

Intern WALL OF FAME



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My experience at Country Music Television has been an amazing one and I recommend it to other SUNY Fredonia students. My major is Music Business, but there are plenty of departments here at CMT that take in people from other majors. Some of those majors include Journalism, Broadcast, Communications, Public Relations, Production, and Legal. Some of the departments that have interns are CMT Radio, On and Off-air Production, Music Media and Licensing, Music Talent, Music Strategy, Special Events, CMT Online and Offline Marketing, and CMT Insider just to name a few. If you are interested in more information, check out the MTV Networks site to see a complete listing of departments and opportunities.

Every intern's experience is different, but I can tell you about my experience in the Off-Air production department. I got my hands on a lot of CMT footage of country artists and events they are associated with. My job on a daily basis was to get certain footage and pull some clips from the footage that would be appropriate for a news piece on an artist. I have done pieces for artists such as Sugarland, Brooks & Dunn, Rodney Atkins, and Willie Nelson. Each piece is unique, so a little research has to be done on my part to make the piece fitting. I have also done artist interviews when they come in the building and have assisted with a few different special events.

One of the great things about working for CMT is the opportunity I have to shadow other departments. I have sat in on Top 20 tapings, been in the control room for interviews, watched how the studio is run during Music and a Movie tapings, and learned a lot about copyrights and editing for an internet platform.

CMT has also given me the opportunity to sit in on meetings, attend private concerts, and be treated like an actual employee. CMT has great incentives for its employees and really does a great job of getting everyone involved and enjoying their time here. I had a lot of fun at the CMT parties that were held during my internship.

My two favorite events I've experienced are a Big Machine Records Label party and a CMT Crossroads Taping. I got great hands-on experience with people in my industry and got to see what goes on behind closed doors, not to mention first-hand contact with major country artists.

Interning at a company such as CMT has really given me great experience and an amazing network of contacts. Nashville is a great place to be if you're interested in the music business.

An internship is the best way to give your career a great start. Many companies won't even accept a person who has not completed an internship in a related field. An internship can open the door for so many opportunities, so I recommend the Career Development Office on campus. I have been there many times to get my resume checked and to ask advice for internships related to my major. Every time I went I was more than impressed at how helpful they were. They walk you through how to write a resume and cover letter, deliver mock interviews to better prepare you, and have plenty of materials and research to help you find a good internship related to your career goals. I am very thankful to the CDO and credit much of my success to them.