**Interview Assessment #1**

**Name of Professional:** Christine Perrenot

**Profession:** Editor

**Company:** Frisco Style Magazine

**Date of Interview:** September 6, 2018

My very first interview this year was with Christine Perrenot, an editor at Frisco Style Magazine in Frisco, Texas. Having the opportunity to talk with her about writing was a great experience, and I got to hear more about the journalism side of things, which is one part of what I plan to pursue career-wise, so it was helpful to hear what she had to say. Our conversation was very open-ended, and my favorite question that I asked her was who inspired her. I set a goal for myself that if I asked each professional only question, it would be who inspired them, because that figure is typically different for everyone, and it is a huge indicator of the way a person wants to spend their life. Christine gave a very sweet answer, and said that it was the people she wrote articles about, and told me a story about a specific family that she worked with whom she learned a lot from. I think it is extremely valuable to keep in mind that no matter how far along you are in your career, you will always be learning new things.

Having the opportunity to learn from someone who writes for a magazine was really interesting, because I actually got to step into the workplace rather than just meet at a coffee shop like I did last year, as I could not interview the doctors at the hospital. When I walked in, I saw how cozy the space was, as well as how casual the work environment was. Everyone there was all friends and it was not strict or full of pressure. That work style definitely appeals to me, since I do not typically like to dress in a suit and feel the pressure to appear a certain way on top of feeling pressure to execute my job properly. This is something I have always appreciated in the field of writing. Christine and I discussed not only what her job is like, but how she gets her best ideas and how she deals with writer’s block, something I struggle with extremely frequently. My greatest challenge as a writer is overcoming myself and my own fears, so it was really nice to hear how Christine conquered the block and be reassured that I am not alone in this endless struggle to just write.

At the very end of our interview, I asked Christine to help me sort through my ideas for my short stories (as I was still planning to do those as my original work) and she gave me some great insight as to how to structure and connect them. Ultimately, I am extremely grateful that I had the opportunity to learn about journalism that is not news, because while I would love to learn about that I feel like many people forget that journalism is more than just a news anchor or sports commentator. I will keep in mind what I learned as I learn about other subfields of communication and pave my future career.