PHSAK Launches ‘PHSAKO’

Catherine Regina Borlaza

The Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) opened AY 2013-2014 with the launching of PHSAKO, a program that aims to revive and reform the culture and tradition of the school through various projects for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and parents; and the rehabilitation of school facilities (See sidebar).

The program, initiated by PHSA executive director, Dr. Victor Emmanuel Carmelo “Vihie” Nadera Jr., began with the earlier roll-out of the Annual Nationwide Search for Young Art Schoolers (ANNYAS) from the usual December to September of this year, to cover more ground and attract more applicants.

Meanwhile, art talks by established artists (dubbed “Yakag”), a lecture series by successful alumni (called “Alumnayan”), and career talks by industry and academe professionals were made staples in the school calendar to enrich student experience.

To boost morale, monthly birthday celebrations for students (dubbed “Dakutan”) and for faculty and staff (called “Pataki-Pataki”) are also held.

Other projects included in the program are the plans to produce a coffee table book and free seminars and workshops on the arts to be conducted by PHSA students; the establishment of a PHSA basketball team (to be called the Ambassadors of Goodwill); and the renewal of ties with Goethe Institute and other cultural centers that would broaden the artistic and cultural horizons of PHSA scholars are also in the pipeline.

PHSAKO will also include the Director IV’s plans for each major, among them: to have the first Makiling Creative Writing Workshop; bring the dance majors around Museong Makiling for visual artists to exhibit their works; the launching of “Kids Team (Teach & Learn) Kids”, a lecture series by industry and academe professionals, and for faculty and staff (called “Yakag”), a lecture series by successful alumni (called “Alumnayan”), and career talks by industry and academe professionals; to have the first Makiling Creative Writing Workshop; bring the dance majors around Museong Makiling for visual artists to exhibit their works; the launching of “Kids Team (Teach & Learn) Kids”, a lecture series by industry and academe professionals.

CD project featuring PHSA alumni (tentatively titled “Kawarantha”), in preparation for the 40th anniversary of PHSA in 2017. Fund-raising campaigns involving PHSA graduates are also in the works.

The launching of “Kids Team (Teach & Learn) Kids”, a lecture series by industry and academe professionals, and for faculty and staff (called “Yakag”), a lecture series by successful alumni (called “Alumnayan”), and career talks by industry and academe professionals; to have the first Makiling Creative Writing Workshop; bring the dance majors around Museong Makiling for visual artists to exhibit their works; the launching of “Kids Team (Teach & Learn) Kids”, a lecture series by industry and academe professionals.

PHSA welcomes 3 new personnel

Teresa Pauline Ibajde

The PHSA has appointed three new personnel to beef up its roster this AY 2013-2014.

Dr. Vim Nadera, Flaudette May Datuin, and Maria Victoria Jimenez were named Director IV, Art Studies 3 and 4 teacher, and Guidance Counselor, respectively.

Nadera was a former member of the PHSA Advisory Council. He is an award-winning poet, fictionist, playwright, and opera critic.

Datuin, on the other hand, is a visiting instructor. She is the Associate Professor in the Dance Division at the Asian Institute of the Philippines (AIP) Diliman.

Meanwhile, Jimenez is a licensed guidance counselor who obtained her master’s degree in UP Diliman.

‘Perya ni Andres’ raises funds for Yolanda relief

Lucia Gregilda Dario Lora
Norbien Domingo & Svetlana Riguera

To mark Andres Bonifacio’s sesquicentennial, the PHSA, in cooperation with Museo Pambata, put together “Perya ni Andres”, an event which aims to commemorate the revolutionary hero and to raise funds for the victims of the super typhoon Yolanda.

The one-day public event, which was held at the Museo Pambata along Roxas Boulevard, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on November 30, featured performances from PHSA students and appearances from National Artists for Literature Virgilio Almario, F. Sionil Jose, and Bienvenido Lumbera.

Proceeds from the games and booths shall go directly to Yolanda victims.

According to the event press release, “[t]here were eight adjoining booths, representing the diversity of the Katipuneros, who came from different provinces. Each tent had its own exciting and educational activities. There will be a relata, betol-betol, palabot, crafts booth, tessellation, memory games, and other perya games.”

Student pianists Nathan Domigan, freshman; Janna Petia, sophomore; and Warren Garrido, senior, flew to Matsumoto, Japan, to join the Suzuki World Conference on March 28. The event was held at different venues in Matsumoto including the Matsumoto Performing Arts Center.

Meanwhile, student pianist Matthew Calderon, senior, attended the 2013 Summer Piano Institute and Festival on June 16. The workshop was held at the Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University, in Singapore.

Ibarangs, PH reps abroad

Riva May Layana

Five students of the PHSA flew out of the country to represent the Philippines in various international events held in different countries in Asia.

Student pianists Nathan Domigan, freshman; Janna Petia, sophomore; and Warren Garrido, senior, flew to Japan to receive an award after winning the competition held by the International Foundation for Arts and Culture, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. She was the sole representative of the Philippines in the International High School Arts Festival. Her winning artwork entitled “Song Dosenang Mukha: Art in Unison” was exhibited at the National Art Center of Japan together with the artwork of PHSA alumna Corinne Caro (Quirino-Valera ‘13).

Visual arts student Camille Cabilinan, senior, went to Tokyo, Japan to receive an award after winning the competition held by the International Foundation for Arts and Culture, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. She was the sole representative of the Philippines in the International High School Arts Festival. Her winning artwork entitled “Song Dosenang Mukha: Art in Unison” was exhibited at the National Art Center of Japan together with the artwork of PHSA alumna Corinne Caro (Quirino-Valera ‘13).
Waiting for alleged change

George W. Bush said, “The worst of Nature brings out the best in our fellow human beings”. To that, we could add, “it also brings out the worst from its people”, based on the tragic onrush of unfortunate events that succeeded Yolanda. “Slow response” was blamed on our government with how they mishandled, or rather, how they’re trying to handle this feat of mass destruction; and if some of the government officials were to help, their names and faces would be stamped in whatever relief goods they hand to the victims. It is rather inhumane to still manage to put ourselves first in times when we really need, more than ever, to embody the bayanihan spirit. The world has stepped up to help our country with generous donations and humanitarian missions. However, it would be easier to rehabilitate and recover the areas that were damaged and wiped away by the wrath of Yolanda if only we felt the presence, support, and love from our national government. Local governments could rekindle their leadership and regain peace and order amidst the trauma they’ve been through, but they’ll need the national government as well to provide the needs of their provinces.

How P-Noy will react or handle these current situations will tell how great or how weak his presidency is. For now, it seems like the glory of our country in slowly rising up from the muck and ravage Yolanda left behind, is really in the faithful hands of the Filipinos who are eager to help others, and also in the hands of, surprisingly, some of our old colonizers and foreign friends who bonded with our people to regain the greatness of our nation once more.

REKINDLING HUMANITY

The “Alumnayan” series is an interaction between the PHSA community and its graduates through scheduled sessions of lectures and activities. Unfortunately, though it hopes to inspire students, it was viewed as a mere inconvenience by some of them. Originally envisioned to reach out to people in the exchange of knowledge and to reconnect them to their roots, the “Alumnayan” program was accorded invited alumni the opportunity to share their experiences as students, and current students to share theirs as well. At the same time, this series of talks served as an alumni homecoming of sorts. With this, the exchange of thoughts and experiences hoped to motivate the students to do well in the field they chose to pursue. While this was the initial objective, the “Alumnayan” has evolved into more of an interaction.

From the previous session, there was a dearth of activities where students and teachers could learn. Much time is consumed by student discussion, instead of using that time for hands-on work. To be frank, the “Alumnayan” is just as interesting as listening to an artist talk or a curator doning on about an exhibit in a gallery. Its being held on a monthly basis alarmed many, for it seemed that a lot of time would be wasted sitting through a lecture instead of reverting back to their respective majors. This project talks about everything yet produces hardly anything. It might be best if it provided better opportunities for the community to get to know our alumni. Of better yet, the time the activity takes up should be divided so the Waiting for alleged change

new chapter where we are reassured that we’re in the right hands. It wasn’t long before the students began to appreciate him for being there and for actually having plans for the school.

What a lot of people doubt is if these plans will actually be realized, or if plans will be thrown into the pile of scrapped ideas we’ve been collecting for years. Some arts of the PHSAKO program are already taking place and are already coming to order. However, as with most cases, plans are launched, die halfway through, until they are forgotten. It is then that the PHSAKO fails to achieve its objectives. Hopefully, after so many years of waiting and years in making this program work for the betterment of the school. If not, then it only means that we are not doing enough to make the school a better place. And when we are able to pull through, there are endless possibilities of extending the program, including the provision of needed facilities like better computers, or a Creative Writing room.

With a more secure and plaid system and with a present and dedicated leader, the school will flourish.

THE PHSAKO program, created to ensure that all sectors of the PHSA community are included, offers opportunities for the students and the alumni to showcase their talents. However, these plans, no matter how well-thought out or well-organized, if not efficient and not taken action into, will not make any sort of change to the school. Some arts of the PHSAKO program are already taking place and are already coming to order. However, as with most cases, plans are launched, die halfway through, until they are.

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community can not only learn about the alumni, but also learn new things to help hone their craft. It needs to focus on experiences like having small workshops that would benefit everyone by learning about art fields besides their own. This creates a better understanding that will influence us student artists.

After all, experience proves to be a better teacher than just another lecture.
**Out in the open**

Compared to the rest of Asia, the Philippines is arguably the most open-minded towards homosexuality (despite being dominated by the Catholic faith). Prominent figures in the entertainment industry are openly gay, and most of us find nothing wrong with that. It is ironic, however, that when a celebrity admits to being a homosexual at the height of his career, the revelation is met with mixed reactions.

Hoping to put to rest speculation for putting her sexual orientation, pop singer Charice Pempengco finally confirmed that she is indeed a lesbian. While her confession garnered applause from all around, it also caused several of her long-time supporters to turn on her. Pempengco said that she expected such, but hoped people would accept her for who she is.

The loyalty of these "supporters" is rather questionable. Thinking on average, everything about the singer they grew to love and revere. However, they may now be that she is being honest about who she is. It is clear from the court’s decision as a huge step toward gender equality. It’s said that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community is constantly misunderstood and mistreated. Homosexuality isn’t some disease. We should treat anyone differently or judge them for who they choose to be. Even the current head of the Catholic faith Pope Francis was heard saying: "If someone is gay and seeks the Lord with good will, who am I to judge?" Past our sexual orientations, we’re all the same. I think it is best we begin treating each other as such. I often find myself going over this quote from late grunge pioneer Kurt Cobain. "I’d rather be hated for who I am, than be loved for who I am not!"

While some may disagree. Jade妃n Pempengco’s courage in choosing to come out. In fact, I think we should be taking pointers from her and Mathis.

While we cower at the fear of being judged, they can proudly announce to the world who they are. Unlike the rest of us, they are at least comfortable with themselves. And I find nothing wrong with that.

**Keep on rolling**

“Our hearts go out to the victims of the Boston Marathon Bombing, and our thoughts are always with them and their families... The fact that Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is young, and in the same age group as many of our readers, makes it all the more important for us to examine the complexities of this issue and gain a more complete understanding of how a tragedy like this happens.” - The Editors (Rolling Stone)

It’s a sad thought, but it can be considered from this young man’s story that the youth today are pushed too far from their limits. Family and school are often the root cause of the youth losing their minds and giving up. An even worse thought, is what the public see from this article.

The fact that they see the young man’s actions glorified and not what really happened, it says much about their failure to look at things from a different angle and their lack of incentive to dig deeper into the cause of each action. Maybe this controversy says less about the Rolling Stone, and more of the society and their values.

**Letters to the Editor**

I wish that there would be no fallouts for AY 2013-2014. I also wish that there would be heaters for all the dorms. I wish that everyone respect and be courteous to the minds and hearts of everyone.

- Maria Victoria Jimenez
  Resident guidance counselor

Since the PHSA administration has prioritized the installation of CCTV cameras, I wish they would also prioritize the broken washing machines.

- Beatrice Goyena
  Senior creative writing major

I wish that there would be more interaction between students of different majors in the PHSA and between the students and non-students of other schools.

- Svetlana Rippera
  Sophomore creative writing major

**Matias.**

A light-hearted visual commentary that sheds light on student issues

- Katrina Catalan

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**Survey**

**How were you changed or reborn in Makiling?**

“I guess my perspective on different art fields [became] more open and I learned how to use my talents and skills for my field, and how to collaborate with others.”

- Roberta Santos, freshman visual arts major

“I became more [friendly] and more independent. I became more active because of my batchmates, roommates, new friends.”

- Angel Joyce Esteban, sophomore music (viola) major

“How I studied changed. At my old school, I didn’t bother to do so well. I didn’t even try to sleep late for my studies. With my scholarship in Makiling, I value my grades and the scholarship itself, enough to even stay awake till dawn just to finish my assignments.”

- April Jasmin Rosales, junior theater arts major

“I took a huge role of being guardian and mother to all 143 students in Makiling. I changed how I handle kids and it isn’t my duty as a guard to give advice to the Ibaa run, but I still do because it’s my duty as their mother.”

- Elgen Manguerra, lady guard

“I tried to learn more based on my experience here. If I wanted to know about something, I sought advice and information from elders or other people to improve myself.”

- Cristina Narvasa, Health and P.E. teacher

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**Letters to the Editor**

I wish the student lounge would be open all the time.

- Robert Santos
  Freshman visual arts major

Keep on rolling

Keep on rolling after Mathis was barred from using the female restroom in her school. Prior to the case filing, Mathis was only permitted by Eagleside Elementary School to use the male restroom and the clinic’s restroom. This is because Mathis was born male, but has identified as female since the age of four. The school reasoned that “his” use of the female restroom would make the other students uncomfortable. Rolling Stone then was taken out of Eagleside in favor of home schooling, the court’s final decision ruled in favor of young Mathis.

Transgender advocates everywhere saw the court’s decision as a huge step toward gender equality.

It’s sad that the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community is constantly misunderstood and mistreated. Homosexuality isn’t some disease. We should treat anyone differently or judge them for who they choose to be.

Even the current head of the Catholic faith Pope Francis was heard saying: “If someone is gay and seeks the Lord with good will, who am I to judge?” Past our sexual orientations, we’re all the same. I think it is best we begin treating each other as such. I often find myself going over this quote from late grunge pioneer Kurt Cobain. “I’d rather be hated for who I am, than be loved for who I am not!”

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The Philippines went through a lot of turmoil and bloodshed as a result of the Revolution of 1896. The country's治理结构 had been weakened and disorganized, making it easier for Spain to impose its rule. The revolution was led by Andres Bonifacio, who eventually became the leader of the movement. Despite lacking a formal education, Bonifacio proved to be a man of vision, able to look beyond the materialism of his time and think of the future.

The Philippines' struggle for independence was a key factor in shaping its modern identity. The country's history is intertwined with its people's efforts to gain freedom from foreign rule. The revolution of 1896 was a turning point in the country's history, as it marked the beginning of the struggle for independence from Spain. The revolution was led by Andres Bonifacio, who eventually became the leader of the movement.

Despite lacking a formal classroom education, Bonifacio proved to be a man of vision, able to look beyond the materialism of his time and think of the future. He was a key factor in shaping the country's modern identity. The revolution of 1896 was a turning point in the country's history, as it marked the beginning of the struggle for independence from Spain. The revolution was led by Andres Bonifacio, who eventually became the leader of the movement.
**JUNE 2013-JANUARY 2014**

**TRAVELOGUES**

**The (Really) Big Apple**

After an exhausting ten-hour train ride through America, we pulled unto the Grand Central Station amidst a faint drizzle. Still, I wasn’t irritated, even if we only had flimsy hoodies to keep us from getting wet as we dragged out suitcases through the crowds. After all, I was getting rainied on in New York City.

“It’s not practical to own a car in New York,” I remember my cousin saying, the morning we set out. “Everyone either rides the train, gets a taxi, or walks.”

And so throughout our three-day trip, we traveled to every single one of our destinations by foot. In New York, where sidewalks are four times the width of those in Manila, walking allowed us to fully take in the famous city, with its crisp, cool air that smelled faintly like shaved ice and giant skyscrapers that decorated the skyline.

Our first stop was the 9/11 memorial, where we explored the very site of the infamous 9/11 attacks on America’s World Trade Center. Where the two towers had been knocked down by hijacked airliners, four new buildings loomed above us, their silver edifices glistened almost blindingly under the afternoon sun. Various memorabilia were sold, the most poignant being a flag of the United States made with the names of those who had perished in the incident.

Still, the highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the sight of Times Square in the night time. Everything about “the center of consumerism” was larger-than-life: an array of huge lights with assorted colors. There was nothing natural about the place—one could never expect to feel the breeze or hear the rustle of leaves—but it wholeheartedly embraced its artificials, making Times Square unforgettable picturesque in a way no other place could.

It was drizzling again when we boarded the train, and as we dragged our suitcases across the streets of New York one last time, I still didn’t mind.

Because after all, I was getting rainied on in New York City.

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**Bali, Indonesia**

Almost the entire province is surrounded by vast, fine-sand beaches where one could sit and relax, and enjoy peace and quiet. The beach can also give you a heck of a challenge when it comes to surfing.

Historical and significant temples can be found across the island. One of the most noticeable things you would find in a province is how much the people remain intact with their traditions. Houses, buildings and even their shopping malls were built and patterned after how structures used to look. In visiting these places, you would encounter a lot of boutiques and other souvenir stores that showcase authentic Balinese products, most of which are reasonably priced, making shopping a really fun experience. Another factor that makes Bali truly world-class is their mouthwatering food. Dutch the sweets and try any Balinese delicacy, because I assure you that eating spicy food is no piece of cake.

However, the best thing about Bali is that it is none of the things mentioned above. The best thing about Bali is the people and the atmosphere, both of which engage you in belonging.

The stairs of the temple were very hard to climb because they were highly elevated and very hard to climb because of the gravity. The Khmer stairs of the temple were part of the Khmer’s daily life.

In Angkor Wat, I felt the artist working through this temple, the Khmer civilization lives on. Through this temple, the Khmer civilization lives on. With their majestic towers and architecture, their carved details on the architecture, the temple is an amazing item of ancient culture. In Angkor Wat, I felt the artist in me thirst for other beautiful and enticing artworks that represent the culture of other countries. The whole experience was tiring, but being exposed to a different way of living and culture was invigorating, and if given a chance, I would certainly go back to Cambodia.

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**Soul Adventure**

To get to Seoul, South Korea, you would most likely disembark at the Incheon International Airport, named the World’s Best Airport for eight consecutive years. The place is spotless, spacious, and bright. The airport has, with its gardens amidst the streets, people would wait for you to make a decision.

Once in Seoul, shopping is a must. Namdaemun Market, the largest traditional market in Korea, offers a wide variety of items at bargain prices. Or you may opt to take a tour with a local guide, and be missed on the Gyeongbokgung Palace, Korea’s main royal palace and the heart of the Joseon Dynasty. The most beautiful and the grandest of all five Seoul palaces, it boasts of majestic throne halls, gardens, giant trees, and a square pond with an inlet in its center. The National Palace Museum of Korea and the National Folk Museum of Korea and the Children’s Museum of Korea are also within its precincts. Meanwhile, Bastians would probably enjoy Samcheongdong-gil, a street lined with cafes, museums, art galleries and accessories handcrafted by young artists. Also a popular destination is Bukchon Hanok Village, which is packed with Korean traditional houses or “hanok”. The blue and white tiled roofs leads to the magnificent view of the surrounding villages and the Cheongwadae, the official residence of the President of Korea. For an ultimate immersion into Korean culture, the Asian Art Museum with its diverse exhibits is a must-see. Add “Travel to Seoul” to your bucket list, and experience a treat for your artistic soul.
crib? Or did he finally burn the house while she slept, like he said he would? Did he use the bat this time and buried her under the remains of their baby’s something was pinning her to the ground. Something hard, something heavy. She tried to move, but her body couldn’t carry her own weight, and she felt as though her husband had beaten her into submission. Did he beat her again? She tried to speak, and it was only when she had tried to wipe the water from her mouth did she realize how much her body was aching. It was like the time she tried to speak, and it was only when she had tried to wipe the water from her mouth did she realize how much her body was aching. It was like the time her husband had beaten her into submission. Did he beat her again? She tried to move, but her body couldn’t carry her own weight, and she felt as though something was pinning her to the ground. Something hard, something heavy, Did he use the bat this time and buried her under the remains of their baby’s Did he beat her again? She tried to speak, and it was only when she had tried to wipe the water from her mouth did she realize how much her body was aching. It was like the time her husband had beaten her into submission. Did he beat her again? She tried to move, but her body couldn’t carry her own weight, and she felt as though something was pinning her to the ground. Something hard, something heavy, Did he use the bat this time and buried her under the remains of their baby’s...
The Weather Report
A POSTSCRIPT TO PABLO
DIANNE MAY E. TORRES

The numbers are out:
714 dead, 800 missing, 1,906 injured
eight days post-landfall—
not names nor faces, nor what they
meant(?) to those left behind.
No one measured the stench
death over our town,
the salt of our tears.
No one counts the times
thunder jolts us awake,
sleepless nights
prayers said,
how lost.
The numbers are out:
cost of damage, help deployed
and still to come.
No update on the state
of our dreams, whether (or how)
you can weather this destruction.
Ibarangs take art trip to Laguna
ASHMEE GARDMA

The Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) student body was given the chance to visit different places in Laguna during the Art Around the Lake Field Trip organized by the school faculty on June 19.

The field trip doubled as a photo and caption contest. Groups, arranged by the Student Council, were tasked to take pictures of the places and caption each picture, some of which have completed a total of 10 pictures per group by the end of the trip. The best photos will be picked out of them.

The tour included visits to Pila Church, the Pila Municipal Center, the Santa Cruz Provincial Hall, the Santa Cruz Arts Center of Laguna, the Santa Cruz Church, the Lumban Church, the Paete Church, the Pakil Church, also called the El Shaddai Church, and the man-made Caliraya Lake.

These sites have been part of the cultural heritage of Laguna for a long time and deserve to be known by the public. Some have survived high-magnitude earthquakes, and others have been surviving for years. All the sites are located around the lake, hence the field trip name ‘Art Around the Lake’.

‘Aninong Makiling’ show in Museo Pambata
ARTURO V. AGREGADO

The PHSA visual arts students have officially started their shadow play project on since February until Hall, Roxas Blvd, Manila.

PHSA admits 37 new scholars
By AY 2013-2014, the PHSA accepted 37 young artist-scholars out of the pool of auditioners in the last year’s ANYSAS.

Wider roads before tall buildings
O N E P E N L E T T E R T O T H E L O S B A N O S M A Y O R

Barungs recently welcomed Dr. Victor Emmanuel Carmelo "Vim" Nadera Jr., playwright, poet, performance artist, and psychologist, into the community as the PHSA’s Director IV for the next six years. But what else do we know about him?

That is a man of both arts and sciences! Dr. Nadera actually graduated from USJL with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology in 1984 and a Master of Arts in the Arts of Psychology, cum laude, in 1996. He received his PhD in Philippine Studies with a specialization in Philippine Art from the University of the Philippines in 2003.

What opened his eyes as a young artist was viewing Stop Trafficking of Filipinas. Since then, he has conducted poetry therapy for cancer patients in Metro Manila and has been active in the performance poetry scene. He is also award-winning writer and author of numerous books.

PHSA students go on exploration trip

The theater arts and creative writing students witnessed Musika Ibarang heard on local radio

Musika Ibarangs heard on local radio

Ibarangs birthdays marked monthly

Students of the PHSA have been attending “Dakutan”, a monthly get-together to celebrate Ibarangs’ birthdays. Held every last week of the month, the activity aims to instill stronger bonds and relationships among the Ibarangs. The Student Council, with the help of PHSA executive director Dr. Vim Nadera Jr., gives out a small token for the celebrators and organizes games and activities for the whole community to participate in.

Nadera hopes that this will be an Ibarang tradition to be continued in the years to come. (LEGISLA DAÑO)

PHSA administers 37 new scholars

For AY 2013-2014, the PHSA accepted 37 young artist-scholars out of the pool of auditioners in the last year’s ANYSAS.

The new batch was named Joya-Montano for National Artist for Painting, Jose T. Joya and National Artist for Theater, Severino Montano. Batch Joya-Montano consists of two creative writing majors, 16 visual arts majors, seven folk dance majors, eight ballet majors, three theater arts majors, and seven music majors.

The annual Muya’t Lakan and Freshman Night for the new batch was held last June 13, hosted by the senior class Alcuz-Avelarana. (JAMES JONSEL LAMANTO)
GADGETS REVIEW

Techy spur of innovation

Is having a two-in-one gadget even necessary? Introducing the phablet, a kind of smartphone that features a screen measuring from 5.0 to 6.9 inches and designed to be used as both a phablet and a smartphone, these gadgets make mobile web browsing and multimedia viewing a lot easier. Other features such as increasing screen power efficiency and longer battery life make the phablet popular for techies. Along with those advantages, you can also watch movies on the go or try unlimited web surfing without having to worry about losing battery. Also, phablets are cheaper and more practical than buying a high-end smartphone or a tablet separately.

An uprising of the geeky glasses

Though critics have different opinions about the phablet, it is up to us, consumers, if the phablet would be a hit or a miss. The phablet may be “a fad and some techie experts say that the phablet is a technologically terminal device for it may possess amazing features it brings us, for technology. With the phablet, the online world takes on the challenge with a bang. As increasing screen power efficiency and longer battery life, the phablet becomes the most groundbreaking and sought after gadgets of the year.

While Reuters says that 2013 is “The Year of the Phablet some techie experts say that the phablet is a fad and will not last long.” Others say that the phablet is one of the most groundbreaking and sought after gadgets of the year and it is too early to judge. It is no lie that Apple has been one of the world’s pioneer smartphone producers, providing one of the most popular mobile devices before its Google counterpart released the Android operating system. Apple has the tendency to rise, with the notable war between Apple and Android, students would even be home-schooled.

Phablet fad

MARIELLE BEATRIZ VILLAS

iOS 7 vs. ANDROID 4.4 KITKAT

LIGIA GERILDA DABOY

Apple has been one of the world’s pioneer smartphone producers, providing one of the most popular mobile devices before its Google counterpart released the Android operating system. The function of the little organ becomes more accessible. The internet, your favourite band and much of everything is tangible. You can talk to people three hundred miles away, you can talk to people three hundred miles away, you can talk to people three hundred miles away, you can talk to people three hundred miles away, you can talk to people three hundred miles away.

Google Glasses is like a smartphone with a touchpad at the side of the glasses. Slide it backwards and it shows current events and news, like the weather. Slide it forward and you get informed about past events and information about your phone like calls, photos, and videos. The Google Glasses even have a five-megapixel camera and a 16G storage and face detection.

Google Glasses can help people with their jobs or with work. Most professionals go to meetings, report, memoranda, or emails onto computer day in and day out. Image has now work done on a virtual screen anywhere through voice command. Admittedly, the brick-and-mortar working world has been slow in allowing employers the independence to use such a new tool would allow. Students would even be able to use the glasses to be “home-schooled”.

It’s not that hard, really. Everything is on the internet with the phablet, Books, movies, music, games, can watch the answers to your math homework. Through simple voice networking becomes so much easier. You can talk to people, three hundred miles away, order pizza, do group projects, ask for tutorials, and even post pictures of your family to friends. (Ryan #nofilter). You can look up the names of your old kindergarten friends on social networking sites and you might be able to come in contact with them, get back in touch, or you can bookmark the blog of your favourite band and keep track of their latest albums or concert tour is going on the internet, through the click of a button, making the world much and much of everything in the world - from pizza to your family - so much more accessible.

According to a recent survey by the ITU World Telecommunication Development Report in 2013, over 41% of the world’s population is connected to the internet. It may look like a small number, but the current 7 billion figure of the world’s whole population, but, truth exposed, the sheer amount of people (in all our differences) makes the web the ideal platform for those seeking an audience. Why do you think there are so many powerhouses in the online world—Youtube, pixiv, deviantArt, Wattpad, tumblr, Pinterest, etc.

The Appendix Mystery Solved

JEROME ANDRE ASIS

For centuries, scientists have long wondered what the significance of the appendix was to our system. Finally, their quest and pondering has ended.

The Appendix

Scientists believe that the appendix reboots the digestive system. With the advancement of technology and our deeper understanding of science, we’re closer to solving the other phenomenon such as a better understanding of finding other life forms, or time travel. The mystery of the appendix is finally solved and could be etched out of the other billions of mysteries we have yet to solve.
**Horoscopes**

Illustrations by Artgiveson Arreglado & Maria Payb Biglete

**Aries**
Your crush will finally acknowledge your existence.

**Taurus**
But-ikot lang.

**Gemini**
The odds are in your favor.

**Cancer**
Keep your pinchers to yourself.

**Leo**
Be swift as a coursing river, and mysterious as the dark side of the moon.

**Virgo**
Caution: the CCTV is watching you.

**Libra**
Live for the applause.

**Scorpio**
Stay calm to avoid having more issues than Vogue.

**Sagittarius**
Try something different for a change; you just might like it.

**Capricorn**
Bothered by the Durant’s wake-up call? invest in earmuffs!

**Aquarius**
Beware of broken water dispensers.

**Pisces**
Just say yes already!

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**Maze**

By Artgiveson Arreglado

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**Hidden Objects**

From Variations 2011

- Tissue Paper
- Earphones
- Cockroach
- Conversi
- Weistwatch
- Stickman
- Comb
- Headband
- Smiley
- Cow
- Key
- Heart
- Crown
- Lizard

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**How to Sound Cool**

Maria Payb Biglete

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**Pintuan**

Asia Simone Entico

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**War is Hell**

Tristan Paul Guinid

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**Brain Freeze**

Andrew Constantino

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**What Happens in Gurl World**

Katrina Catalan
‘Palarong Ibarang’ kicks off; BE faculty take over games

The Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) held its annual sportsfest last October 21-24 at the National Arts Center with four teams competing for the championship crown.

The theme for this year is cellphone brands. Team Haply Hippoone bagged the top spot, followed by Gacey, Fokia, and Ebakberry. Nicole Uy, senior visual arts student, and Bryll Dumandar, freshman folk dance student, were named the Most Valuable Players of the event. Both are members of the winning team.

The first day of the event included preparations for cheerleading, and T-shirts and blusas design, while the second day was the start of some major and minor games, with the pageant and dance showdown as the highlights. More games were done on the third day which highlighted pool and table games, while the fourth day included tie-breakers and the awarding ceremony at night.

The major games included in the sportsfest were basketball, badminton, volleyball, kickball, pageant, cheerleading, and “Amazing Race.”

New management

Starting AY 2013-2014, “Palarong Ibarang” was integrated into the Basic Education (BE) curriculum to cultivate better sportsmanship among students.

From being a project of the Student Council (SC), the games were placed under the supervision of Health and Physical Education (P.E.) instructors Cristina Narvasa and the management of the seniors, batch Alcaz-Avelarana. Funds for the event, previously handled by the SC, was turned over to the BE faculty.

The seniors assisted in the games as part of their requirements in P.E. for the third quarter. They acted as program advisers, officials, “peace-makers,” equipment managers and accommodation assistants for visiting alumni, parents, and guests. The SC, meanwhile, were retained as program and guideline advisers.

Planning for the sportsfest was handled by Narvasa with SC President Jejomar Carlas and Vice-President Lois Veronicas Villar; and senior Class President Beatrice Goyena and Vice-President Meeko Camba.

Little lion men

The Smart Gilas Pilipinas National Team led by Coach Chot Reyes placed second in the FIBA Asia Championship last August. This win not only bagged the team a silver medal but also a ticket to Spain for the FIBA Basketball World Cup alongside Iran and South Korea, our country’s first entry in over thirty years.

Although the Philippines last time in the world cup was in 1978, we should not forget that we have achieved the most amongst all Asian teams, placing third in 1954 with Carlos Leonza named in the Mythical Five.

The Smart Gilas Pilipinas have won several times in the past, like placing first in the 2012 William Jones Cup. Despite this winning background, Filipino skeptics and haters were as much apart as the fans in the play of the FIBA Asian Championships.

It is sad to note that one of the largest factors that contribute to our underdog appearance in sporting events is our own skepticism for victory.

However, everybody was silenced when all odds were stacked against the team during the first quarter of their match against South Korea and Gilas Pilipinas triumphed, with even Alapag securing a three pointer at the last second. It should also be noted that our very own Jayson Castro was named in the Mythical Five.

It may be a long time since, but this is not our first feat in basketball and certainly not the last. Even with the hordes of people pegging us as the underdog, we must stand strong and united to support Gilas because they represent our country. It is only with this unifying hope, which is apparent in every Pacquiao fight, that we can truly call ourselves Philippines.

Let us stand tall and proud because we have yet to prove our full driving force as the mighty little lion men.

Senior, juniors race around UP

Students from batches Alcaz-Avelarana and Imao-Jose raced around the University of the Philippines (UP) Oval and posed next to famous sculptures and figures as part of an activity for their Arts Studies class under visiting instructor Haudette May Datuin on June 24.

Structures and sculptures the students visited included mostly created by National Artist Napoleon Abueva. Four groups from Batch Imajp, and seven from Batch Cuavella, dashed and scattered across the campus struggling to first chronology of the track. The activity challenged the strength, stamina and persistence of the students who all ended up sweaty and toiled at the end of the race.
VA executive director Dr. Vim Nadera sits atop the VA seniors’ wheelchair, “Wheel Crane City.” (Photo courtesy of Camille Cabatingan)

MARIANIE BEATRIZ VILLAS

VA students, teachers, and alumni participated in the “Hapi Wheelchair Parade” at the Mind Museum in Fort Bonifacio, Global City, on July 20.

The participating artists were encouraged to turn their wheelchairs into vibrant and colorful art pieces. Visual arts seniors Justine Erika Abe, Mark Neal Alday, Camille Cabatingan, Maui Antony Barberano, Roni Joni Reyes, Jehanne Marie Sanchez, Nicole Jeanne Ng, and Marielle Beatriz Villas collaborated to design a wheelchair made out of wood, cardboard, wire, and resin.

Dr. Victor Emmanuel “Vim” Nadera Jr., PHSA executive director, also participated in the event by doing performance art. During the parade, Nadera sat on the students’ wheelchair as a traffic enforcer.

Visual arts teachers, Marc Vincent Cosico, Leo Evaristo Leonardo, and Don Salubayas, as well as PHSA alumni, Kawayan de Guia (Abueva, ’96), and Leeroy New (Villa-Celerio, ’03), were also participants. They joined the parade around Global City along with other known artists in the industry.

The wheelchairs were displayed at St. Luke’s Medical Center Global City afterwards. An exhibition that followed aimed to commemorate the birth anniversary of Apolinario Mabini, who was heralded as the sublime paralytic.

The activities were undertaken to highlight the celebration of the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week, and were presented by the Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine, Bonifacio Art Foundation, Inc., The Mind Museum, and St. Luke’s Medical Center, Global City, Taguig.

TA alumna gains best actress nom in Cinemalaya

AMINA RAQUEL MATAYA

Theater arts alumna Krystel Valentin (Quirino-Valera, ’13) was nominated alongside major theater and film actresses Irma Adlawan and Eugene Domingo for her performance in “Purok 7,” a film directed by Carlo Oliva from the Regional Film Council of Bulacan. Valentin plays the role of Diana, a 14-year-old country girl, who struggles as she and her younger brother, played by Migs Cuaderno, await the fate of their OFW mother who has been convicted of drug trafficking in China.

Variations, CWs bag DSPC awards

Magdalena, Laguna—Having gained recognition both in the individual and group contests, Ibarangs once again prove that creative writing (CW) and campus journalism can successfully go together.

Three CW majors took home awards in the English category of their respective events in the Division Schools Press Conference (DSPC) held on October 17-19 at the Amihan Lakeside Medical School, Paola Bettina Mauricio, editor in chief, bagged second place in Feature Writing; Catherine Regina Borlaza, Science & Technology editor, won second place in Editorial Writing; and Beatrice Goyena, emerged fifth place in Copyreading and Headline Writing.

Meanwhile, Variations, PHSA’s official student publication, landed fifth place in the Best School Paper as the featured artistic group in “Paco Park Presents” on July 12.

TheMusika I barang is part of Gomez’s goal of having students perform off-campus more frequently so that they get exposed to new venues and new audiences. “Ako ngayon ngayon tayo just perform for batch recitals. I try to give them the best venues in the most unlikely places,” he said.

MUSICIANS GRACE PACO PARK

CATHERINE REGINA BORLZA

Musika Ibarang, the resident music company of the PHSA, was the featured artistic group in “Paco Park Presents” on several Fridays of the months of June, July, and August at Paco Park, Manila.

The Musika Ibarang performances, organized by PHSA’s resident music program coordinator Gj Hernandez Gomez, started on June 28 with freshman guitarist Samuel Asistores, junior violinist Joy Sevillano, and senior pianist Matthew Calderon.

Meanwhile, junior guitar major Lyon Lopez, senior voice major Meeko Camba, senior clarinet major Andrew Constantino, and senior violin major Raphael Espada performed on July 12.

The activities were undertaken to highlight the celebration of the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week, and were presented by the Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine, Bonifacio Art Foundation, Inc., The Mind Museum, and St. Luke’s Medical Center, Global City, Taguig.

CW faculty wins Palanca

SVELTANA RIGUEZA

Nadeth Rae Rival, PHSA’s resident creative writing pro gram coordinator, was conferred the first prize in the 63rd Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature on September 1 at the Peninsula Manila, Makati City.

Rival, 23, won first prize in the English Short Story for her work entitled “Marvin’s League of Superheroes,” about a young and aspiring visual artist who creates illustrations of Filipino national heroes.

The Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature was established in 1950 to promote literary works of Filipino writers.