/2020 when Off-Screen received €2,000 for their trip to Marrakesh. At the outset of the 2022/2023 academic year, Kennee was informed about the AUF subsidy but faced challenges in gathering the required documentation, ultimately missing the application deadline. Consequently, Off-Screen was unable to secure funding for a planned trip scheduled before April 30th. While this represented a missed opportunity, Kennee has committed to ensuring that the 27th Treasurer will be well-prepared in their role, including diligently acquiring the necessary documents. This preparation is aimed at enabling Off-Screen to potentially use the AUF subsidy for a new destination in the academic year 2023/2024.

Things that went well:

- ALPHA is not only an association that provides subsidies, but it also acts as a gateway to other associations' boards. This was helpful to strengthen the connection between the rest of the faculty.
- Kennee did all the subsidy requests for ALPHA on time, which consisted of three regular subsidy rounds, one for study trip and a final one for the website.

Things that could have gone better:

- Kennee should have been more on top of his agenda and should not have missed the deadline for the AUF. The year has ended on a positive note, but the lack of this fund has surely been missed.
- Sometimes when requesting subsidies, some of the rules from ALPHA were unclear. This resulted in uncomfortable encounters during the ARV when Kennee realized that certain request were filed in the wrong section.
- Due to internal issues on ALPHA's side, it took a very long while for subsidies to be transferred, which is something to keep an eye on in the coming year.

Bookkeeping

Kennee quickly grasped the art of bookkeeping. In the accounting software Conscribo, bank statements were regularly imported by Kennee every two weeks to ensure that he stayed up to date and avoided a backlog of numerous transactions. Overall, Off-Screen's approach to bookkeeping has remained consistent with previous years. The only modification made by Kennee in Conscribo was the closure of booking years up to 2020, as they were no longer in use. However, he retained records for the past five years in case they were needed for future investigations.

Furthermore, Kennee streamlined the account numbers by implementing a unified system. In this system, the first two numbers signify the budget category, such as 41 for Office Expenses, while the last two numbers indicate the specific account, like 4103 for the Website. This adjustment has enhanced the user-friendliness of the Dutch Conscribo interface, making it more accessible for those who may not be fluent in Dutch.

Administration and Legal Affairs

Throughout the year, Kennee provided assistance to Marlein Boender (Vice-President, 2022/2023) in handling administrative responsibilities. This support included managing emails during her absence, particularly in searching for vacancies and tending to external matters. In

addition, Kennee consistently updated the Membership File, coming up with an efficient method to transfer data from Wix to other spreadsheets, thereby sparing future boards from moving everything manually and decreasing the room for error.

In terms of Legal Affairs, Kennee took on the responsibility of registering each new board member with the Chamber of Commerce (KvK) and oversaw the process of requesting Board grants, which served as compensation for the board members who dedicated their entire year to Off-Screen. While the workload occasionally skewed towards certain tasks, Kennee is grateful for the invaluable learning experiences gained during this period, enabling him to accomplish tasks he couldn't have envisioned just a year prior.

Acquisition Committee

Kennee's Acquisition Committee consisted of Aleksandra Burykina, Augusta Dao, Anisha Lakhmani, and Leo (Jeong) Heo. At the onset of the year, Kennee's vision was to assemble a diverse team of individuals who possessed ambition, creativity, an interest in media careers, and a strong desire to establish new connections while being open to learning and growth. Kennee's goal extended beyond mere task completion; he aimed for the members of the Acquisition Committee to conclude the year with a rich array of newly acquired skills and lasting friendships.

While there were instances when Kennee may have appeared overprotective, he and his committee viewed these moments as valuable learning experiences, which ultimately bolstered their confidence for future endeavors. Kennee extends his heartfelt gratitude to the committee, with special acknowledgments to Aleksandra (Sacha) for her brightness, Augusta for her artistic talents, Anisha for her exceptional ideas, and Leo for his impressive presentation skills.

Kennee wishes his committee all the best in their future endeavors and looks forward to sharing a lunch at Café De Jaren with them, but without the meeting documents.

Career Workshop

The Career Workshop was the first acquisition event organized by the committee this year. Unfortunately, the turnout for the event was disappointing. Originally scheduled for the 18th of November, the workshop had to be rescheduled to the 26th of January due to the unexpected illness of the scheduled lecturer. Despite the challenges faced, the workshop aimed to provide valuable insights on creating realistic career plans, which are essential for those aspiring to work independently or within a media company.

Out of the 18 individuals who initially signed up for the workshop, approximately three-quarters did not attend. The committee was disheartened by this low turnout, as their intention was to engage a larger audience and equip them with practical knowledge and guidance for their career development.

Things that went well:

- Production Workshop was never done before, but is an active topic within career.
- The workshop was fun, explanation was clear and it included a good mix of listening to the lecturer and working for yourself.

Things that could have gone better:

- Promotion around the new date was lacking. People who signed up might have forgotten about the workshop, have not checked their emails or simply were not interested as it was during a time when many people were still abroad.
- The focus of the lecturer was put on education, therefore she needed some time to settle around the career-based focus for planning.

Location: P.C. Hoofthuis

Date: 26th of January 2023

Participants: 5

Price: Free for members, 4,99 for non-members

Thesis Event

This year the committee organized one thesis events instead of two, which followed the same panel format as Pub Talk. Distinguished guest speakers included recent thesis writers and was supposed to include a thesis supervisors. Unfortunately, the thesis supervisor this year called in sick which meant they could not share valuable tips and tricks with the audience to facilitate the thesis writing process. The event was moderated by Kennee and this format proved to be exceptionally beneficial and informative.

Things that went well:

- The thesis writers have given valuable insights on their experience as a student and on what people can expect.

- The committee made sure not to plan the event during the exam period, but after at the start of the semester. The 2nd semester commenced on the 1st of February, meaning the timing was perfect.

Things that could have gone better:

- There seems to be a lack of interest due to the turnout being lower compared to Pub Talk. This might be because the target audience are 2nd and 3rd-year students.
- The location are REC was unfamiliar since Media Studies is usually located at the University Quarter.

Location: Roeterseiland Campus, Building E0.22

Date: 9th of February 2023

Time: 19:30-21:30

Participants: 14

Price: Free for everyone!

Career Exploration Event

The Career Exploration Event was a new event introduced by Kennee. At the start of the year, he noticed a lack of events where student get to go behind the scenes and really get an in-depth view of what happens within an industry. Together with an invite from broadcaster BNNVARA, Kennee was able to get Off-Screen to the Mediapark in Hilversum where they went to explore Dutch television and radio history and got an exclusive work behind the scenes at the editorial of Khalid&Sophie. The cherry on the cake was attending the live show and coming on television which was a captivating experience.

Things that went well:

- The event was received very well among participants, but also among people that worked at BNNVARA.
- The tour at the institute of Beeld&Geluid was very interesting and provided a great overview of Dutch television and radio history.
- Creating a group chat similar to the ones created during study trips has provided a lot of benefits such as clear communication.

Things that could have gone better:

- There was no time for dinner in between so people had to buy snacks from the AH To Go or order snacks at the restaurant around the corner.

Location: Hilversum Mediapark

Date: 24th of February 2023

Time: 15:30-21:00

Participants: 27

Price: €12,99 (for members) / €17,99 (for non-members)

Charity Gala

This year, the Charity Event took the form of a gala, and it turned out to be a tremendous success. This event holds significant potential for the association to engage in meaningful and worthwhile activities. The Acquisition Committee took the initiative to reach out to various companies throughout Amsterdam and abroad, gathering an assortment of items for the auction and lottery. Noteworthy contributors include Tea Guys, Culture Youth Pass (CJP), FOAM, Filmhuis Cavia, EYE Filmmuseum, Athenaeum Boekhandel, NEMO, Domino's, WONDR Experience, Roller Dreams, and SpecialArts, which was also the focal charity of the Gala.

The event began with an opening speech, followed by a presentation by Tine, a representative from Stichting SpecialArts Nederland. This organization supports individuals with disabilities, offering them opportunities to explore their creativity, engage in diverse forms of art, and gain recognition for their work. The culmination of our efforts resulted in a total raised amount of €1812.74.

Things that went well:

- Good communication with the charity, the location and the Board when it came to updates.
- The approach taken was similar to last year which shows to be effective. Kennee advises that for next year, it might be fun to add something new such as a "Wheel of Fortune".
- Most of the auction and lottery items were delivered on time which meant we could give most items immediately once the payment was done.

Things that could have gone better:

- The committee underestimated how much time it would take to gather auction and lottery items resulting in a lot of stress to gather the same amount as previous years.
- The location was more expensive compared to previous years.
- Communication with auction and lottery winners was stiff because people were unresponsive or responded way passed the event.
- Promotion could have been more active and earlier since there was no teaser and the event was not sold out.

Location: The Social Hub Wibautstraat

Date: 15th of March 2023

Time: 15:30-21:00

Participants: 85

Price: €12,99 for members, €17,99 for non-members

Feels Like Family Borrel

The Feels Like Family Borrel is an event that draws inspiration from the Parent Borrel Off-Screen organized a few years ago. This event welcomes not only parents but also friends, acquaintances, siblings, pets – anything that holds a special place like family. It is a chance for Off-Screeners to showcase their studies and give a glimpse into their Off-Screener lifestyle.

For this event, the Acquisition Committee had initially planned a pub quiz, but due to a shortage of pens, we had to switch to a Kahoot game instead. Overall, it turned out to be quite a successful gathering. The engaging and interactive nature of this event contributes to its popularity, so Kennee encourages to keep that in mind for next year. Perhaps activities like karaoke or ping pong could add a fun twist to the event.

Things that went well:

- The event was easy to organize.
- Location was arranged without complication because Kennee had a talk with one of the new managers of De Heeren van Amstel.
- The people were enthusiastic during the event and people enjoyed meeting new people. It was cozy and different compared to other borrels.

Things that could have gone better:

- The committee should have gathered pens earlier. Also the logistics for the pubquiz were neglected. Kennee advises that when you do a pubquiz, it might be better for teams to sign up.

Location: De Heeren van Amstel

Date: 29th of May 2023

Time: 21:00-00:30

Price: Free!

Partners & Sponsors

This year the Acquisition Committee was only able to acquire one partner and no sponsors. Kennee is sad that he put more focus into events and his tasks as Treasurer than partners and sponsors. To fix this, the committee has contacted several companies and started negotiations which can be continued during the academic year of 2023/2024. Besides that, the committee has created a comprehensive list with sponsorships that next year's Acquisition Committee can use as a reference for deals.

Merchandise

Merchandise this year was done together with the Promotion Committee. Due to communication issues but also different ideas in terms of vision and ways of working, the Acquisition Committee has solely done parts of the logistics regarding merchandise. It is unfortunate that the collaboration did not go as expected, but the committee hopes that people enjoy the merchandise of 2022/2023 and that it will provide them with great memories of Off-Screen.

Head of Media & Academics Shanaya Chawla

Media and Academics Committee

Emily Ashmore

Fatme Harawin

Hedvig Lindman

Juliet Collins

Lili Coppens

Yassin Haussler

Introduction

Shanaya Chawla fulfilled the role of the Head of the Media and Academics Committee (MAC) of Off-Screen for the academic year 2022/2023. As the head of this committee Shanaya was responsible for planning all the media and art related events in Off-Screen. The year was full of fresh faces, envelopes of inspiration, and over all a good combination of a new creative approach woven in with older MAC traditions.

Not being in a committee prior, Shanaya hoped that she added a bit of diversity, and newness to her position. She came into the position with passion, and ambition and hopes that throughout the year she achieved her goals from her policy plan. She hopes she was able to form an inclusive, safe, and creative environment for Off-Screener's to showcase their work, for them to be inspired and make connections in the Amsterdam media world. She hopes that events like the film festival, Off-Screen's first art show, the Berlinale, the pub talk, were a way to get media students inspired and thinking about their creative futures. Shanaya was able to pull off all her events with tons of positive feedback, and interest from the members. She felt confident before each event that her and her committee had worked hard, and we're as excited to attend as the participants.

Her advice to future Heads of the committee would be to keep the events minimal and focus on the qualities and special features of each event. It would also be to listen to feedback from members and gauge their interests more and more throughout the year so the events could be more catered to the members. She would also say to love your job, and plan events that you as a media student would want to attend, these will always work out the best as you will be extra passionate about what you're doing.

Media and Academics Committee

Shanaya's committee consisted of, Emily Ashmore, Fatme Harawin, Hedvig Lindman, Juliet Collins, Lili Coppens, and Yassin Haussler. Shanaya's committee helped in more ways than one, they were her right hand in planning all the events, contributing all the way from location scouting to, being present at the events and talking to the members. They were extremely friendly, and confident, making each event special with the skills they brought. They were also hardworking, and passionate about the job that they were doing, always ideation and brainstorming new things. They were also a very organized group, and when together it was a room full of creativity and genuine care for what was going on. They made stressful events like the Berlinale, Film festival etc. more manageable and stress free for Shanaya. Shanaya feels that each of them, through the year were able to grow in their roll, and prove their responsibility and commitment. They we're able to form a little MAC family by the end of the year.

Events

Media Pub Talk

The Media Pub Talk happened on the 14th of September, and was MAC's first event of the year. It was an interview style panel discussion with 5 speakers, who were all in the media industry. From recent graduates, authors, free lancers and professors, the Panel was a perfect mix of perspectives, anecdotes, and thoughts intending to act as a guiding discussion for new media students. The evening progressed with fruitful discussions surrounding topics like careers in media, AI, studying media, and personal accounts of success and failure.

Location: VoxPop

Date: 14th Of September

Time: 19:00 - 22:00

Price: members- free, non-members- free

Turn up: 40

Things that went well:

- A great range of speakers giving different perspectives
- Accessible and Affordable
- Sparked great discussions and set a good tone for the year

Things that could have gone better:

- Cheaper Groceries
- Specialized subject

Fashion Event

This event was a sustainable fashion event, where Shanaya wanted to promote sustainability and thrifting. Shanaya wanted to focus on the more educational and sustainable side of thrifting, which is why the event began with a museum tour at the fashion for good museum, it was extremely enlightening and interesting. This was followed by a thrift tour around Centraal Amsterdam, where MAC took students to the coolest thrift spots of the area. The event was a good mix of both education, and fun, trying to spark conversations around sustainability in the fashion world.

Location: Fashion For Good Museum

Date: 27th October

Time: 14:00

Price: members- €3 , non-members- €7

Turn up: 20

Things that went well:

- Innovative concept, following student interest.
- Fun and knowledge together

Things that could have gone better:

- Better timing, not around exams
- Fun challenges to spruce up shopping

Off-Screen x IDFA

Like past years, MAC hosted a film screening and talk in collaboration with IDFA in November. The film selected was *A Girl Who Dreams About Time*, by Hyuck-je Park, after the screening Shanaya and her committee were able to ask questions to Mr.Park, and understand his artistic process better, getting insights around the characters in the film. Participants were able to be inspired by Mr.Park, and also watch a documentary about a beautiful practice, religion and culture.

Location: Kriterion 1

Date: 15th November

Time: 15:00 to 17:26

Price: members- €5,75

Turn up: 50

Things that went well:

- Smooth communication with the representatives of IDFA
- Upholding important MAC traditions
- Insightful, inspirational film for members

Movie Night

This was an intimate movie night, in reminiscence of Halloween. Shanaya's aim for movie night was to introduce Off-Screeners to movies from around the world, which she achieved by screening 6 different short horror films from 6 different countries. The MAC committee wanted to simulate the experience of a real theater, so they printed tickets, served popcorn, candy, and drinks and provided blankets to boost a cozy atmosphere. The night was full of jump scares, and interesting plotlines.

Location: Buzzhouse

Date: 28th November

Time: 17:30 to 19:30

Price: members- €5,00, non-members €7,50

Turn up: 20

Things that went well:

- Entertaining movies that engaged participants
- Good variety of food and drink

Things that could have gone better:

- Location better equipped for screening movies (sound and light)
- More accessible timing

Berlinale

MAC organized a trip to Berlin's film festival. The trip was also full of other fun activities, like museum visits, learning about historical landmarks, bar hopping, flea markets and more. The main attraction of the trip was attending the three world premieres at the festival, as well as being able to take part in Q and A's with the directors and cast after. The trip was one of MAC's highlights of the year, made extra special because of the beautiful city of Berlin, and the incredible art Off-Screener's got to witness. MAC also made sure to always have something planned, and a list of recommendations always handy

Location: Berlin

Date: 17th to 21st February

Price: members- €219, non-members €239

Turn up: 30

Things that went well:

- Well organized, and well received by Off-Screeners
- Upholding a special MAC tradition
- Cheap accommodation and transport

Things that could have gone better:

- More group activities
- Watch more films, being more involved in the Berlinale events.

NXT + MAC

MAC took Off-Screeners to NXT museum, the purpose of the visit was to learn more about AI and the direction in which it's going. Participants were able to be a part of the interactive museum visit, and delve into the world of AI, and technology.

Location: NXT museum

Date: 14th April

Price: members- €7, non-members €10

Turn up: 15

Things that went well:

- Subsidized price of museum tickets

Things that could have gone better:

- More promotion

Immersive Event

Shanaya wanted to plan an art show, which was the idea behind the Immersive event. The evening followed the theme of identity accepting any forms of art under this guiding theme. The submissions received were poems, prints, paintings, photographs and even essays. MAC was able to put all the work up and invite 3 DJs and one singer to perform throughout the night. The goal was to simulate an art gallery with beautiful musical performances in the background. Shanaya hopes the night was inspirational and gave Off-Screener's an opportunity to showcase their creativity.

Location: SexyLand

Date: 7th May

Price: members- free, non-members free

Turn up: 30

Things that went well:

- Incredible, affordable location.
- A location aligning with the values of MAC
- Artists work showcased beautifully
- Good mixture of art forms

Things that could have gone better:

- Better date, not during the weekend.

Off-Screen Film Festival

Off-Screen's Film Festival happened at the Beautiful Lab111. The festival screened 10 student films, and was a night of inspiration and beautiful cinema. MAC was also able to organize 5 judges, all professionals from the film world, from production houses to independent filmmakers. The judges were able to give their feedback, and insights on the films. MAC served alcohol and the night ended with fruitful conversation and victors from the judge, and audience choice awards.

Location: Lab111

Date: 18th May

Time: 18:00 to 22:00

Price: members- 8,99, non-members 12,99

Turn up: 120

Things that went well:

- Location
- Inspiring films, good selection
- Experienced Panelists

Things that could have gone better:

- Content at the event

Book Club/Study Session

Shanaya continued the tradition of Bookclub, covering 3 books and one study session last year. The book clubs were small, and intimate, attracting familiar members who came and added to the literary debates and conversations. The club through the year became about like minded individuals sharing ideas, and opinions, while being creative as MAC added other elements of creativity and storytelling through painting. The price for book club was always free, and usually took place in Buzzhouse, or prisma cafe.

Things that went well:

- Good Locations
- Intimate group
- Engaging books

Things that could have gone better:

- More effort into Book Club
- Adding more elements to make members stay.

Head of Social Activities Lucia Pascua

Social Activities Committee

Aida Gardberg
Anastasija Sutirina
Laura Lecompte
Tiia Tapiovaara
Quinty Martens

Introduction

Lucia Pascua fulfilled her role as the Head of Social Activities (SAC) for the academic year of 2022-2023. Along with her committee, they came up with unique ways to celebrate Off-Screen and make it enjoyable and a safe space for everyone. As the Head of SAC, it is very important for her to be level-headed, sociable, easily adaptable and someone that is approachable for everyone during different events.

During her year, she was able to think of very different themes for each borrel with the help of her committee as well as different activities and locations for other events. Although these locations were very unique and created a very specific atmosphere and mood for these parties, Lucia did go over budget when booking these locations which was not very helpful for her Board.

Lucia wanted to keep Off-Screen traditions alive to maintain the older members but also to put forth new and exciting ideas to keep new members engaged and interested in Off-Screen. She hopes that her successor carries this on and applies these skills to their year and to their Board. She also recommends that her successor be very mindful when it comes to picking out locations so as to not go over budget.

Social Activities Committee

Lucia's committee consisted of five amazing girls, Aida Gardberg, Anastasija Sutirina, Laura Lecompte, Tiia Tapiovaara, and Quinty Maartens. They helped Lucia when it came to calling and visiting locations, thinking of unique borrel themes, and also curating playlists and contacting DJs. Despite all being girls, they were all very different from each other and balanced each other well. It was great to see her committee members mature over time and become the people that they are now. They were all very open-minded and each meeting was met with great ideas for different events. Each person in her committee were helpful and social and did their best to talk to the different Off-Screeners in borrels and parties. When it came to different problems during planning or the event itself, Lucia knew that she could trust her committee to help her with

it. Lucia is very thankful that she had them by her side and her year would not be the same if it wasn't for her lovely committee.

Borrels

Senior Borrel

The Senior Borrel was the first ever borrel that Lucia organized as the Head of SAC and she did it in Hannekes Boom. Around 40 Senior Off-Screeners came together to enjoy the day in the sun with tasty drinks from the bar. For this borrel, the organization in Hannekes Boom's part was a bit hectic since a part of the bar was reserved for Off-Screeners and they were given a band to show bartenders when ordering drinks to account for the bar guarantee but instead they gave Off-Screen a tab that was to be paid at the end of the night. This was very stressful but Lucia with the help of her Board managed to sort it out early on and avoided this problem. Overall, this borrel was a great start to the year!

Themed Borrels

During Lucia's year as the Head of SAC, each and every one of her borrels were themed. These themes ranged from the traditional Halloween borrel to more obscure themes like Adam Sandler to cultural themes like the Diwali borrel. Lucia is very proud of what she and her committee have come up with when it comes to thinking of unique themes. Each borrel, her and her committee also made a playlist to fit the vibe as well as inviting old and new DJs for a different atmosphere later on in the night. Some of these borrels were very crowded while some garnered less attention from the members, overall Lucia is very proud of what she has done when it comes to these borrels.

Events

Meeting Off-Screen

For this year, Lucia decided to do Crazy 88 just like her predecessors. Crazy 88 is a game where there are 88 challenges to do around the city with 13 different groups, each challenge amounts to different number points and the team with the most points wins. It is a good way to mingle with new students and for them to know more about Off-Screen, but ultimately it is a very fun afternoon activity that gets the participants engaged. For Crazy 88, there were 160 participants (13 groups of 12-13 people) and the winning team got a prize during the borrel right after the challenges. Lucia decided to be one of the team leaders instead of counting points since she wanted to be active and known by the first years. The borrel after Meeting Off-Screen was very successful

and had around 200 people, old and new members alike. Lucia was very proud of this turnout and hopes it will be the same for her successor.

Location: De Heeren van Aemstel

Date: 5th of September, 2022

Time: Crazy 88- 16:30-20:00, borrel- 20:00-01:00

Price: Free!

Voulez-Vous

The first ever party that was done this year was disco/70s themed and was called Voulez-Vous. The planning stage of this party was a bit hectic since Lucia was also in contact with a party app company called WePartyNow, who also helped all the associations with the collaborative introduction party. WePartyNow helped with finalizing the location that Lucia picked out and was also in charge of paying for the rent and deposit for Chin Chin. Lucia and her Board managed how the promo looked, the theme, the ticket price, which location, the DJs, and where the tickets were being sold (in Off-Screen's website). sales. There was also a bit of a complication when it came to ticket sales, since WePartyNow wanted to do it with their own website instead of Off-Screen's official website. However, this was fixed shortly and ticket sales remained on Off-Screen's website. Collaborating with WePartyNow meant that every ticket sale that was made had to be given to them but any losses were also in their hands, this meant that for this event, WePartyNow took all the losses instead of Off-Screen which was actually more beneficial when it came with the budget. Overall, this collaboration was a mistake on Lucia's part and has not been done again and she has advised her successor to avoid contact with WePartyNow. After the very hectic planning stage, the party went by smoothly and was enjoyable for the attendees. Overall, the planning of the first party could have been done better but the actual party was smooth sailing.

Location: Chin Chin Club

Date: 5th of October, 2022

Time: 22:00 - 03:00

Price: members- €10, non-members- €12

Thing that went well:

- Location was pretty central and had a very good atmosphere
- Free shots upon entry for the first 100 people
- Everyone had a great time in the party
- Checking tickets went very smooth and there was a good system built up

Things that could've gone better:

- Should not have been a collaboration with WePartyNow

Collaboration Introduction Party-Breek de Week

This party happened after Off-Screen's introduction party and was a collaboration with AIM (PPLE), SES (European Studies), KLEIO (History), and Mercurius (Communication Science) and was hosted in Chicago Social Club. The dress code was white and neon paint and light sticks were available for everyone. This was the party where Lucia was introduced to WePartyNow, and their organization was also not very professional. Since it was a collaboration party, it was a good way for Off-Screen to form a connection with other associations and for the members to meet people from other studies. This party was very successful, however it was more of members from other associations than it was Off-Screeners.

Location: Chicago Social Club

Date: 12th of October, 2022

Time: 23:00 - 04:00

Price: early bird- €9, regular- €13

Things that went well:

- Good turnout
- Became acquainted with other associations and their Board
- Had live music so it was more engaging
- The neon paint and the different types of glow sticks were very fun

Things that could've gone better:

- WePartyNow was also in charge of this party and was very disorganized with promo
- Not a lot of Off-Screeners were there, mostly people from other studies

James Bond's Gala

The second Off-Screen party was a gala- which is tradition. For this particular gala, SAC opted for a James Bond theme, given its strong connection to the world of media and would be a good way to dress up. SAC, with the help of the Reporter committee, set up a photo corner with the "Off-Screen" banner as a backdrop to conduct interviews with the gala attendees. The venue itself was truly remarkable, one of the best-looking locations that has been secured for an event.

Naturally, there was a lineup of DJs to keep the atmosphere lively, as well as decorations that were done by SAC.

Location: West-Indisch Huis

Date: 30th of November, 2022

Time: 23:00 - 04:00

Price: members- €11,99, non-members- €14,99

Things that went well:

- Beautiful location
- Had a photo spot where Reporter could also do red carpet interviews
- DJs that had diverse music

Things that could've gone better:

- Did not reach the bar guarantee
- Rent was very expensive
- One of the DJs spilled beer on the deck
- Did not sell out

Kingsnight Cruise

For Kingsnight, SAC organized the Kingsnight Cruise/Silent Disco boat which is tradition. 45 Off-Screeners joined us on a boat for 3 hours of unlimited drinks and great music. This event was amazing and everyone on the boat had a great time.

Location: Rederij Nassau (Boat)

Turn-up: 45

Date: 26th of April, 2022

Time: 20:00 - 23:00

Price: members- €24,99, non-member- €29,99

Things that went well:

- Good weather
- Unlimited drinks
- Very happy members
- Music was diverse
- The ride was smooth, no one was throwing up on the boat

- Great atmosphere

Things that could've gone better:

- Some members' payments arrived way too late so they were taken off the list but they still came so we had more people than expected. The boat could still fit them but it was still very stressful since people not on the initial list were boarding the boat but it was all sorted.

Carnaval Rave

For the third party, SAC decided to go with a more techno/rave atmosphere which is pretty different from how other Off-Screen parties are. The venue that was secured was very central and was super unique which fit the theme and atmosphere of the event quite well. Off-Screeners that attended were very much on theme and wore their best rave outfits and the DJs also played music on theme which was great.

Location: Club NL

Date: 12th of April

Time: 22:00-04:00

Price: members- €6,69, non-members- €9,99

Things that went well:

- Very unique location
- Happy members
- Very different type of party vibe
- Different DJs

Things that could've gone better:

- Initially promoted to happen during exam week and had to be changed
- Communication with the manager before the event was difficult

AMS Unlocked

AMS Unlocked was successful in the previous year, with Off-Screen exclusively handling ticket sales so Lucia and her Board decided to do it again for this year. However, for this year's edition, responsibilities expanded considerably. Lucia assumed official roles within the AMS Unlocked team, taking on positions on both the Board and a dedicated committee for this event. Specifically, Lucia served as a member of the Talent Recruitment committee, which meant selecting

the DJs for the festival. The day of the event was undeniably long but incredibly fun. Lucia wholeheartedly recommends considering a similar opportunity because it's a chance to connect with people from various associations and gain valuable behind-the-scenes experience at a live festival. However, being part of AMS Unlocked required a significant time commitment, including attending weekly committee meetings and general member gatherings. Furthermore, there was an exciting after-party immediately following the event which was organized by Slim Radio and added to the overall enjoyment of the experience.

Location: LIEF Amsterdam

Date: 7th of June

Time: 16:00-23:00

Price: Off-Screen early bird: €27, regular: €30

Things that went well:

- Very fun event
- Two spaces, one for techno and one for more commercial house music
- Great way to work with other associations
- Great experience
- Off-Screeners that were there loved it
- Afterparty was also very fun

Things that could've gone better:

- This was not as heavily promoted by Off-Screen so we didn't sell out tickets which was a loss for the association

Midsommar

For this year, Lucia wanted to organize a concluding event that would take place outdoors and cater to a distinct demographic within Off-Screen, namely, the smokers. A high picnic was arranged in Oosterpark to commemorate Midsommar. This event featured a station dedicated to painting, a space for music, and also a station to make flower crowns with real flowers and leaves. Since it was in the park, Off-Screeners were also playing games. This event was more laid-back than SAC's other event but it proved to be a good call especially since it was a beautiful day in Amsterdam.

Location: Oosterpark

Date: 9th of June

Time: 18:00-22:00

Price: Free!

Things that went well:

- Beautiful day
- Catered to a different demographic of Off-Screeners
- Lots of activities to do

Things that could've gone better:

- Speaker ran out of charge during the event so there was no music towards the end

Head of Study Travels Eunice Chung

Study Travel Committee

Macy Fielder
Abhimanyu Sharma
Sterre Heijnen
Preetisha Bhaskaran
Dior Jepson
Amelie Steinkeller

Introduction

Eunice Chung fulfilled the role of Off-Screen's Head of Travels during the academic year of 2022/2023. With her trusted committee by her side, she dedicated her efforts to create impactful memories and foster a space for life-long friendships to flourish amongst members. She emphasized the wellbeing of her Board members, alongside her committee. Putting herself at the disposition of others in order to cultivate a spirit of serving others over herself, this Board year was a success yet, at the same time, it was a difficult challenge to surmount. The key themes/core words of this year that we, as a Board tried our best to implement were: *Adaptability*; *Diversity*; and *Efficiency*. Eunice incorporated these core words into her work that she produced over the course of the year. She adapted to many unforeseen/unexpected circumstances where patience and creativity was required from herself and the Study Travel Committee (STC), diversity, and efficiency were core pillars to the Board when it came to fulfilling important tasks and creating events. Eunice worked hard to uphold the Off-Screen traditions, in order to pass them onto the next generation of members, in order to maintain Off-Screen's core spirit and passionate energies whilst incorporating activities within trips which celebrate Off-Screen as an entity, an association, and most importantly; a family.

Study Travel Committee

The Study Travel Committee of the 2022/2023 academic year consisted of *Macy Fielder*, *Abhimanyu Sharma*, *Sterre Heijnen*, *Preetisha Bhaskaran*, *Dior Jepson*, and *Amelie Steinkeller*. Eunice extends her deep thankfulness, gratitude, and loving support to the committee for their unwavering passion, ultimate/ best vibes and an abundance of energy during each event. Together, the committee learned how to collaborate, work as a team, and truly learned how to shine individually in their own unique ways. The captivating energy and love the committee had for the association, and the passion for each trip did not go unnoticed. Eunice thanks each STC member for the hard work, dedication, commitment, and love they had for this committee. Eunice takes

immense pride in the Study Travel Committee and everything we have accomplished throughout the academic year.

Introduction Weekend

The first trip of the year occurred in September 2022, designed and organized only for the first-year students for them to familiarize themselves with the association. The Introduction Weekend happened in Friesland, Sneek, where they spent three days and two nights in a lake house. The activities allowed bonding amongst the new members, especially through partaking in a game day and the Off-Screen's tradition on the last evening: *the talent show*.

Location: Friesland, Sneek, Netherlands

Date: September 30th - October 2nd 2022

Participants: 36

Price: €69

Things that went well:

- The camaraderie was pleasant and we had a larger attendance of older Off-Screen members who were able to show the first-years the lifestyle and traditions of the older generation. This helped to keep the Off-Screen spirit alive and their dedication shined through.
- The location was a superb lake house where everyone was able to enjoy a nice break from the city
- There was a lot of enthusiasm and energy throughout all activities
- The silent disco helped with controlling noise complaints as well as kept everyone happy.

Things that could have gone better:

- The budgeting for the food was unexpectedly low during the pre-planning process, thus resulting in us going over budget.
- There was a delay in the public transportation process where a group had come later than planned. This resulted in postponing the first evening activity and waiting for the group to arrive.

City Trip (Weekend Away)

The Weekend Away turned into City Trip during this year as timing for the schedule made more sense to elongate the weekend for a more wholesome and extended stay. The committee's first time working together was during this trip. We had gone to Dublin, Ireland with the goal of

combining fun cultural explorations and introduced a new tradition from the prior year during the course of the trip; The Off-Screen's Pub Golf. All members participated in an afternoon of games, and bonding in pairs. The City Tour amongst all other activities truly showed how the STC worked in harmony. The newly-formed committee handled all aspects of the trip except for the accommodation and travel arrangements (which were managed by the Head of Travels).

Location: Dublin, Ireland

Date: October 3rd - 7th, 2023

Participants: 26

Price: €229 (for members)/ €235 (for non-members)

Things that went well:

- The group bonded well, a lot of core friendships were formed during this trip.
- The activities that were planned by STC truly outshined our expectations, especially through teamwork, and being diligent with our time and efforts.
- The accommodation helped create a stronger bond between the participants due to its open space and bar in the lobby.

Things that could have gone better:

- The travel restrictions and Visa requirements were tricky to navigate. It caused more problems than we (as a Board) knew prior to booking the trip. This resulted in two Board members and one member not participating in the trip.
- There were a few moments where STC was trying to find our bearings as a group. However through communication and organization, we were able to surmount the difficulties.
- The nightlife was strict, which created a strain within the organized plans, due to age restrictions, but the backup plan STC had thought of worked out for the better.

Off-Screen's Ski Trip

The Ski Trip took place in St. François Longchamp, France. Organized by an external travel agency: Totally Snow, Off-Screen had a memorable time skiing and snowboarding down the slopes. From beginners to expert skiers, there was space for everyone. The evening activities allowed for bonding, especially through the parties which certain rooms held for everyone to enjoy. The sign-up was successful and the location was excellent. STC organized specific planned events for members to enjoy their time in the mountains.

Location: St. François Longchamp

Date: January 13th - 23rd, 2023

Participants: 30

Price: €449

Things that went well:

- Totally Snow was extremely accommodating to Off-Screen. They helped us organize the activities we wanted. The accommodation was super lenient and allocated a whole floor to us, where we were able to talk freely and enjoy the presence of everyone collectively.
- STC organized a pizza night where we all collectively ate dinner together in the lobby, which helped with the bonding of the group.
- The slopes and the ski resort was right in front of our accommodation which allowed easy access to the slopes.
- Totally Snow gave us tickets to ride the luge as a group, which was our last activity before heading back to Amsterdam.

Things that could have gone better:

- The accommodation was isolated from the main village where there was more access to restaurants and shops.
- Not every participant knew how to ski, and the instructors were not as present as Totally Snow had notified the Head of Travels. This created an influx of beginners to give up easily, and instead do their own thing.

Study Trip

The Study Trip was set in Barcelona, Spain. The participants flew into the city for 8 days and 7 nights. The contrast of weather from Amsterdam had already settled the energy for the whole trip. Through a balance of cultural activities, museum visits, picnics, and late night evenings, the success of the trip was grounded upon the dedication of STC and the hard work they put into making this trip, especially on a limited time frame. From live jazz nights, to eating tapas, and dancing till dawn, this trip created a bond between members that still remains unforgettable.

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Date: April 2nd - 9th, 2023

Participants: 31

Price: €419 (for members)/ €449 (for non-members)

Things that went well:

- The participants were understanding of the difference in culture and quickly adjusted to the Spanish lifestyle.
- The hostel was in a central location with the city, which permitted easy access and mobility to the attractions of the city.
- The schedule remained flexible in terms of free time which allowed members to explore the city on their own terms.
- The activities planned by STC were successful. However, through unexpected situations that occurred on site such as (the public transport system - pickpockets, and various cultural attractions we weren't able to see), this allowed the STC to be diligent with their shared responsibilities, time, and energy, in order to fix the problems.

Things that could have gone better:

- Higher level of awareness of surroundings from the participants.
- Finding a pleasant travel/time schedule.
- Communication within STC / Board / Participants was lacking during the first few days where it became difficult to navigate at times. However, it had improved during the course of the trip which helped navigate the activities in prompt ways.

Farewell Weekend

Eunice wanted to make this trip unique and opted for glamping in Ardennes, Belgium as the final trip. STC planned this trip with excitement and hope. We had big anticipations for this trip, given the circumstances of being outdoors, however, it exceeded all expectations. Although we stayed in mobile homes in a family campground, that did not stop the Off-Screen spirit to live on. The participants enjoyed their time in nature, and their well deserved break from the city. The campsite allowed the pre-summer activities to start in full swing. From spending time at the pool, playing games, cooking together as a cabin, and kicking off the season with an Off-Screen BBQ were all bonding activities we all enjoyed as a collective. Finally, the campfire which the Sandaya staff generously organized for our group remains a core memory of this trip. Bidding farewell to the academic year in Ardennes was a highlight for Off-Screeners.

Location: Ardennes, Belgium

Date: June 2nd-4th, 2023

Participants: 30

Price: €159 (for members)/ €179 (for non-members)

Things that went well:

- The bus ride to the campsite was enjoyable.
- The cabin rooms each had their own amenities which allowed easy access to everything and a comfortable stay at the campsite.
- The staff were accommodating and helped the STC figure out all details pre-departure.
- The camaraderie between the members and non-members was impeccable, resulting in new friendships being formed, and strong bonding to occur within older members.

Things that could have gone better:

- The noise complaints we received from the campsite made STC to be more aware of the situations that were occurring.
- The campsite had limited options for food at their local grocery store (yet most cabins planned their meals out prior to the trip)
- Due to the campsite being a family friendly area, there were less opportunities to make loud noises after curfew time, which restricted certain activities to flourish to their best potential.