### QCPL Attended the Annual National Conference of Librarians at Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

By: Lucila R. Raquino

One of the most awaited events of public librarians in the country is the Annual National Conference of Librarians which is spearheaded by the National Library of the Philippines. This year’s conference was hosted by the Local Government of Puerto Princesa City, Palawan through the City’s Public Library which was held on March 18-21, 2019, with the theme “Libraries CLICK as Space for Customers, Learning and Research, Innovations, Community engagement and Knowledge Creation.

It was attended by 10 QCPL librarians led by the City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva with the following: Mariza G. Chico, Lucila R. Raquino, Mary Ann L. Bernal, Manica M. Cortes, Analiza C. Martinez, Janet B. Alday, Cherry M. Taruc, Jennifer R. Leoncio and Charles A. Pasicolan.

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In line with Proclamation No. 563, “Designating March 9 of every year as Public Library Day”, the Quezon City Public Library and its branch libraries conducted various activities with the national theme “Public Libraries CLICK when the Local Officials Lead”. The celebration was not just a day but a month-long celebration for the QCPL.

I would like to commend the QCPL team for job well done, for this reason, QCPL was awarded the 2018 Outstanding Public Library with Special Programs and Outreach Services On “Malasakit” to the Different Sectors in The Community and The City Librarian was conferred 2019 Gawad Parangal sa Natatanging Propesyunal na Tagapan-gasiwa at Tagapaglingkod ng Pampublikong Aklatan awarded during the 60th Public Library Day celebration at the Librarians Conference held at Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, spearheaded by the National Library of the Philippines in coordination with the Asia Foundation and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts-National Committee on Libraries and Information Services.

Indeed, QCPL has become a model library in the public library world. But we are not stopping from here. We will continue to offer new and innovative library services to better serve the constituents of Quezon City particularly those who have no access to libraries and its services and those with special needs.

We sincerely acknowledge all those who have been instrumental in the successful delivery of library services even to the remotest barangays, to our partners and city and barangay officials.

God bless us all!

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One of the highlights of the event was the conferment of awards and recognitions to deserving public librarians and library-in-charge in the country as a highlight activity in commemorating the 60th Public Library.

It is with much honor that our very own City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva was conferred as one of the 2019 Gawad Parangal sa Natatanging Propesyunal na Tagapangasiwa ng Pampublikong Aklatan, being the prime mover of the QCPL’s various innovations and outreach activities that benefited not only the constituents of Quezon City but also other libraries outside the city.

Also, it was during her incumbency that the QCPL was transformed into a modern and highly technological library through the support of our City Mayor Herbert M. Bautista and other City Officials.

Other highlight of the conference was the sharing of innovative and unique library programs and services of different City, Municipal, and provincial libraries which could be replicated by other libraries.

One of the conference’s invited sharers was Lucila Raquiño, Head of the Publication Services of QCPL. She shared one of the unique services of the library, publishing. She stressed that the Publishing services was the bright idea of City Mayor Herbert Bautista and of what he envisioned for the City Public Library to become. This was noted by our City Librarian who made necessary actions for this vision to materialize and be implemented.

Today, QCPL is the first public library in the Philippines to have Publishing Services and that have published local history materials.

Again, CONGRATULATIONS to our City Librarian and to all QCPL staff for a job well done.
Every year, the nation commemorates and celebrates the importance of the Bible in nation building. Proclamation No. 124 of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, declared the whole month of January of every year as National Bible Month. This annual event started in 1982 after former President Ferdinand E. Marcos signed Presidential Proclamation No. 2242 declaring a nationwide Bible celebration. President Marcos originally declared the first Sunday of Advent and the last week of November every year as National Bible Sunday and National Bible Week (NBW). But through the years, with the transition of our Presidents it was transferred, made official and reinforced during the month of January every year.

In line with this year’s theme The Bible: Real Talk, the Quezon City Public Library in partnership with the City Accounting Department headed by its OIC, Ms. Ruby G. Manangu, spearheaded the celebration by conducting a forum focused on getting real about what really worries the youth. The Philippine Bible Society (PBS) is aware that the depression and suicide cases are rising. The younger generation suffers from not knowing where they belong and if they matter. They worry about stability and finding the right companion. So many anxious thoughts fill their minds everyday.

The forum was held on January 28, 2019 at the library’s Conference Room participated by some student immersions and on-the-job trainees (OJTs). It was facilitated by Pastor Zaldy C. Sulvita from Global Discipleship Alliance and one of the Spiritual Advisers of QCPL who regularly conducts values formation seminars for the employees.

It is our hope that the youth of today spend time with the Lord in reading His Word as well as find solace and comfort with Him.
Taun – taon patuloy na nadaragdagan ang mga nagbabasa sa QCPL Children’s Corner. Bakit nga ganoon na lang ang saya at interes ng mga bata na bumisita at magbasa sa Children’s Corner ng QCPL?

Sinimulan noong Nobyembre 2018 ang pagbabagong anyo ng Children’s Corner. Ang adhikain nito ay magkaroon ng alternatibong aktibidad sa mga magbabasa at makahikayat ng mas maraming bata. Ang bagong anyo ng Children’s Corner ay nakatuon sa bagong aktibidad na Pinoy Reading Buddies (PRB). Ang maliliit na kwarto ng Children’s Corner ay hinati sa apat na bahagi kung saan ang lahat ng mga batang magbasa ay tila nasa tren ng MRT.

Ang unang station ay ang Picture Walk, kung saan hinahayaan ang mga bata na gumawa ng sariling kwento batay sa larawan na nakikita sa libro na pinili nila. Ang ikalawang station ay read out loud, sa station na ito ay magbabasa ng malakas ang mga bata at ang layunin nito ay mahasa sila sa pagbabasa. Ang pangatlong station ay Word Walk, na kung saan pipili ng tamang sagot na salita at pagnasagot ng tama ay may matatanggap na regalo. At ang ikaapat na station ay ang Reading Log kung saan magtatala ng pangalan ang bawat bata.

Sa bagong anyo ng Children’s Corner hangarin naming mga kawani na mas mapalawak pa ang kaalaman ng bawat bata na pupunta, upang mas lalo pa nilang mahalin ang pagbabasa.
Novaliches Branch Launched Its Mini Museum

By: Bienvenido P. Ongkiko III

The Quezon City Public Library – Novaliches branch launched the first (1st) Mini Museum among the libraries of Quezon City held last January 23, 2019 at QCPL – Novaliches Branch. The event were graced by the City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva, OIC Assistant City Librarian Mariza G. Chico, Lucila R. Raquino-Head, Publication Division, Mary Ann L. Bernal, together with QCPL Administrative Staff and Section heads. Also present was the Barangay Novaliches Proper representative for Kapitana Asuncion M. Visaya, Kagawad Cecil Ramos.

The Mini Museum aim to captivate the public’s interest and imagination in various forms of Historical and Cultural displays and to encourage the public to visit the library more often, making the library an even more interesting place to visit. Guest Speaker Mr. Mark Harold Masayon, Son of Bataeño Pinoy Artist, Craftsman of Bataan Memorabilia, Mr. Hershey Flores Masayon, all the way from Bataan and recent donor to the Mini Museum, gave a brief history of Bataan (Battle of Bataan and Bataan Death March) that made everyone remembered how important it is for us to realize and cherish one of the most significant battles in the history of the Philippines.

Above: Ribbon-cutting during the launching of the QCPL Novaliches branch mini museum; Below: Some of QCPL personnel looking at the collection of old money bills and coins of the Philippines at the glass incased display.
World Read Aloud Day 2019
By: Jeniffer R. Adajo

The Quezon City Public Library - District IV Libraries composed of Cubao, Galas, Krus Na Ligas and Roxas Branches celebrated World Read Aloud Day last February 1, 2019. On this day, reading advocates spread the importance and power of reading aloud and sharing stories with children.

The said branch libraries conducted the said activity inside the branch libraries and in nearby schools in coordination with the principals and teachers.

Clockwise: Grade 2 pupils of M. H. Del Pilar Elem. School in simultaneous reading of big book entitled, “Idol Ko si Titser”; Ms. Grace M. Velez, LIC Galas Branch conducted the same activity; Ms. Rosalie Teologo, LIC Roxas Branch conducted the activity in Pinyahan Elem. School; Mr. Jeffrey Francisco reading the big book with the kids in KNL Elem. School.

Pupils were instructed to read the books simultaneously and after reading the story there’s a question and answer portion. This activity aims to develop the love of reading of the students and also one way in promoting library services and activities to them.

After the activity, the children were very happy because the books they had read were given to them and they can bring them home, and read it as many times as they want.
The Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) - Talipapa Branch gave the 136 detainees of Quezon City Police Station 3 a movie treat last January 30, 2019.

As part of the public library’s goal of reaching out and helping improve literacy even to the undeserved sector of the society, the QCPL conducted a film showing for the detainees to watch, entitled, “The Encounter”. It is a movie emphasizing second chances in life realize that there is a second chance in life as long as one is willing to seek forgiveness and atone for his or her sins. The movie highlighted on how Jesus Christ was able to help and redeem people who seek his guidance.

Atty. Eric R. Juan, Barangay Chairman of Talipapa, donated snacks and drinks to the detainees and to the police personnel.
One of the advocacies of the Quezon City Public Library is to provide quality information resources to the residents of Quezon City. However, with the continuous support of different institutions such as publishers, non-governmental organizations as well as ordinary citizens of the city, the QCPL had enough resources to share to other cities and municipals throughout the country.

On February 14, 2019, Sangguniang Bayan member of San Mariano, Isabela, Hon. Susan P. Duca and San Mariano Municipal Librarian, Ms. Ma. Levita Eugenio visited QCPL and had a brief talk with the City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva who approved the donation of various reference for San Mariano Municipal Library.

After which, Hon. Duca and Ms. Eugenio picked up the books at the Roxas branch; brought with them a military and pick-up trucks for the books to be loaded and went home with their vehicles full of books.

Hon. Duca expressed utmost gratitude towards QCPL and she even proposed to have a partnership between Quezon City and San Mariano, Isabela for continuous resource sharing and programs that will benefit both QCPL and San Mariano Municipal Library.
Puppets and good stories, rolled into one project. Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) represented by the City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva, recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Knowledge Channel Foundation Incorporation (KCFI) last February 14, 2019, at Quezon City Public Library Conference room. Both parties commit to share and implement their innovative goals in their field of expertise and that is in puppetry and in educational television.

“QCPL has the puppets and that is something we really want to put in our show, in our “Basa Bilang Project.” – Executive Director and President of KCFI, Ms. Rina Lopez Bautista shared.

The Basa Bilang Project is the latest project of KCFI which aims to promote the early reading and numeracy animation videos.

According to their project website, this project helps Filipino primary grade students confidently read and do math, so they can become independent learners. To fulfill this need they added that their goal is to develop 1,500 animated learning videos for Grades 1-3 in Filipino, English and Math, Based on the Department of Education text books Manager for Transmedia, Ian Gaite added “since same tayo ng advocacy para sa reading at values na siyang pinopromote ng Knowledge, We’re happy to be in this partnership.” The first airing of animated show is promised to be launched June 2019.
The Quezon City Public Library received a letter from Hon. Vicente Honorio Concordia Llamas V, Barangay Captain of Brgy. Proj. 6 asking for assistance in regards with the mini-library they want to put up. As per instruction of the City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva, the QCPL’s Technical Services Division immediately responded to their request and conducted an ocular inspection to determine if the place intended for the library is suitable. They also requested for a training of their barangay staff about library operation.

As Officer-in-Charge of the Technical Services Division, I prepared a program for a 2-day training/workshop in basic library management and cataloging. The training was divided into two (2) batches with a total of nine (9) participants. The first batch of training was on February 7 & 8, 2019 while the second batch was on February 12 & 13, 2019.

The first thing I presented to the participants on the first day of the training was Republic Act No. 7743 which is an act providing for the establishment of congressional, city and municipal libraries and barangay reading centers throughout the Philippines and why library is important to the community. The barangay staff walk through different types of libraries, library’s functions, services, sections and collections. They were guided to formulate guidelines, rules & regulations for their library. They also had hands on exercises on stamping mark of ownership on books and assigning accession number.

On the second day, the participants learned basic cataloging. Instead of creating the traditional card catalog, they were given process slips with fields they needed to fill in. Proper transcription of bibliographic information was taught to them. I explained and demonstrated to the participants how the books in the library are organized using the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC). I also taught them how to do cataloging or using the union library catalogs available on the Internet to copy subject headings and DDC number. After the participants did descriptive cataloging, assigned subjects and call numbers, they were introduced to a free integrated library system called OpenBiblio. Different modules of OpenBiblio were demonstrated to them such as Admin, Circulation and Cataloging. All participants were given the opportunity to encode the books they cataloged and use OpenBiblio’s Circulation module in borrowing and returning books.

It was a tiring program but seeing the participants enthusiastically engaging in different activities I gave them and very much eager to learn how to start and run their own library, it was all worth my time and effort. The QCPL administration is very much grateful to Captain Llamas for acknowledging the importance of library and taking initiative to build one for his barangay.
In celebration of the 60th Public Library Day, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) in cooperation with CE-Logic, Libtech Sources, Inc. and Megatexts Phils., Inc. conducted a half-day forum on Online Databases or known as Electronic Resources on March 11, 2019 at Ramada Manila Central Hotel, Binondo, Manila. Participants and representatives from different University libraries, special libraries and public libraries were present in the venue including the ten (10) QCPL employees.

Ms. Melody M. Madrid, Asst. Chief, CDD-NLP begun the forum with a short introduction about the NLP and how they are being supported by our Philippine government in creating Philippine e-Lib portal in collaboration with University of the Philippines (UP), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) which is funded through the e-Government.

The Philippine eLib Portal serves as the gateway to all the online resources and services of the Philippine eLib project. It aims to: Provide access to the collection of the different participating institutions; Facilitate shared subscription to online resources; Provide document delivery services; Provide current contents services; and Provide mechanism for free services.

An e-Resource is a term which can be used to describe, for example: Electronic books (ebooks), Electronic journals (ejournals), Online newspaper and magazines, Full-text and bibliographic databases, Electronic theses and dissertations and digitized materials.

Speakers from Ce-Logic, Inc., Libtech Sources, Inc. and Megatexts Phils. Inc. brought themselves equipped with full knowledge about their products. They were all very informative. They offered a lot of online databases to choose from in which can help libraries and other institutions in catering patrons’ need.

These databases are not for free but of course with the help of e-Government in funding these databases and with the help of the National Library of the Philippines in thoroughly choosing in which among of these databases are more applicable and necessary for the respective libraries and institutions.
Newspaper is one of the sources in giving reliable information. It informs the people about current events and awareness happening all over the world. That’s why reading newspaper helps individuals in expanding their vocabulary skills, reading comprehension, acquiring general knowledge and improving sharpness of memory. Newspaper can benefit the elders, students, teachers, job seekers, etc., especially the younger generations (millennials) which will support them in finding precise facts and avoiding fake news which is in trend nowadays.

The traditional way of clipping a newspaper article is to read the newspaper and classify the relevant articles based on the Sear’s List of Subject Headings. After the subject classification, next is to cut the article then paste it on a bond paper, followed by scanning and uploading it in the database (QC LIBROS). Last is the filing in their respective subject folder.

There were some problems that I encountered during the manual process of clipping a newspaper article. It is time consuming because the news article to be clipped is not delivered real-time since it takes a lot of time to clip it manually. It also takes more physical space since it is produced in a hard copy. It is costly because it needs a lot of resources like paper, glue, scissors just to produce a copy of the newspaper articles. Thus, we have to innovate and be creative to better serve of clientele. Serve them the fastest way for them to access information.

Since the technology is now in demand, Quezon City Public Library particularly the Periodicals Section has subscribed to digitized collection of local and international newspaper and magazines to PressReader. It has more than 7,000 publications which delivers the world’s newspapers and magazines to millions of readers the way they want to receive them - in print, online, or on their mobile device, tablet or eReader - wherever they live, travel, work play (https://proquest.libguides.com/pressreader/about).

Last year, we have discovered another way of clipping articles using Technology. We tried to clip articles and proposed it to our Section Head.

Let’s Go Digital!
By: Fatima Ronz Margaret C. Manila
Gladly, our proposal was considered and we planned on how to implement the online process of it.

Upon the proper coordination with the people involved, we decided to have a dry-run in clipping newspaper articles online. The process of clippings online is by selecting the important article in the PressReader, saved it in PDF format, in specific folder where it must be saved. Then, we have also a printed copy of the articles clipped online then we store it in a clearbook so that we can also provide the clients a hardcopy of the articles. The clearbooks are stored in a file box.

The users/readers benefit from the PressReader by simply providing them real-time/up-to-date news and articles which can also be found in the newspaper hard copy (the content from the digitized copy and hard copy is almost the same). The following are the key features of the PressReader:

1. It provides all-you-can-read digital kiosk of newspapers and magazines. It is easy to discover content searching by publication name, interest, country, or language preference. It is read fully-formatted publications and stories just as they appear in print.

2. Readers can download full-issues for offline reading. It Instantly translates stories in up to 17 languages. Readers can listen to stories with on-demand narration (which will be a great benefit to support visually impaired people). (https://proquest.libguides.com/pressreader/about).

3. QCPL, especially Periodicals Section also benefits from the PressReader because time and resources are less consumed, saves physical space in filing the newspaper articles and printed publications, saves time with simplified circulation and periodicals management and lastly it is an eco-friendly alternative to print publications. (https://proquest.libguides.com/pressreader/about).

QCPL envisions to provide our clienteles an exceptional service thus, through the innovation of the traditional newspaper clippings to online process. It enhanced the technical skills of staff which helps a lot in building good rapport with the clients by providing them real-time news. Seeing them satisfied with our efforts on giving them the service that they need on time that they needed it made us honored as public servants.

Sharing is good, and with digital technology, sharing is easy. – Richard Stallman
In celebration of 60th Public Library Day, the Quezon City Public Library District IV composed of Roxas, Cubao, Krus Na Ligas and Galas libraries in coordination with the Barangay Roxas District and SK Chairwoman Maridel Joriza as the representative of their Punong Barangay Atty. Orlando Paolo F. Casimiro had successfully launched the Aklatang Gala with Puppet Show and book giving for the children residing at the sides of Lagarian Creek of Gumamela St. Barangay Roxas District.

Aklatang Gala is one of the projects of Quezon City Public Library headed by our City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva as part of the back to reading campaign program of the library. The Aklatang Gala was designed for children especially those residing in depressed areas to have easier access on learning through books. The activity held in the barangay aims to encourage the kids to regularly visit the library, to gain more friends and enjoy all the activities such as storytelling, board games, film showing, quiz bee, tutorials, etc. Also, during the launching, our puppets Lib and Rary brought happiness, lessons and inspiration as they shared the story of their friendship that started as they visit the library.
Dental Awareness Activity “Ngiting Inaruga Mula Pagkabata, Malusog na Ngiti Baon sa Pagtanda”

By: Analiza Puno

The Quezon City Public Library represented by the District 1 Libraries composed of Balingasa, Bagong Pag-Asa, Masambong, and Project 8 branches participated in an activity spearheaded by the Quezon City Health Department in celebration of the 15th National Dental Health Month with the theme: “Ngiping Inaruga Mula Pagkabata, Malusog na Ngiti Baon sa Pagtanda”. It was coordinated to Balingasa Elementary School, Bagong Pag-Asa Elementary School, Masambong Day Care Center and Sitio Militar Day Care pupils of CENEP Foundation.

This activity aims to promote, educate and increase awareness for the students, parents and community on how important to have a good oral health. The Dentist and Dental aide from different Health Centers of District 1 conducted a lecture and demonstration with check up facilitated by PIT and FISSURE SEALANT the whole month.

Photos Clockwise: Dra. Rhodora Gongora DMD III giving lecture and demonstration on proper dental care; Dr. Alexander Ng, Dra. Aileen Ruth C. Regala, Dra. Monica C. Gayo, DMD, of Quezon City Health Department discussing thoroughly and demonstrating the proper way of brushing teeth; Dra. Benilda V. Singson, DMD, lecturing on proper dental care; (Left to Right) Parents, Ms. Carla Marie Arceta (QCPL), Ms. Lizarondo (health worker), Mr. Ignacio Beltran (QCPL), Mr. Mercado (Dentist), Ms. Analiza Puno (QCPL Dist. 1 Coordinator), Ms. Ana Marie Teope (QCPL), Mr. Jeremie Baltar (Coordinator, CENEP Foundation – QC) and some participants.
The Quezon City Public Library - Bagong Pag-asa Branch in celebration of the “60th PUBLIC LIBRARY DAY” with the theme “PUBLIC LIBRARIES CLICK WHEN THE LOCAL OFFICIALS LEAD” and 10th Founding Anniversary of Bagong - Pag Asa Branch conducted “Book Character Parade”. The fifty-four (54) participants were kindergarten pupils of Yakap Day Care Center who wore their favourite book character costumes and had fun during the parade. Supervisors and staff from the Main library, District 1 Branches, Barangay Captain Rodolfo S. Palma, District 1 Councilor and Brgy. Council had shown their full support in the event. Reputable judges from the Quezon City Public Library had selected 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5 consolation winners. We also had a feeding program courtesy of Councilor Olie Belmonte. The pupils were also very happy upon receiving their big books.

The library conducts different activities to promote back to reading campaign and bring the children back into the library and develop the love of reading.
The Quezon City Public Library represented by Mr. Alistair Troy Lacsamana, Head of Children’s Section and Ms. Jennifer Adajo, Coordinator-District IV Libraries, participated in the Book Giving activity held last January 29 to February 7, 2019 to District IV Public School Libraries spearheaded by our dear Councilors Hon. Ivy Lagman and Hon. Raquel Malangen. The activity was coordinated with our Honorable Mayor Herbert Bautista and Honorable Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte.

This project is also in partnership with the Children International Philippines (CIP) which aims to help public school libraries have additional reference books for the use of teachers and students.

Mr. Lacsamana and Ms. Adajo also conducted library orientation to students for them to know and be aware of the services and activities of the QCPL and encourage them to go to the Main Library and its branches.
I have heard stories and feedbacks about Advancing Libraries Archives and Museums (ALAM) and it was a delight to be one of the chosen librarian to attend the said seminar. It was my first time to be part of a highly collaborative seminar. Together with my colleagues, Mr. Alistair Troy Lacsamana (Head, Children’s Corner and Puppeteers), Paulo Dominik Daulat (Head, Local History and Filipiniana Section), Ma. Victoria Manuel (Head, Technical Section), and Rowena Remiendo (Head, Periodicals Section), we represented the Quezon City Public Library and we thank our City Librarian for the opportunity.

The organizers invited twelve (12) vibrant speakers who shared their knowledge and expertise. Participants of the said event came from different institutions and organizations such as UP, UST, ADMU, DLSU, Ayala Museum, QCPL, and others.

At the last night of the seminar-workshop, I had no idea at all about the search for Mr. and Ms. ALAM. I was there in the venue (near the swimming pool) wearing a t-shirt and a walking short. Relaxing and enjoying the night. Suddenly, there were groupings and I found myself in the midst of people of different organizations and institutions. Before I realized, I was there standing with a female partner preparing for a cat-walk. I’m lost for a few minutes, I walked in front of everybody. I felt that all eyes were upon me, I am not sure what I was feeling that time. When our number was called, me and my partner went in front of the judges. They asked questions, they requested me to sing a song and I heard cheers and claps. At the end of that night, I was crowned Mr. ALAM 2019.

As I returned from Coron to Manila, I looked back and said to myself, did I just came from ALAM Seminar in Coron and won the Mr. ALAM search?

“QCPL Attendance to ALAM’s Seminar in Coron”
By: Paulo Dominik P. Daulat

“Creating the Right Balance between Access, Usability, and Security towards Inclusive LAMs”. This event happened last March 6-8 at The Palladium Hotel in Coron, Palawan. ALAM aims to support the objectives of UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) and to integrate them in the context of libraries, archives and museums (LAMs). This seminar-workshop’s objective is to help librarians, archivists and museum personnel to promote and widen the access to information as well as making LAMs inclusive, safe and secure spaces to all.

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At the last night of the seminar-workshop, I had no idea at all about the search for Mr. and Ms. ALAM. I was there in the venue (near the swimming pool) wearing a t-shirt and a walking short. Relaxing and enjoying the night. Suddenly, there were groupings and I found myself in the midst of people of different organizations and institutions. Before I realized, I was there standing with a female partner preparing for a cat-walk. I’m lost for a few minutes, I walked in front of everybody. I felt that all eyes were upon me, I am not sure what I was feeling that time. When our number was called, me and my partner went in front of the judges. They asked questions, they requested me to sing a song and I heard cheers and claps. At the end of that night, I was crowned Mr. ALAM 2019.

As I returned from Coron to Manila, I looked back and said to myself, did I just came from ALAM Seminar in Coron and won the Mr. ALAM search?
Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) assisted and accommodated benchmarking tour to the librarians and staff of two universities this month of February. The first batch of visitors went last February 19, 2019 consisting of the Section Heads of the Administration Cluster of the Rizal Library of Ateneo de Manila University led by their Assistant Library Director for Administration – Ms. Ma. Theresa Villanueva. Together with Ms. Villanueva were Ms. Marie Edelquin Bautista, Ed Corpuz, Rosalyn Diño, Bernadette Joey Lagumen, and Annalyn Rowena Parayoan. According to them, they wanted to see first hand the best practices including facilities and other equipment from a public library which maybe applicable to them as academic library.

The second batch of visitors went last February 22, 2019 from Central Philippine University of Ilo-Ilo composed of two (2) faculty and twenty-one (21) graduate students of Library Science (MLIS). The delegates were considered walk-in visitors because they did not have a request, but since they’ve visited other libraries around Metro Manila, they included QCPL in their itinerary.

Visitors watched the “Malasakit” video – the QCPL’s winning entry to the search for Outstanding Public Library with Outreach Program/Malasakit to the Different Sectors of the Community. They toured all the sections in the ground and second floors of the library. ADMU handed a copy of their book “Rizal Library Building” as a token to our City Librarian – Ms. Emelita Villanueva together with our OIC- Asst. City Librarian – Ms. Mariza Chico and Publication Services Division Head – Ms. Lucila Raquiao. In exchange, QCPL gave a copy of its own publication the “QC Milestones (Timeline of Events that Shaped a Great City)”.

At the end of both tour, we had photo opp with the City Librarian together with the OIC-Asst. City Librarian.
Motivate, Inspire and Train Through the Use of Puppets

By: Rona Crucillo

March 21, 2019 was the day to motivate, inspire, train and appreciate the art of puppetry as the District Libraries Division Head, Ms. Analiza C. Martinez together with Mr. Alistair Troy Lacasanana, Head-Children’s Corner collaborated to train the library staff from the branch libraries in the use of puppets.

It was a full of fun activity as the Basic Puppet Handling workshop was discussed and presented by our own QCPL Puppeteers. A short training workshop conducted by Mr. Gilbert Gallaza helped the library staff to experience performing with puppets and to learn other techniques. Self-confidence to perform at the back of the stage and unity behind the curtains helped them to work as a team. Stories written and portrayed by the characters through puppets that challenged and motivated the library staff to be good storytellers as they were grouped to perform.

During their group performances they had to apply what they’ve learned. Their performances were criticized by Mr. Reygiel Cruz and Mr. Jairo Valencia constructively for the better and gave their positive criticisms and advises for improvement.

With this workshop, the word PUPPET created a new meaning as in: P-practice, U-unity with your team, P-performance does not need to be P-perfect as long as you E-entertain the people thru T-training.

Top to bottom: Group photo of the QCPL puppeteers and participants; Participants from District 5 on the basic hand movement without a puppet being facilitated by Mr. Gilbert Gallaza; Participants with their team as they grouped themselves to create their own stories and manipulate with their puppet.
How would you explain to a born blind, what is color red?

True, it is impossible to do so, one might not mind thinking about it coz its indeed can’t do.

It is a fleet to delve into a course that is intended purposely for special people like, the visually impaired. Nevertheless, the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) intended to help/assist these special people in ways it can.

With the passion to serve this sector, the QCPL Publication Division organized a seminar-workshop entitled, “Braille Materials Production” on March 28, 2019 at the Conference Room of the Quezon City Public Library. It is a one-day activity intended to make the participants partly aware how blind people read, write and work, but big portion was how to produce braille resources precisely books.

Invited speakers from the NLP were indeed very well versed in their field. Ms. Lea Vilvar, is currently the Officer-in-Charge of the Library for the Blind Section of the National Library of the Philippines (NLP). She is the only blind librarian in NLP. Ms. Rica Jane S. Santos also a Librarian from the same section and she continuously develops her skills through attending seminars, workshops and trainings related to braille and audio transcriptions. Ms. Eufracia B. Cortez on the other hand, is an Administrative Staff works on scanning and transcribing books and other printed materials into editable soft copies to be converted to braille books and audiobooks.

By the way, they even brought with them their Braille equipment for the participants to actually see and use.

At the seminar proper, the brief history of the Braille was discussed. Also instruments like slate and stylus used manually by the blinds in writing and reading were exhibited. The basic of reading braille letters was taught. It was emphasized that a one-day braille production seminar will not suffice for a thorough training since it will take at least 6 months to master the Braille.

Step by step procedure in Braille materials production was explained very well, from the initial processing of the materials doing the scanning, then converting it to an editable soft copy thru the use of Optimal Character Recognition (OCR), to polishing then finalizing the translation into Braille thru the use of the software called Duxbury.

During the workshop proper, the participants tried to use the braille machine typewriter. Most were excited while some hesitated fearing they might press the wrong keys. But, two participants were brave enough to try translation of soft copy text to braille using the Duxbury.

At the end of the seminar, all the participants were glad that they had the basic knowledge and understanding in braille. And not only that. All understood that blindness is not a hindrance for a person to get stuck in the “darkness”.

The activity was successfully conducted. Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the speakers for sharing their talents, expertise and precious time, and to all twenty-two (22) participants, certificate of participation were given.

Continued on page 23
Truly, this is another innovative service for the QCPL, a project to produce Braille materials for the QC Constituents specifically the visually impaired children. The Braille materials will indeed be a great additions to QCPL’s PWD resources and will help the visually impaired clients to read thru braille books of different subjects and interests.

Kudos to the Publication Division! Our sincerest gratitude to the National library of the Philippines (NLP).
Preparing reports, tallying & consolidating are somewhat tedious tasks. But because of the perseverance of each Librarian-in-Charge and through the supervision of each District Coordinators, reports are submitted on time at the National Library of the Philippines (NLP), the QCPL’s affiliate. It is where all city, provincial, municipal and barangay libraries in the Philippines submit accomplishment reports which are then acknowledged annually, during the Librarians Conference, initiated & spearheaded by the NLP.

This year 2019, QCPL main and its branch libraries were awarded Certificate of Completion (of reports) during the Annual Librarians Conference held at Puerto Princesa City, Palawan on March 21 received by the City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva.

And last March 25, 2019, the certificates were distributed to the QCPL’s Librarian-in-charge and District Coordinators through a simple program spearheaded by the District Libraries Division held at the Conference Room, for them to be motivated & inspired for the job well done.

Team work is the key indeed. For there is a saying that “work hard and accomplish new things with unity and harmonious relationships”

Congratulations QCPL! Aim more! Aim high!
Helping to prepare teens for life after high school is one of the most important tasks a parent will have. But with the right approval, helping these teens move into the next level of their lives can be rewarding.

Going to college, getting a job, or taking time off are common choices teens face.

Concerned with the teens’ issue, the QCPL through the Masambong Branch initiated to conduct a Career Orientation Program for the students of the Masambong High School. It was conducted at the Masambong High School covered court on March 27, 2019.

The program aims to encourage, motivate and inspire these teens and for them to have an idea on what relevant career or course to take that will suit to their passion and interests.

The invited resource speaker was Mr. Zaldy C. Zulvita, an Educator and a pastor at the Global Discipleship Alliance. It was participated in by two hundred six (206) high school students.

This was a first time activity of its kind and it turned out to be very successful, of course because of the support of our City Librarian, Emelita L. Villanueva. For without her approval, this activity will never materialize.
Quezon City Vice Mayor Josefina “Joy” Belmonte, a Millenial, a Futuristic Leader and a Bibliophile, launched the new book entitled, “A Guide to the Quezon City Experience” on March 28, 2019, 9:00 a.m. at QCX Museum, with its Executive Director Richard Santuille who made a warm welcome to the guests, and an opening remarks about the book. “Reading material like A Guide to QC Experience is like a gem that should be read and appreciated...” It is a project of Do Good Studio, with Ms. Meryll Soriano, a TV celebrity, as the Associate Producer.

According to Vice Mayor Joy, Ms. Meryll Soriano and a friend came to pay a visit to her and told her dream project of coming up a guide book...places in QC, maps, Districts...where to stay; Eat in iconic restaurants; shop; hangout...and many more...away from the traditional coffee table book...something for every generation...which identifies the City for its culture and arts. It is a grand plan for a publication to 3.2 million population of Quezon City.

A “Guide to QC Experience” will be very helpful for the travelers, students to reinforce, understand, and appreciate the different places and things to do in Quezon City. Furthermore, they want to appreciate the City itself, endowed with rich history of the past. A guide for an opportunity to the people to explore QC.

Vice Mayor Joy also acknowledged the presence of the Department Heads which has connection and relation in the promotion and marketing of the book like the City Librarian, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva who even asked by the good Vice Mayor about the donation to our library, and the possible marketing and selling to the public. Ms. Reggie Samson of CCC, Ms. Divine Pascau of Tourism Department were also present among others.

Moreover, and for the information of our readers, QCPL is really not a traditional library. It is the first public library to have a Publishing services and hopefully soon to have its own bookshop with the passing of the Ordinance to sell QCPL published books as well as City’s other reading materials.

The Vice Mayor also emphasized in her talk that Quezon City is a progressive and innovative city of the future, a millennial city, with complete gamut, clean and green environment, a city of freedom, wifi connected and automated. Known for culture and exhibits and where talents can be expressed. It has also passed city Gender Ordinances to protect LGBT, to protect women, of no tolerance to crime offenders, and city with value for money.

The Vice mayor further stressed that QC is full of potential to business and the best City in the Philippines, which everyone happily agreed.
The 1st QCPL Youth Spoken Poetry Slam was another new activity initiated by Quezon City Public Library through the leadership of our City Librarian Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva. It was spearheaded by QCPL-District IV Libraries composed of Cubao, Galas, Krus Na Ligas and Roxas Branches. This event gathered some nine (9) public junior and senior high schools with 15 students within the District IV of Quezon City.

The schools who participated were the following:
- Quezon City High School
- Ramon Magsaysay High School
- Krus na Ligas High School
- Flora Ylagan High School
- Don Alejandro Roces High School
- Manuel A. Roxas High School
- Dr. Josefa Jara Martinez High School
- Eugenio M. Lopez Centyfer for Media Arts Senior High School
- Jose V. Palma Senior High School

Slam poetry is a form of performance poetry, that combines the elements of performance, writing competition and audience participation. The name slam came from how the audience has the power to praise or sometimes, destroy a poem and from the high-energy performance style of the poets. The concept of slam poetry originated in 1980 in Chicago.

This activity was conducted in celebration of 60th Public Library Day with the theme: “Libraries Click when the Local Officials Lead”. It was held at SM City Novaliches last March 27, 2019. The contestant who stood out to this competition was a student from Eugenio M. Lopez Jr. Center for Media Arts Senior High School, Mr. Kim Angelo Umayam with the support of his coach Ms. Ibarlin Tome. It aims to foster camaraderie among the students of different schools in District IV area, to show the talents of the students in slam petry, and to promote and make aware the people of the existence of public libraries.

The activity was also graced by an intermission dance number by some of the younger & talented QCPL personnel.

When the youth’ wrote what is meant to be read out loud, they SLAM!

Photos on pages 28-29
From the top: The QCPL personnel with the City Librarian Emelita L. Villanueva (2nd row, sitting 4th from the left); the participants from various high schools who received consolation prizes with Ms. Jennifer R. Adajo at far left.
From the top: SM Asst. Mall Manager Ms. Angeli Luna receives the Certificate of Appreciation for approving SM Novaliches to be the venue of activity; Alliana Marie De Leon 2nd placer from Jose V. Palma Senior High School (3rd from left); Anna Rachel Abel 3rd placer from Ramon Magsaysay High School (2nd from left).
Design and Build an LFL awarding

By: Alistair Troy B. Lacsamana

(From left to right): Representative teachers from Bagbag Elem. School, Dr. Amelia B. Nuguit (Bagbag Elem. Principal), Hon. Coun. Eric Medina, Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte, Ms. Emelita L. Villanueva (City Librarian), Ms. Natividad P. Bayubay (School Division Office, Superintendent), Dr. Heidee F. Ferrer (Education Program Supervisor, SDO), Mr. Alistair Troy B. Lacsamana (Head, Children’s Corner), Ms. Mariza G. Chico (OIC-Asst. City Librarian), Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal (Marketing Section of Publication Division), Hon. Senator Risa Hontiveros, Hon. Coun. Lena Marie Juico and Hon. Coun. Hero Bautista.

The Quezon City Public Library and School Division Office presented the winners on the “Design and Build an LFL Contest”, March 25, 2019 during the flag ceremony at Quezon City Hall.

The contest was conducted from April 2018-February 2019 with the judges from one school to another.

Bagbag Elementary School takes the first place in the contest, followed by Betty Go Belmonte Elementary School then Bagong Silangan Elementary School.

This contest encouraged stakeholders’ involvement in building mini libraries through the establishment of the Little Free Libraries (LFL). It has tapped the school’s alumni, school administration, staff, teachers, former teachers, parents, students, barangay officials and companies. The contest also emphasized the importance of libraries especially in schools.

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