

Traveling improves teamwork of singers

By Jae-Ha Kim
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For the K-pop group AtHeart, traveling around the world is a perk of their job that they don't take for granted.

"Even though I had been to Los Angeles before, I had only been there (previously) as a tourist," said Katelyn, who hails from the Philippines. "This time, however, we were filming a music video, so it was a completely new experience for me. It was so much fun and really exciting because I love LA, and I hope we get the chance to go there more often in the future."

Besides Katelyn, the group includes Japanese American Michi, Aurora from Japan, and Korean members Arin, Bome, Nahyun and Seohyeon. They have released a new single "Say It."

This interview with the members of AtHeart has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: Where did you shoot the music video for "Say It"?

Seohyeon: In Mokpo (South Korea). I thought the filming locations were absolutely beautiful and perfectly matched the story and concept of the music video. The scenery and atmosphere added so much to the overall mood, which made the experience even more memorable for me.

Q: What is your bucket-list venue that you have yet to perform in?

Katelyn: I want to perform in all of the members' hometowns, and, of course, in the Philippines! I'd also love to perform at iconic music festivals and



AtHeart members say their dream is to perform at iconic music festivals like Coachella. **TITAN CONTENT**

stadiums like Coachella, Lollapalooza and Wembley Stadium someday ...
S:... and the Tokyo Dome!

Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

Aurora: I think whenever I travel, I always become more independent and mentally stronger. I did a homestay in Korea when I was 12 years old and attended a music camp in New York when I was 14. At first, being in an unfamiliar country without any family around felt very scary. There were many challenges and obstacles along the way. However, being in that kind of environment taught me how to speak up for myself and step out of my comfort zone. I believe that stepping outside of your own country and familiar environment can teach you life-long lessons.

K: I've learned how to appreciate my family more. Since we're all growing up, we'll be busy with our own lives and won't always have time to be together. That's why when I once asked my parents why we often traveled outside the country, they told me that once we get older, we won't always have the time to do it anymore.

Q: Where would you like to go that you have never been to before?

Arin: It's the Philippines. I'd love to learn more about where Katelyn is from and what makes it so special. I'd also love to try the local food, explore the culture and spend time experiencing the beautiful beaches

and scenery.

Nahyun: I'd love to visit Michi's hometown, Hawaii, try local Hawaiian food and spend some relaxing time by the beach.

Q: Do you feel that the vibe of a different place makes its way into your music and videos?

Bome: I definitely think so. The final result can change a lot depending on the directors and even the atmosphere or situation on the day of filming. Because of that, I think those factors have a big influence on how a project turns out. It's always interesting to see how different elements come together to create something unique.

Q: When you are overseas working, do you have any free time built in?

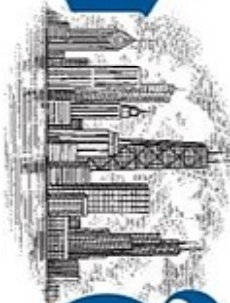
Michi: Having traveled to both the U.S. and Japan for promotions and filming, we've had the chance to meet our overseas (fans) and create many precious memories together. Even with our busy schedules, when we have free time, we try to experience the local culture — visiting popular spots, trying famous foods, shopping or trying new activities. We also make sure to document our experiences so that (our fandom), heartbeat, can join us and share those first times together. Traveling abroad as a group has strengthened our teamwork, and we're truly grateful for these shared experiences that allow us to grow even closer.

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