

A lot of great experiences

By Sigrid Agersten Hansen

I believe that it is very important to have hobbies and interests. You get to meet people very similar to yourself, because they have the same hobby, and it is nice to have something, you really care about and you are good at, at the same time.

I always enjoyed music. When I was just a little girl, I liked dressing up, singing in the microphone and pretending to play all kinds of instruments. I liked listening to music, dancing to music and playing music.

When I was eight years old, I started playing the trumpet. In fact it was just a coincidence. Some older students at my school played the trumpet. One day the students and their music teacher came to visit my class. They told us about the trumpet, and played a couple of songs. At the end, we got to blow in the trumpet. For some reason, I found it very funny. When I told my parents, I wanted to play the trumpet, they were very skeptical at first. They didn't think it was very practical. Therefore they tried convincing me to play something a bit more "normal" like the guitar or the piano.

My best friend and I ended up attending lessons together after all. We really liked it, but it was very difficult at first. Whenever we had to rehearse, there was a terrible noise in the house, and it mostly just sounded like a broken foghorn.

I grew better at playing the trumpet, and the enjoyment was still big. I always liked singing, but I figured, you can't sing and play the trumpet at the same time. Therefore I wanted to play an instrument, where it was possible to sing along. After a couple of years of playing the trumpet, I started playing the guitar. I played the guitar for about three years, and besides that, I still played the trumpet. After some

time I took a break from the guitar playing, but I bought my own guitar, so I would still get to play at home.

After some time we got a piano at home. I started playing the piano in my spare time, and it turned out, I really enjoyed that too. After a year, I started attending piano lessons as well.

Now I am at a lower-secondary-level boarding school, where I am in the music class. This means that I often get to play a lot of music. I got a lot of close friends, who share my hobby, and that is something I found out means a lot.

I have got a lot of great experiences, I wouldn't have experienced, if I never started playing music. I joined an orchestra called 'Brass 'n' Harmony', I have been part of a parade at a carnival, I have been in a pop/rock band, and I have been part of a youth symphony orchestra. In the symphony orchestra we got to play in the big music venues of Denmark. As an example I played in the big concert hall in Copenhagen, and I played at the opening of the 'House of Music'.

Here at the boarding school at Venø I get a lot of great experiences with music too. First of all, I started playing a lot more guitar after I got here. Right now I am part of a band called 'Teens of the Phoneage'. We started playing cover songs, but recently we wrote our own songs, and we just recorded them in the studio with the help of a professional producer. Now we are working on a music video.

These are all things I have really appreciated being a part of. I use music all the time. If I don't play it, I listen to it. I listen to music all the time, and I feel like it can really set the mood. And if I don't listen to it, I write my own songs. That is also something I have done since I was around eight years old.

To cut a long story short, I love my hobby, and I think everyone should have one. I would have missed a lot of hard work, great experiences and good friends if I didn't have my hobby.