

QUEZONIAN NEWSLETTER

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QCPL Receives Award for 2018 Outstanding Public Library with Special Programs & Outreach Services on "Malasakit" to the Different Sectors in the Community

By: Mariza G. Chico



(Farthest left): The Quezon City Public Library City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva holding the plaque of award for winning the grand prize 2018 Outstanding Public Library with Special Programs & Outreach Services on "Malasakit" to the Different Sectors in the Community.

Last November 28, 2018, the Quezon City Public Library received the award for 1st Place in the Search for 2018 Outstanding Public Library with Special Programs and Outreach Services on "Malasakit" to the Different Sectors in the Community, awarded by the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) in cooperation with the National Commission for

Culture and the Arts— National Committee on Library and Information Services (NCCA_NCLIS). The award was given during the occasion of the Closing Ceremonies of the 28th Library and Information Services Month with the theme "Ang Kulturang May Malasakit, Sa Silid-Aklatan ay Makakamit" held at the City Garden Suites Hotel, Manila.

The search aimed to focus on the invaluable programs and services that libraries render to the community, particularly in the special programs and outreach services on 'malasakit' to the different sectors in the community and to

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City Librarian's Corner

2018 has been a blessed year for the Quezon City Public Library. It has been true to its mission to provide quality resources and services to meet the changing needs of the community through the introduction of innovative techniques for the advancement of learning and literacy.

QCPL, has served its clientele through different innovative services that empower them to be lovers of books, passionate readers and well-informed citizenry of Quezon City. It provides equal services to its clientele irrespective of social, economic and physical status, to the “have-nots”, and ensures bridging the digital divide.

We pushed beyond our library’s walls to reach our community through outreach. Outreach is simply defined as “the extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits,” and can take all different forms (Merriam Webster). From visits to the home for the aged to conducting storytelling to children in the streets, we tried hard to be visible and active in our community not only through the Main Library but also through our branch libraries.

We provided library services not only within the four corners of the library building but we also reached the hard to

reach people outside the confines of the library to provide them information, research and recreational needs and give them awareness on the importance of books and reading for their intellectual, social and economic growth.

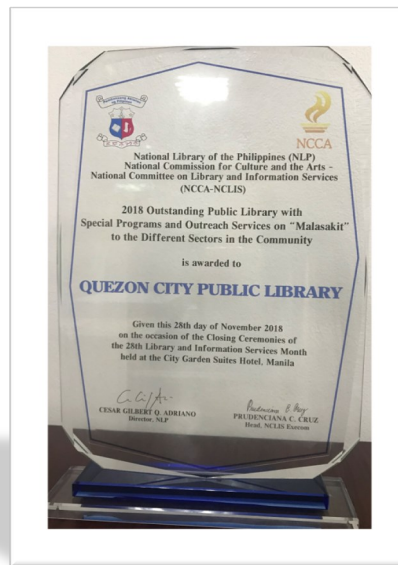
We have extended our services to the less fortunate children who have no access to books and libraries through our bookmobile coupled with activities like puppet shows, storytelling and providing educational games to enhance creative

lic libraries and provided them reference books and other reading materials as a start in the operation of their libraries. We have gone far, even outside the city, to reach out the indigenous peoples, bringing in books for them to read at the same time read stories to the children and made them extra happy with the puppet show and the mascots.

Indeed, we have served our mission in 2018. As a result of this, QCPL was recognized and awarded 1st place in the Search for Outstanding Public Library with Special Programs and Outreach Services on “Malasakit on the different Sectors in the Community”, spearheaded by the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) in cooperation with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts-National Committee on Library and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS). The prestigious award was given on November 28, 2018 held at the City Garden Suites Hotel, Manila on the occasion of the Closing Ceremonies of Library and Information Services Month with a theme “Ang Kulturang May Malasakit, sa Silid-Aklatan ay Makakamit”.

With all our achievements, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our city officials particularly our City Mayor, Honorable Herbert M. Bautista for all the support they have given to the library. Thank you very much and God bless.

Continued on page 2 (photos)



The plaque of award given to the QCPL for winning the 2018 “Search for outstanding Public library on “Malasakit” to the Different Sectors in the Community”.

minds of these children.

We have helped jails organize their own reading centers for the use of the inmates for their informational and recreational reading thus helping them fight boredom inside the jail.

We have also helped in the organization of school and other pub-

Continuation from page 2...(photos)



The City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva, presenting the award to Vice mayor Joy Belmonte and other City Councilors. (Top left photo, left to right): Coun. Irene R. Belmonte, Liga ng mga Barangay Chairman Freddy Roxas, SK President Noe Dela Fuente, Coun. Godofredo T. Liban, Coun. Rogelio P. Juan, Coun. Allan "Butch" Francisco, Vice Mayor Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte, City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva, Coun. Eric Rey Medina, PLAI President Rhea Apolinario, Ex-Officio Elvira Lapuz and Rene Manlangit PLAI representative from Luzon



(From left to right): Plaque of Recognition to Hon. Herbert M. Bautista from NLP & NCCA, Plaque of Appreciation to Hon. Herbert M. Bautista from PLAI and the Certificate of Appreciation to the Local Government of Quezon City, also from PLAI

“Storytelling at the Park with a Celebrity Councilor”

By: Mary Ann L. Bernal



Coun. Roderick Paulate of Dist. 2 poses with QCPL staff during the activity dubbed “Storytelling at the Park with a Celebrity Councilor”

The Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) in partnership with the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) participated in the Celebration of “Library Information Services” Month thru Storytelling at the Park with a Celebrity Councilor with the theme “Ang Kul-turang may Malasakit sa Silid-Aklatan ay Makakamit” held at Children’s Playground, Quezon City Memorial Circle on November 26, 2018.

Our invited guest storyteller was Honorable Councilor Roderick Paulate. His chosen story is entitled “Ang mga Buwaya at si Pilandok” written by

Virgilio S. Alamaro and published by Adarna, to the delight of the audience. Hon. Paulate starred in more than 150 films local and foreign films. He had won 31 major awards as an actor and television host.

At present Kuya Dick is the Mayor in FPJ “Ang Probinsyano”. As a Councilor he has passed 33 Resolutions and 16 Ordinances. Truly, he deserved to be called a Celebrity Councilor.

In-charge of the event was

the Readers Services Division headed by: Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal . Ms. Rowena G. Remiendo (Head, Periodical Section), Ms. Julie Domingono (Head, Reference Section) Ms. Irene Camua (Head, Law & Research Section), Mr. Alistair Troy Lacsamana (Head, Children and Puppeteer Section) and Mr. Paulo Dominik P. Daulat (Head, Filipiniana and Local History Section).

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Continuation from page 1 QCPL...

recognize the librarians’ role in order to make them more cognizant, zealous, committed and dedicated to their functions and responsibilities.

Among the different public libraries nationwide who joined the search, the Board of Judges identified only the Top 6 finalist, namely:

1. Quezon City Public Library
2. Alaminos City Library in

- Pangasinan
3. Imus City Library in Cavite
4. Butuan City Library
5. San Jose City Library and Information Center in Nueva Ecija
6. Davao City Library and Information Center

Likewise, the Committee also recognized the support and contribution given to the library by their Local Government Officials, hence, a Plaque of Recognition was also awarded to our Honorable City Mayor Herbert Constantine

M. Bautista for his remarkable leadership to the advancement of Philippine public librarianship, his selfless dedication and exemplary actions to public library services as role model for local government officials, and his unrelenting advocacy to the plans, programs and activities of the Quezon City Public Library.

The Plaque of Recognition was received by the City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva on his behalf.

QCPL Librarian Goes Aussie! (Benchmarking for 20th Century Libraries)

By: Maria Cecilia R. Magnate

Australian VISA! At last granted. Whew! I thought another heartbreaking chance I was waiting for in four months. Its kind of gambling your chance to enter in this country really. Why? Because this was actually my third try. Single status, on the risk factor they say. But anyway, no harm in trying your last attempt, right? So, I did. This time I was fortunate to be approved. And say, I got Multiple Entries! Wow! Love it. I felt privileged to be one of the participants of the PAARL Benchmarking in Sydney, Australia. Kudos to our City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva for approving my official time at this benchmarking activity.

Departure date is October 20th Saturday at 12:55 and we have

to be there at NAIA Terminal 3 at least 3 hours before in order to queue on the long line. I got one body bag and 10 kilos luggage to be checked-in. Amongst the delegates I had the fewest stuff. Actually, I am practicing every time to travel light. This is not anyway the first time I fly but only the second time to OECD country. As we know, OECD member country is tough on VISA approval.

Though I got my VISA approved, still in my mind I am anxious. I am wondering what will be the border patrol as Aussie call it or immigration officer will ask. Will they grill me? Oh! I hope not.

Good enough, as we are

about to enter, one by one at the immigration counter my nervousness seems to fade. I am in front of an officer who is pretty and kind looking. I readily handed her my passport and arrival card, no questions, that's it! My worries were unfounded.

All of us entered smoothly then boarded a bus. On our first stop we had our lunch in a food court near Victoria post office. We then headed to the CBD area where the 360 degrees tower is at. People, people, people everywhere going to and from, just about anywhere. Street performers were around doing their stuff.

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Continuation from p. 4 Storytelling...



And we cannot succeed without the support of our beloved City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva, Ms. Mari-za Chico and OIC-Asst. City Librarian, as well as Publication Division and Administrative Services. Snacks were served for the 150 participants.

The said activity was attended by selected Grade II students from Pinyahan Elementary School and Yakap Day-Care Center pupils. Together with these students were their teachers, parents, guardians and even their principal. Moreover, Ms. Jamilla Luzane O. Paris, the 1st prize winner in the GP4PL Storytelling Contest participated in the activity by delivering her winning piece.

Also present to witness the event were representatives from the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) headed by Mr. Danilo Fernandez (Chairman, LIS celebration) as well as the Public Affairs and Information Services Office staff (PAISO) who documented the said event.

*(Above): Coun. Roderick Paulate conducting storytelling at the park.
(Below): Children participants posing for photo shoot during the storytelling activity at the park.*

Continuation from p. 5 PAARL...

That was just a taste of Sydney. Yes, we were physically exhausted from the long-haul, yet we were glad we had the glimpse of Sydney on the first day. Exciting actually.

Came the Second day. It was the start of library benchmarking. List to be visited are the Macquarie University, State Library of New South Wales, University of Sydney Library, University of New South Wales Library and Surry Hills Library & Community Center.

Like in first world countries, high-tech equipment, modern designs, huge library clientele areas, innovative services are to be expected. And indeed, Australia is one.

First stop was at **Macquarie University**. The floors are all carpeted which helped to minimize the noise produced by people walking. They have this collection storage that could robotically serve clients in just a tap on the computer with the assistance of the Librarian on duty. It is called Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS). The collection storage has 17,394 bins all together. The material goes into boxes/bins according to size except for some others like Thesis which are in the dedicated storage. Collections here are not arranged by subject. The students still have to consult the online library catalog then place the request into the system. The system then thru conveyor will pick the requested material thru barcoded aided search.

Eighty percent (80%) of

the collection are in the storage. However, only 16% were from loans last year 2017. The storage is 60% full and surely will last forever coz big percentage of purchases are now buying e-resources instead. It is prioritized rather than print. Though print find it more convenient for some, more students/clients now are hard to persuade though. Nevertheless, materials in the storage are still being retrieved as long as it is requested by the students and the faculty. The temperature in the storage is at 18 degree Celsius for preservation.

The Resource Special Reserved Collection on the other hand was designed to support the student with their textbooks which are difficult to afford. The library buys 7 or 8 copies, depending on students' number and is available for loan 3 hours each.

Virtual reality space is also available. This is where students and staff can engage with emerging learning technologies.

Book loans is self-service. The student can just swipe the book loan on return kiosk and it will generate a ticket for proof. Even book fines for overdues can be paid in another kiosk dedicated for it.

Macquarie University is considered as the most modern library in Australia.

Another one is the **University of New South Wales Library**. Participants were warmly greeted by the University Librarian himself Mr. Martin Borchert. He presented an introduction about UNSW. Mr. Chito Angeles,

the Director of the University Library in U.P. Diliman presented also a presentation about the PAARL Philippine delegation. Afterwards, there were parallel session wherein each participant could choose topics they are interested in. Topics were, Learning & Teaching Services, Research Services and Library Spaces.

What particulars Macquarie and UNSW libraries have in common is the goal to make more and more spaces for students to have a study desks, carrels, discussion rooms, silent rooms, quiet rooms, sleeping pods, high degree learning rooms, audio visual rooms, virtual learning rooms which are mostly equipped with computers and on borrowing and book loans kiosks. Yes, electronics all around coz most collection sought after by students are electronically retrievable. The big difference is that of the ASRS of the Macquarie which UNSW has none.

Next is the **State Library of New South Wales**. A towering building made of bricks designed with very high ceiling which helped to brighten the huge reading area coming from the natural light of the sun. The building has its lower ground 1 & 2 which are the Governor Marie Reading Room, ground floor which is the Mitchell library reading room and level 1 wherein galleries and museums are housed. SLNSW has close to six million items.

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Continuation from p. 6 QCPL...

Another is the **library of the University of Sydney**. Like Macquarie university, UNSW library has provided a lot of spaces for students to research and study on their own or a group. It has a sleeping pod as well wherein a student could make use of it for a little nap 15 minutes as its max. It is being a trend now in libraries. Perhaps QCPL could have one in the future.

Lastly, **Surry Hills Library and Community Center**. It is quite small compared to aforementioned libraries. It is no university anyway. But this library has won a national award because of its environmental architectural design. It also has self service book loans and returns. Seems like it's a common service of kiosks in any library in Sydney. Hopefully, QCPL would have soon.

Of course, remember the 365-tower deck? Yes, we finally went there. Cannot remember what floor we were brought by the elevator. Seems the indication that you reached the height was your ear somewhat becomes a little deaf, but its temporary until you step-out the elevator and see the whole of Sydney. Yeah, breathtaking literally for me coz I am grasping my breath afraid of heights! But ironically, I managed, coz I got lots of photos at the top! Funny hah.

As we expect of the CBD, lots of people of course flocked there. Street performers were fun to watch too. We even danced a little at the street on the music of a charming Mexican singer, near of catching attention from the passersby.

But anyway, the benchmarking was indeed helpful on the premise of what libraries should be in the twentieth century. Especially now that we are living in what we called Gen Z.



Me posing at the façade of the State Library of New South Wales



Kiosk for scanning borrower's card in Surry Hill Library and Community Center.

2018 Library and Information Services Month Celebrated with “On-the-Spot Poster and Slogan Making Contest”

By: Jeniffer R. Adajo

In celebration of the 28th Library and Information Services Month, the Quezon City Public Library-Cubao Branch conducted their first On-the-Spot Poster and Slogan Making Contest with the theme: “Ang Kulturang may Malasakit sa Silid-Aklatan ay Makakamit” last November 21, 2018.

It aimed to foster camaraderie among the students of different schools in District 4 and showed the talents of the students. The said event also helped promote other activities and services of the library in the community.

There were two (2) representatives from five (5) different public elementary schools in District 4. The First prize goes to John Kenneth Rosal from General Roxas Elementary School, Second prize to Hyacinth Hussein and the Third prize to Joaquin Moreno both from Krus Na Ligas Elementary School.

We acknowledge with gratitude the judges namely Marlon Vilalal, Cecilia Artates and Jingle Balocos, for without them, there will be no winners to be announced.

It was a successful major activity that happened, where creativity and colorful imagination drew in the minds of the students.



Participants during the on-the-spot poster and slogan making contest



The winners of the “On-the-Spot Poster and Slogan Making Contest”



2018 PLAI Congress: Connected Actions, Collective Vision: Libraries Transforming Society

By: Maria Cecilia R. Magnate

CONNECTED ACTIONS, COLLECTIVE VISION: LIBRARIES TRANSFORMING SOCIETY. This was the theme of the 2018 PLAI Congress held last November 20-23, 2018 in Cubao at Novotel Manila, Araneta Center, Quezon City. This activity of PLAI is co-sponsored by the Quezon City Government headed by the Hon. City Mayor Herbert M. Bautista.

On its first day while many are already at the venue for registration validation, check-in and City tours, some of the QCPL participants were still at the QCPL. This was to assist the delegates for tour in the main library building. Three (3) buses loaded of participants came in three batches. They saw the actual new building and praised its aesthetic and state of the art design.

It was in the afternoon that QCPL staff were able to go to the venue. Nevertheless, registration runs smoothly since participants registered on-line in advance and was sent thru an email a registration number in barcode form which was scanned for entry at the congress venue. Eight hundred sixty-seven (867) participants registered.

The second day started with the opening ceremony by the processional parade of colors by Region. Followed by the opening remarks of the PLAI President Mr. Michael Pinto who as well declared the event open. Messages from the NCCA Head Prudenciana C. Cruz and from Chairman of the PRC Board for Librarians Yolanda C. Granda were also delivered.

A special guest, the President-elect Christine Mackenzie of the International Federation of Library Association (IFLA) delivered the keynote address entitled “A Strong and United Library Field Powering Literate, Informed and Participative Societies: IFLA’s Global Vision, introduced by the PLAI Ex-officio, Elvira B. Lapuz. Excerpted from the abstract reads, “*Libraries and librari-*



The Quezon City Public Library City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva delivering her talk entitled: “The Guiding Principles of QCPL: The 4Ps”.

ans are united globally in our goals and values and we share a deep commitment to the enduring value and role of libraries. We must work together to address the common challenges to transform libraries and transform society”...

The Chair, PLAI National Congress 2018 Rhea Rowena U.

Apolinario explained the mechanics of the Congress. There was also an intermission number performed by the UP Staff Chorale.

After which, the session in plenary style started. Dolores D. Carangui of the NLP delivered her talk entitled “The National Library of the Philippines Initiatives and Projects Helping Communities” followed by our very own QCPL City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva who delivered her talk entitled “Transforming the City: The Quezon City Public Library Experience”. In this talk she emphasized that there are four things she held on to achieve what the QCPL now is, which are Prayer, Passion, Perseverance and the right People. She also showed through a video presentation the entry for “2018 Search for Outstanding Public Libraries with Special Program and Outreach Services on ‘Malasakit’ to the Different Sector of the Community” that garnered as the first prize of the contest.

Mr. Edsel Ramirez of the Philippine Toy Library talked about how it started “The Philippine Toy Library” how they do it and the concept why they do it. A participant asked if she could seek Mr. Ramirez assistance on her plan to organize a toy library where she worked at, a law library. The objective is to help children involved in cases in the court. It would help them at least to alleviate the tension brought by hearings that needs their participation.

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Continuation from p. 9 2018 PLAI...

Plenary Sessions continued in the afternoon. Titles of the talks and speaker of each are as follows:

Archives, Libraries, and the Reflections of Yuval Noah Harari on the New Human Agenda – Thomas Nesmith, University of Manitoba

Democracy in the Philippines: Setting the Baseline for Libraries- Ma. Esmerlada A. Abarabar, University of the Philippines, Diliman

The Role of Media, Library, and Archives in the Fight against Misinformation and Fake news – Marites D. Vitug, Rappler

Collaboration and Partnership that Work – Christine Diane C. Romero, J. Amado Araneta Foundation

Our Vision, Our Future: Ideas and Actions for Building a Strong Library Field – Elvira B. Lapuz, Ex-Officio, PLAI

Aside from, different product presenters were there showing the products that could make the library system more millennial. They are from local and international suppliers.

On its third day, parallel sessions were started. Thirty-six (36) topics divided into three Monet venues of the hotel were presented. This was the chance for all the participants to choose the topics they are more interested at or what is that applicable on their work situations.

As follows were some of the topics:

- The Role of School Libraries in the Teaching and Learning Process

- Art Workshop for Children as Tool of Librarians in Capacity Building

- The Role of Public Libraries and Librarians in Metro Manila in the Pursuit of Lifelong Learning

- Breaking Down Barriers to Employment: Workplace and Welfare Rights for Librarians

- Words on the Wall: A Linguistic Diversity Campaign

- Creating Experiences in Spaces: Mounting Exhibitions to Spark and Stoke Interest in the Visual, Auditory, and Print Story of the Filipino

- Embracing Changes: Redesigning Library Spaces

- Reading Beyond Books: Learning the Basics of Human Library

- The Window on Korea in Rizal Library: An Experience on International Exchange and Partnership

- Libraries, Cultural Heritage, and Society

- The Library of the Future-Right Now

- Evolving Roles of Librarians and Libraries

And a lot more.

As common in a Congress fellowship night with colleagues is always included. This adds fun with those of the same league to at least unload information from the past days. Also, to re-acquaint oneself to fellow librarians especially the new ones. The QC City Government's CTAO personnel, Vince and Dhoie grace the event with singing. Also, prizes were given away for the star of the night both male and female as well as raffle prizes courtesy of generous suppliers present on the event.

On its last day another three topics were presented:

- Ethics and Philippine Librarianship by Atty. Vyva M. Aguirre of De La Salle University, Manila

- Career Progression of Philippine Librarians by Hon. Lourdes T. David of PRC, Board for Librarians

- Leadership in Librarianship: Taking the Challenge for Change by Michael A. Pinto, PLAI President.

The General Assembly was also held. Quorum was established. Approval of the past year's minutes of the General Assembly was read. Report of the President and the Treasurer were also relayed to the assembly.

There was a Motion raised by Ms. Emma Rey, the former Chief Librarian of The House of Representatives. The Motion was about the condonation of annual membership dues. Participants expressed their opinions on the matter. Some say to condone some others not. Different views were entertained by the PLAI President. Almost all who have raised their hands to give their opinion were given a chance. In the end the motion was still open for further study.

The new set of PLAI officers for 2019 was also announced wherein the President-elect was Ms. Emma Rey, the former Chief Librarian of the House of Representatives.

Rex Book Store Donates to QCPL

By: Ma. Victoria S. Manuel



Ten thousand (10,000) volumes of book at the façade of Quezon City Public Library QCPL donated by Rex Book Store.

Two trucks containing ten thousand (10,000) books arrived at the QCPL main library early morning of October 30, 2018. The books were generous donation of one of the largest educational book publisher and bookstore chain in the Philippines, Rex Book Store, Inc. The donation was composed of assorted titles of textbooks in different subject areas for elementary and secondary education.

Most of the books are K-12 curriculum compliant and all of them are unused and in perfect condition with no damages.

The books will be distributed to different QCPL branches and to be shared to other public libraries, schools and reading centers through the programs "Share-A-Book" and "Adopt-A-Library".

It was the result of continuous endeavor of the Technical Services Division to look for kindhearted sponsors to support some of the library's programs. QCPL, thru our City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva, will forever be grateful to Mr. Don Timothy Buhain, the Chief Operating Officer of Rex Book Store for his kind gesture and supporting QCPL's mission of providing quality resources to meet the changing needs of the community.



Book-tacular Activities sa Children’s Section

By: Alistair Troy B. Lacsamana

Magulang na kasama ang anak na nagpupunta sa aklatan para magbasa. Isang pangkaraniwang scenario sa QCPL.

Paano kaya maduplicate ang ganong scenario? Pinagplanuhan ng librarians sa Children’s Section na gumawa ng special activity ngayong Oktubre na tinawag naming “Book-tacular”, bilang paghahanda sa papalapit na Halloween. Kasama dito ang munting storytelling, puppetshow at art activities.

Inimbitahan namin ang mga mag-aaral ng Day Care pinakamalapit sa atin tulad ng City Hall, Forestry and Kalayaan Yakap Day Care.

Idinaos ang activities noong Oktubre 18, 23, 25, 30 at may 60 pupils, 3 guro at 60 magulang ang nakasama sa mga activities.

Happy reading and Happy Halloween!



(Counter clockwise): The City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva giving the opening remarks on the Book-tacular activity of the Children’s section of QCPL. Mr. Alistair Troy B. Lacsamana giving orientation to the 1st batch of children of the activity while Ms. Reny Rose Marvilla for the 2nd batch and the children participants showing their fish paper projects taught to them during the said activity.



Life on Board...to the Library - Part 1

By: Michael M. Jauod

Two years ago, I started my career as a seafarer, I remembered how I underwent a lot of trainings to secure all my documents, requirements, and medical tests. Every seaman must have the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) training accredited by International Maritime Organization (IMO) before you can embark. When I was hired by the agency, I was very excited that my dream at last came to reality. I can now go to different places around the world while working on board and making money.

I'm going to get on to a new mission of my life thinking ahead that working on board is fun and exciting. But that changed when I finally came on board after days of working. I was culture shocked, all the fun and excitement were gone. I was assigned as a garbage separator for more than two months in the Crew Mess. I separate bio- degradable and non-biodegradable, plastic, glass, aluminum, metal, porcelain, etc. before bringing the used plates and cutlery to the dishwashing area. It was chaos working and it was like a "survival of the fittest" for the first timer crews like me especially when it came to sanitation on board because we lived in a small community and sanitation was very important. It was a very strict process and everything worked in a systematic way and we need to follow guidelines in cleaning and wearing proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and most important was the three bucket system of cleaning.

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Inside the cruise ship Costa Favolosa with my waiters inside Ristorante Duca Borgogna in an Italian Night



Making overtime duty at the Periodicals Section tallying QCPL personnel's total rendered extended hours on a night duty.

Continuation from p. 13 Life...

Since then, I realized the differences between reality on board and expectation when I was still in the Philippines, working on board was not easy. After two months of working, my body was able to cope with the working environment on board. Some of my colleagues told me that when they go out for the first time, after 3 months, some of the crew suffered depression. Others don't want to finish their contracts and wanted to go home. Every crew on board struggled to survive with the ship's working environment.

Being a seafarer means a lot of sacrifice, being away from family to give them a better life, working 11 hours to 14 hours a day, danger of being in the sea, and a lot of problems may occur during our contracts. We always pray and hope that we finished the contract and go home to our family safe. Many of those working on a land based looked up seafarers as one of the country's hero and that's true. They thought that we have a good life living and working onboard a cruise ship and many people envy us seafarers who work and travel around the world for free while earning dollars. When we post our pictures in the social media about the places we visit, we receive many likes and comments like how lucky we are. Little did they know that those moments of freedom are just temporary, in reality it's just a "nakaw na sandali" or stolen moments because after that we have to go back on board and work again. Most of the time, we felt home-

sick, especially during typhoons, unable to communicate with our families or sometimes the internet connection is down. Internet connection was very important for us nowadays and we are lucky because back in the early days, some of my veteran colleagues used to go offshore to fall in line just to make a phone call to their love ones from the port telephone. Now, there are internet connections available on board, some fleet offer free internet connection for their crews, ours don't because we have to pay a minimum of 0.5 euro up to .10 euro per minute and that is expensive for us crews.

Yes, it is true that we work and travel around the world for free. It's a privilege for seafarer, visiting top tourism destinations all over the world, unlike other people who need to pay hundreds and thousands of their hardly earned money just to visit those places.

I worked as an assistant waiter onboard, I dealt with different nationalities of guests wherein we give our excellent service to our passengers. We also need to learn basic languages like Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, and German for us to be able to communicate with passengers, since most of them does not speak English at all. In a cruise ship every day is Monday, meaning no day off, working eleven to fourteen

hours a day for seven days in a week. We are lucky if we are given breakfast, lunch or dinner off but I only experienced to get a lunch off once last contract. The saddest thing is, I was in port manning (IPM) at the time my lunch off was given to me, meaning I cannot go offshore. In port manning (IPM) is a safety precaution for all the ships around the world to make sure that even at port there are enough crew members onboard to perform emergency evacuation of all remaining passengers/crew onboard in case of real emergency.

Most of us working on a cruise ship are lucky because most of the time we are at the port unlike seafarers working on a bulk carrier and oil tankers, most of the time they are always at sea.

Safety and security on board is very important and it is mandated and strictly enforced by the IMO. For the crews, it is a must to participate on this, safety officer conducts monthly emergency role consolidation. Safety and security is always discussed and each one of us are mandated to bring our Emergency Booklet in our pockets everyday even at work, and failure to do so will lead to infraction, sometimes disembarkation for not attending several times.

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On board we are not called by our family name or surname, when it comes to safety and security we are called by numbers, mine was 540 and it is also indicated in my emergency booklet, I was assigned in deck 4 zone 6 as a stairway guide and team leader who report to zone commander, if there's a real emergency we guide/evacuate passengers to Master Stations and I am also in charge of the safety of my team members. Crew can only leave when all of the passengers on board were already evacuated and we are the last one to evacuate using life raft. Abandon ship order are only given by the master/captain of the ships via public address system, and the last one to leave the ship is the captain. We practice emergency drill once in every cruise before leaving the port, for general emergency drill, once or twice a month so all crew will be familiarized if there is real emergency.

I was able to finish two (2) contracts. I disembarked last March 11, 2018 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. I celebrated Christmas and New Year onboard in that place twice. After I disembarked for vacation and after months of waiting for another contract, I decided to file my resignation from the agency and seek for another employer for a better opportunity but bad luck struck since the hiring season for the restaurant department has ended. In the call of responsibility, I need to work to provide for my family. I decided to apply in Quezon City Local Government. I was assigned in the Quezon City Public Library where I work as a support

staff at Periodical Section.

Upon working in the library, I came to think back of my working experiences not only related to my course but in different fields such as sports, hospitality services (Seafarer), TNVS driver, basketball coach, restaurant assistant manager, and now in a library. I was encouraged by my supervisor to write this article to share my knowledge and experiences onboard. I am currently working as a support staff in the Periodical Section. I was given some tasks like arranging newspapers, facilitator of the daily extended hour duties, encoding articles on QC Libros, representative at the "Ask a Librarian" service. It is a whole new experience for me and I can't imagine how my life has turned from the sea to the library. I am now wondering where my destiny will take me after this experience.

I am inspiring everyone to just go with the flow, when opportunity knocks, grab it. Try everything that may be someday you will land a job that is not related to your course but yet you will excel in that kind of work and become more successful in the future. To be open to all the challenges of life and accept it with a grateful heart. All the people we have met has a significant place in our life so let's keep the door open for any opportunity that will come across us.

QCPL Roxas Branch Story-telling at National Children's Hospital

By: Jeniffer R. Adajo

Quezon City Public Library – Roxas Branch conducted a story-telling session at the National Children's Hospital last December 10, 2018. Ms. Rosalie Teologo, library-in-charge told a story entitled "Ang Bahay ni Pipay Pagong" to the non-contagious cancer patients confined in the hospital. The activity aims to reach out to the children with no opportunity to go to the library to hear children stories. Smartbook kit



Ms. Rosalie Teologo, Library-in-Charge during the storytelling session

was also distributed to the patients after the activity.

This is a very fulfilling part of a librarian's job. Serving the informational and recreational needs of those who have no access to books and libraries beyond the four walls of the library.

We will surely continue doing this activity, inspired by the mover of the QCPL outreach services, our City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva.

Handog Kasiyahan at Pag-asa” An Outreach Program at Molave Youth Home (Puppet show, book distribution and gift giving)

By: Manica M. Cortes

The Quezon City Public Library – District I Branches, composed of Project 8, Project 7, Balingasa, Masambong and Bagong Pag-asa together with the QCPL Puppeteers conducted an **Outreach Program at Molave Youth Home on December 6, 2018 (Thursday) at 9:00 am onwards.** This activity aims to promote the love of reading, to share and bring joy and happiness to the recipients.

It was participated in by three hundred (300) residents of the institution. The group was welcomed by Ms. Marisol N. Casabuena, acting head, Residential and Rehabilitation Division. Inspirational message was delivered by Ms. Josephine De Leon, BCPC, GAD Focale person. The activities included were puppet show, turnover of books, magazines, bible and educational toys like puzzles and activity materials for their mini library. Hygiene kits composed of bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, face towel and snacks were also distributed.

The activity was indeed successful that it gave fun and enjoyment to everyone not only to the residents of the Youth Home but its staff as well.

The District I Branches acknowledged the following sponsors who heartfully shared in the gift giving:

1. Joytoy for the educational toys
2. Tiffany Bread and Cakes for the snacks
3. Ms. Ma. Victoria Evangelista for the additional items for the hygiene kit
4. Sun Dry for the face towel
5. District I staff for the Hygiene Kit
6. QCPL Main for the books, magazines and Bible

We also would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva for approving & supporting such activity.



Residents of Molave Youth Home on white t-shirts enjoying watching puppet show prepared by QCPL puppeteers



District I staff & QCPL Puppeteers with Ms. Mirasol N. Casabuena, Acting Head, residential and Rehabilitation Division, Ms. Lilian Baccay, Molave Youth staff and Ms. Josephine De Leon, BCPC, GAD Focal



Hygiene kits and snacks distributed to Molave Youth Home residents

A Documentary Film Showing of **“THE MAKING OF QUEZON CITY”** (IN CELEBRATION OF THE 79TH QC FOUNDATION DAY)

By: Maria Cecilia R. Magnate

It was an exciting day for the QCPL’s Publication Division. All its staff were eager to present the CD film project it produced entitled: The Making of Quezon City. This is a 38 minute film about the history of this City, and more than one (1) year in the making

The production of which gone to filtering not once but many times to ensure its accuracy and the presentation be able to inspire the viewers, and give them the glimpse of the beginnings of Quezon City.

On its launching day, the Publication Division intentionally coincided the activity in Celebration of the 79th Founding Anniversary of Quezon City. Fit right for the occasion.

More than 78 QCPL staff from Main and branches were invited as well as the script writer Mr. Boy Villasanta who was behind its beautiful production, well known in the movie industry. Jowee Morell, the Director, did not able to come but sent his best wishes for its launching.

The program started with the opening remarks by Ms. Lucila R. Raquiño who untirelessly coordinated with Mr. Villasanta and Mr. Jowell Morell reviewing



The documentary film entitled “The Making of Quezon City” in CD



The City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva giving her inspirational message

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the film and modifying needed parts to adjust. Followed by an inspirational message by the woman behind its success, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva. Also, present was Ms. Eden Villanueva, Consultant who contributed her valuable suggestions and comments for its refinements together with Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC Asst. City Librarian and Ms. Mary Ann Bernal, Readers Services Head.

When the film started to roll, audience were readily captivated by its introduction, the voice of the visionary Manuel L. Quezon echoing with a purpose. Audience started to soaked in the information they were hearing and seeing. Though not new history, its making and musical scoring was beautifully orchestrated. One from the audience said that she felt goosebumps while watching not in a negative way but in a proud way a QC resident should be.

After which the PD staff Vannie Anicoche facilitated the game intermission in a way of question and answers about the film. The game was entitled *Plicker game* since it used the Plicker cards wherein answers can be readily scanned by cellphone and be instantly seen on the projector with the help of the computer. Modest prizes were given away. Before the activity ends PS distributed 2 copies for each branch library of QCPL.

Overall, this activity will never be a success without the support of our beloved City Mayor, Herbert M. Bautista.

The closing remarks was rendered by the OIC Asst. City Librarian, Mariza G. Chico, thanking everyone present and expressed her congratulations for the QCPL PD's successful activity.

Cheers!



(Left to right): Lucila Raquiño, Emelita Villanueva, Boy Villasanta, Eden Villanueva, Mariza Chico and Mary Ann L. Bernal

Mr. Boy Villasanta receiving the Certificate of Appreciation from the City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva of QCPL



The audience during the film showing at the intermission game entitled "Plicker Game" raising their Plicker cards for answer



QCPL Law Research Section (LRS) Haven of Professionals

By: Kate Laurene Servañez-Belleza

Quezon City Public Library Law Research Section provides services that supports the students, faculty and researchers in their legal study.

QCPL LRS section has a study area with a comforting and close to home ambiance with a facility conducive to learning and offers a wide collection of law books and reading materials.

The LRS is often a very busy place, with students, faculty, staff and visitors scattered and engaged in studying, researching and reviewing. Our section becomes busiest from July to October because a grueling examination is scheduled. The board examination for aspiring doctors, architects, accountants, engineers and the bar examination for aspiring lawyers. This is the time when students are preparing intensively. LRS has a peaceful environment for studying. We are elated to accommodate our the clients in our section.

Studying for a mid-term exam in college is far different from studying for a board exam. It is the ultimate culmination of learning, measuring if one holds enough knowledge to be able

to work in the field as a professional and will face an exam wherein all courses are just one set of exams.

Attending review classes is good but studying on your own is more important because this means relying on your own capacity to study. Six (6) aspiring doctors and One (1) aspiring engineer religiously studied in QCPL Law Research Section.

Passing a Board Examination is never an easy feat as you have to go through seemingly insurmountable odds. However, the sprung of studying in a library has made the predicament of the students within reach. Quezon City Public Library Law Research Section has the most excellent and most student –friendly place for studying. Add the fact, that you are guided and helped by a very accommodating, highly reputable and equally –brilliant staff.

The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) officially released the results of September – October Physician Licensure Examination (PLE) or Physician board exam last November 6, 2018 and the results were released in five (5)

working days from the last day of examination. On the other hand, the results for the Aeronautical Engineering board exam was released last November 16, 2018.

In like manner, QCPL is mighty proud that the 6 (six) medicine students and 1 (one) aeronautical engineer student successfully hurdled the board examination out of the multitude of board exam takers.

For and in behalf of the City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva and support staff, QCPL would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to all the students who passed the board exams (Medicine and Aeronautical Engineering) most especially to our dear clients who opted to study at the QCPL LAW Research Section.

Quezon City Public Library will continue to be a vehicle of hope and success to everyone by providing information needs and high quality service in a professional manner at all times.



HEIs and QCPL Partnership

By: Paulo Dominik P. Daulat

Councilor Allyson Rae Medalla initiated a partnership with selected Higher Education Institution (HEI) Center of Excellence (COE) in NCR to provide theses, dissertation or other research materials available to Quezon City Public Library as the depository of these materials with reference to the approved resolution SP-5758.

The aim of this project is to increase the research materials of the QCPL particularly theses and/or dissertations to be used by the numerous clientele especially the students. Although QCPL has available theses located at the Filipiniana and Local History section, they ought to be updated so as to provide current or latest research materials for our clientele, thus QCPL has requested the assistance of Coun. Medalla for the implementation of said Resolution No. SP-5758.

Coun. Medalla selected five

(5) colleges and universities as pilot partners in this endeavor. They are the University of the Philippines, Technological Institute of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila University, University of the East Ramon Mag-saysay Memorial Medical Center and Mirriam College.

Series of meetings regarding this partnership have been conducted. The first meeting was conducted at the QCPL attended by Coun. Ally Medalla and her staff, the QCPL staff Ms. Mariza G. Chico (OIC-Asst. City Librarian), Ms. Lucila R. Raquiño (Chief, Publication Division), Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal (Chief, Readers Services Division), Mr. Paulo Dominik P. Daulat (Head, Filipiniana and Local History Section), and the invited partner from the Technological Institute of the Philippines (TIP) Dr. Cynthia Llanes, Vice President for Academic Affairs and the University Librarian Maribel Estepa, Dr. Llanes of TIP

confirmed in this meeting their willingness to provide copies of theses to QCPL.

Another meeting was conducted at the Miriam College attended by the library staff, the staff of Coun. Medalla and from QCPL. Miriam College representatives also confirmed their willingness to provide theses and other research materials to QCPL. The newly hired University Librarian of Miriam College, Mr. Roderick Ramos has already visited the QCPL and conducted ocular inspection on where the theses to be donated by the university will be placed.

Coun. Medalla's Office is now finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding between QCPL and the selected HEI Center of Excellence for the responsibilities of each party represented by the City Librarian. Emelita L. Villanueva.

Howdy Y'All!! Sing Dance and be Merry

By: Donna Mae G. Estoque

Through the initiative of the City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva, the Quezon City Public Library conducted its annual Christmas Party with the "Cowboy Theme" last December 14, 2018 at the Reference Section. As the overall Committee Chair, the Administrative Services (Records and Inventory Units) together with the District Libraries Division, made joint efforts to make this event more fun and exciting.

Dance contest from combined forces of District I and III, District V & VI and District II & IV were executed enjoyably and energetically. Luckily the judges got awe with the beautiful perfor-

mance of District V and VI who made them the Champion of the said category. The program continued with the Videoke King and Queen where, Ms. Julie Domin-gono got crowned as Videoke Queen 2018 and Mr. Rodolfo Rac-ca dubbed as Videoke King 2018 respectively. Cash prizes were granted to the winners.

Several minor and major gifts, groceries and appliances solicited were given away as prizes to all the lucky winners; Mr. Malijan got the Samsung Galaxy J8 cellphone, 39" Smart TV by Mr. Jasareno, Ms. Gautani won the 32" LED TV and another 32" flat screen TV by Ms. Manuel and Ms.

Santiago correspondingly.

We were all inspired by the Christmas message of our City Librarian emphasizing the so many blessings that the City Library has received for this year, 2018, but still, Jesus is the greatest gift we have received and the main reason for the season. Jesus who's a Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Light of the World and the Emmanuel.

To all the QCPL employees, Merry Christmas and a Happy NEW YEAR! YEEHAW!!!

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(Counter clockwise): OIC Asst. City Librarian Mariza G. Chico & City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva with the Videoke King and Queen Julie G. Domingono and Raul Racca; Party organizer; Dance presentation champions District V and District VI.



(Left to right): Major prizes winners - Jefferson B. Malijan (Techncial Section), Melrose E. Gautane (Records), Susana B. Abiad (Admin.), Ma. Victoria S. Manuel (Technical Section) and Jan Angelo G. Jasareno (MIS).

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Royal University of Bhutan Visits QCPL

By: Ma. Victoria S. Manuel



(Left to right) Ma. Victoria Manuel-OIC Technical Head Division, Ms. Tshering Lhamo T, Paulo Dominik P. Daulat- Head, Filipiniana, Local History and Archives Section Head, Tshering Lhamo K and Ms. Richen Dema

The Quezon City Public Library has become the staple of public libraries in the Philippines thus receiving numerous benchmarking request from local visitors and even foreign guests. Three library personnel from the Royal University of Bhutan arrived at the QCPL on December 20, 2018 for institutional study visit.

The librarian delegates from Bhutan, namely Tshering Lhamo K, Tshering Lhamo T and Richen Dema accompanied by Ms. Mika De Guzman of International Academy for Continuous Education, explored different sections of QCPL. They browsed library collection such as rare materials, theses, magazines, and e-resources. In the Puppeteers Room, they enjoyed the chance of manipulating some of the puppets. Ms. Maria Cecilia R. Magnate shared the history of QCPL Publication Division, the first and only publication of a public library in the Philippines. She also encouraged the Bhutanese guests to write and publish books specially in the topic of library and information science.

Beside from benchmarking, the delegates also participated in a lecture regarding the practices of QCPL. Ms. Ma. Victoria S. Manuel, Officer-in-Charge of the Technical Services Division discussed information storage and retrieval, which includes cataloging, indexing and structure of library filing. Best practices of the library were presented by the Head of Filipiniana Section, Mr. Paulo Dominik P. Daulat. The participants were all ears to hear how QCPL fulfill its mission and strives to uplift the quality of life of the community through reading and learning.

