



#DLSZYesToLife: High School students partake in the Noise Barrage and Prayer Walk last March 8 against House Bill 4727 or the Death Penalty Bill, which was passed in Congress the previous day. Read full story on page 11.



DLSZ EdTech Story: The Beginning of a New Chapter

by Laurice Sy

Passion met action last February 20-22, 2017 as a group of De La Salle Zobel High School's finest teachers and students traveled to the SMX Convention Center to attend EduTech Philippines 2017 - a convention of conferences and exhibitions tackling "21st Century Education for All in the Philippines." Ms. Emelita Baylon, Ed-Tech Coordinator; Mr. Daniel Encinas,

HS English Teacher; Mr. Symbol Fabellon, HS Physical Science Teacher; Mr. Mark Mendoza, HS Math Teacher; Ms. Nancy Resma, HS Vice Principal for Operations; Mr. Richard Lasap, HS Science Coordinator; and Seniors Fides Morales and Laurice Sy took part in this enriching experience.

Continued on page 2.



Edgar Desher Empeño Makes it to Muntinlupa's 10 Most Outstanding Students

by Laurice Sy

Edgar Desher Empeño (DLSZ 2019) was awarded one of the coveted *Ten Muntinlupa Outstanding Students* (10 MOST) awards held in Ayala South Park last January 26, 2017. Fourteen-year-old Empeño is De La Salle Zobel School's youngest and 22nd recipient of 10 MOST in the past 24 years.

The Ten Muntinlupa Outstanding Students is an annual search which gives recognition and honor to exemplary students in all public and private high schools of Muntinlupa. With his mentor, Ms. Emelita Baylon, Empeño submitted a Portfolio of Academic Achievements and went through a panel interview, IQ examination, and Talent Portion to certify his meriting the award.

"I searched for sample questions online and found resources to prepare for the IQ

test which was in the form of the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT). I also practiced for a talent competition, which was probably the most nerve-wracking part of the competition. I sang, played the ukelele, and performed a poem. I prepared for a panel interview with the help of an alumnus, Kuya Kino Sevilla. Miss Emie Baylon helped me with the preparations," Desher shared. Upon receiving his award, he also got a chance to have breakfast with Mr. Jaime R. Fresnedi, the incumbent mayor of Muntinlupa City, and went on a week-long trip to Muntinlupa National High School, Muntinlupa Science High School, and Pedro Diaz High School to give inspirational talks.

Truly an inspiration, here are some words he shared: "Nothing should be an obstacle to what you want to achieve. Anything can be possible, but this could only happen if
Continued on page 2.



DLSZ Robotics Team Receives DSTC-Wyeth Kid Innovator Recognition

by Ma. Loren Elena C. Juaban

Following the successful participation of the DLSZ Robotics Team at the 18th International Robotics Olympiad in Beijing, China, the Philippine Robotics Team, in partnership with Wyeth Nutrition, has chosen the DLSZ Robotics Team to be one of the recipients of the DSTC-Wyeth Kid Innovator Recognition. The special

recognition ceremony and Press Presentation of the 18th IRO Beijing Winners and Wyeth Nutrition Awardees was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Pasig City on February 22, 2017. The following Lasallians were given recognition: Joaquin Gilberto Rosales Amante (DLSZ 2018), Chiara Felicia Gabrielle V. Amisola (DLSZ 2018), Raphael Antonio Caguiat (DLSZ 2023), Bianca Nicole Casimiro (DLSZ 2023), Aedin Hunter Clay (DLSZ 2019), Star Rycher Ealijah Guico De Leon (DLSZ 2021), Beatriz Ysabelle Costes Escalona (DLSZ 2021), Bjorn Isaac Costes Escalona (DLSZ 2023), Zara Alexandra Genuino (DLSZ 2024), Chelsea Lianne Tan Gomez (DLSZ 2023), Nathan Rafael Villa Recto (DLSZ 2020), Jaden Coen Reyes (DLSZ 2023) and Song Meen Joo (DLSZ 2018).

Among the DLSZ Robotics Team members, the following were also chosen by Wyeth Nutrition Philippines as the recipients

of the special award called Wyeth Nutrition Kid Innovator Award: Zara Alexandra Genuino (DLSZ 2024) – Grand Champion Wyeth Kid Innovator, Chelsea Lianne Tan Gomez (DLSZ 2023) – Grand Champion Wyeth Kid Innovator, Bianca Nicole Casimiro (DLSZ 2023) – Grand Champion Wyeth Kid Innovator, Bjorn Isaac Costes Escalona (DLSZ 2023) – Finalist Wyeth Kid Innovator, Jaden Coen Reyes (DLSZ 2023) – Finalist Wyeth Kid Innovator and Raphael Antonio Caguiat (DLSZ 2023) – Finalist Wyeth Kid Innovator.

Upon the request of the Philippine Robotics Team, Zara Alexandra Genuino has been invited to be featured on a one-on-one interview by Ms Issa Litton. The said interview, which will serve as documentation for the promotions of Wyeth Nutrition, will be published on newspapers and magazines and aired on CNN, Fox News, GMA and many more.

Edgar Desher Empeño Makes it to Muntinlupa's 10 Most Outstanding Students

by Laurice Sy

Continued from page 1.

you put your mind and heart to it. Hard work and faith in God are things that you always need to get what you want; and when you face problems, don't forget to ask for advice from your teachers, family, or friends! Trust me — it always helps to have a support system and a responsible personality. Just don't forget to give it all back to the school and com-

munity... Also, remember to do your best as a student, because at the end of the day, that's what you are!"



Photo credits: travelbook.ph

DLSZ EdTech Story: the Beginning of a New Chapter

by Laurice Sy

Continued from page 1.

merous seminars and network with different companies and start-ups in the three-day event. True to their commitment to service, the DLSZ community didn't fail to give back as the contingent spearheaded the following seminars throughout the conference:

"Affordable Innovation (Transforming Your Technology Strategy Through Free Online Tools)", a roundtable discussion by Ms Emie Baylon

"Incorporating Blended Learning into the Curriculum to Improve Both the Quality and Equality of Teaching and Learning", a seminar by Ms Emelita Baylon

"Is delivering K-12 education through blended learning the solution for resource and funding deficits?" a seminar by Ms. Emie Baylon

"Blended Learning Unpacked", a workshop facilitated by Ms. Emelita Baylon and Mr Daniel

Encinas

"Power to the Pupil Panel: Aligning Pedagogy with Pupils (Are We Using Technology Effectively in Classrooms?)" , an open forum where a panel of four students from Ateneo (Ino Eala and Luigi Soliven) and DLSZ (Fides Morales and Laurice Sy) gave insights on the topic.

"Google Apps for Education in my Science Classroom", a seminar by Mr Symbol Fabelleon

"Microsoft OneNote in Performance Tasks", a seminar by Mr Daniel Encinas

"Authentic Interdisciplinary Integration Through Technology", a seminar by Mr Mark Mendoza

The embodiment of Lasallians being the spark of the change they wish to see was evident in this convention, and their story has just begun. Guided by the light and passion of St. John Baptist De La Salle, the future promises to get brighter.

Travelbook.ph Meets with De La Salle Zobel's Green Bloggers

by Toni

Anne Reyes, TravelBook.ph

TravelBook.ph held an educational event last February 02, 2017 for some students of De La Salle Santiago Zobel in Muntinlupa City. The lecture and workshop, entitled Blogging 101, was attended by the student members of De La Salle Zobel's Green Bloggers Club and is the first of the many events this year by TravelBook.ph for its Affiliate Program to connect with bloggers—both aspiring and professional. Spearheaded by the company's Business Development Team and the club's adviser, Mr. Rhodora Espiritu, the "Green Bloggers" learned the basics of blogging and the different opportunities it has in store for them.

Blogging 101 began with a short talk about the nuts and bolts of blogging and its money-making opportunities. The TravelBook.ph Business Development team also lectured on affiliate marketing, including the pro-

cess of joining affiliate programs, from registering their respective blogsites and the application of promotional tools.

It was not just the typical talk and workshop for the Green Bloggers as the two-hour discussion also encouraged the students to pursue blogging, not just a hobby but as a business venture that they can start at a young age. It was a fruitful event that made the students more curious, challenged, and knowledgeable about the blogosphere. Of course, they were also invited to join the TravelBook.ph Affiliate Program for good measure. This event would not have been possible without the support of the following generous sponsors: Nissin Cup Noodles, Jack N' Jill Tivoli Wafer Bites, Get Go Philippines, and Lazer Xtreme.

DLSZ Erudites Club Advances to Global Rounds of World Scholar's Cup

by Sofia Suarez

Bagging several awards in the regional rounds of the World Scholar's Cup (WSC) held in Miriam College last February 5-6, one of De La Salle Zobel's academic clubs, Erudites, advanced to the global rounds of the competition which will be held in July 2017.

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) club collaborated with Grade 10 and BrafenHS to form this delegation headed by Alyssa Oresca and their moderator Ms. Addie Zaballero. Below are the teams that competed in the said event:

Team 310: Alyssa Nicole Oresca (Batch 2018), Jeri Cambas (Batch 2018) and Andrew Medina (Batch 2018)

Team 311: Marco Mendoza (Batch 2018), Diego Miguel Reodica (Batch 2018) and Marcus Topacio (Batch 2018)

Team 312: Methuselah Dela Cerna (Batch 2018), Natassia Valerio (Batch 2018) and Jan Ruiz (Batch 2018)

Team 313: Andrea Jean Medi-

na-Cue (Batch 2018), Jennifer Gwen Marie Serrano (Batch 2018) and Chia Amisola (Batch 2018)

Team 315: Dennise Gabriel (Batch 2018), Angelo Cantimuban (Batch 2018) and Mary Almazan (Batch 2018)

Team 316: Hanie Andrade (Batch 2019), Bea Francesca (Batch 2019) and Esther Tabungar (BrafenHS)

Team 317: Jenelle Uadan, Miles Salvacion and Sheikfiona Belga

Team 318: Kyle Arbas, Julia Louise Cabardoc and Kirsten Cruz

Team 319: Kyla Natividad, Jay Ann Comillo and Nicole Reyes

Unlike most competitions, WSC put an interesting twist to common classroom topics. Themed "An Unlikely World", the event had six sub-areas of study: Special Area - Modern Mythologies, History - A History of Conspiracies, Science & Technology - Shoot for the Moon, Social Studies - Predicting the Future, Arts & Music



Photo provided by Ms. Adrienne Zaballero.

- Fragments of an Improbable Universe, and Literature - Voices of the Almost Impossible. Critical thinking, reading, writing, and speaking skills were tested in four events: Collaborative Writing, Team Debate, Scholar's Challenge (in standardized test), and Scholar's Bowl (a buzzer game similar to "Kahoot").

"Our main strength was understanding of the topics. Since we understood the topic, we were able to form arguments that directly answered the motions in the debates and we provided valid rebuttals to our opponents' arguments," shared Diego Reodica.

"...All it really took was hard work, and teamwork, helping each other

along the way, as well as having the constant thought of representing the school, [and] perhaps even the Philippines..." Natassia Valerio shared when asked how they were able to succeed despite their difficulties.

"...The sacrifice was definitely worth it and we had no regrets at all," Alyssa Oresca stated.

It surely was no easy feat, as there were around 400 participants from all over Luzon competing to advance to the global rounds where teams have the option to choose from three locations: Hanoi, Vietnam; Athens, Greece; or Cape Town, South Africa. The Erudites have yet to decide the next arena to conquer.

Zobel Parliament Breaks to Quarter Finals in SLIDE UP

by Laurice Sy



De La Salle Zobel's very own **Zobel Parliament** achieved yet another milestone when they joined the national tournament dubbed South Luzon Inter High School Debate Encounter (SLIDE UP) held at UP Los Baños last February 25-26. The hardworking Lasallian debaters advanced as far as the octo-finals, with Team A breaking to quarterfinals. On top of this contingent break, they bagged a **Top Speaker Award** as well.

Team A consisted of Quintin Chua (DLSZ 2019), Ken Alunan (DLSZ 2019), and Joannah Vazquez (DLSZ 2017); Team B consisted of Raymond Tiuseco (DLSZ 2020), Laurice Sy (DLSZ 2017), Desher Empeño (DLSZ 2019); and Team C consisted of Corinne Sison (DLSZ 2018), Dro Sta. Ana (DLSZ 2017), and Janna Medrero (DLSZ 2019).

Teams B, A, and C broke fifth, ninth,

and fourteenth, respectively. Teams B and C ended their run at octo-finals, battling against St. Scholastica A and Ateneo Senior High School B. On the other hand, Team A triumphed over Philippine Science High School Main Campus B and proceeded to clash with Ateneo Senior High School A, ending at quarterfinals.

Raymond Tiuseco was recognized as the 7th Best Speaker of the tournament, with the rest of the Parliament's members not far behind.

It was an uphill slope for the Zobel Parliament, as they faced seasoned debaters like Ateneo Senior High School, La Salle Greenhills, Miriam College, Xavier, Philippine Science High Schools—to name a few. This Asians Parliamentary debate competition had a total of 52 participating teams, which meant a total of 155 speakers.

DLSZ SHS Participate in Philippine Development Youth Congress 2017

by Sabrina Peralta

A group of DLSZ Senior High School students was selected to participate in the Philippine Development Youth Conference 2017 held at Ateneo De Manila University last January 21. Participants in the conference represented all four of the SHS academic strands: Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Accounting Business and Management (ABM), Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS), and Arts and Design (A&D).

The social media conference mainly tackled topics on practicing online etiquette, digital marketing, and using social media as an online platform to address the

country's political, economic, and societal issues. Speakers ranged from college students like Alo Lantin to professionals like the Chief Digital Officer of ABS-CBN Corporation, Dr

Donald Patrick Lim. The day consisted mostly of workshops, breakout sessions, and interactive keynote presentations from the speakers to the audience, making it easier for both sides to express their thoughts and feelings.

The event was filled with a collaborative and eager atmosphere created by its delegates, creating a one-of-a-kind experience. At the end of the day, one thing is for sure: Social Media truly did take centre stage during the youth seminar, proving itself once more with enormous potential as the milieu's new, powerful, and chosen platform for digital awareness.



The delegates of DLSZ. Photo taken from the Official PDYC 2017 Twitter page.

As 2017 greets us, we have to face the reality that our incumbent president is Rodrigo Duterte. The problematic guy you always see on your Facebook timeline, probably cursing a nation is our president. We need to respect the Commander in Chief of our country, and that's important for the progress of our country. But sometimes, that's not even possible anymore. So for those who, like me, irk at the fact that he's our current president, here's a guide on how to survive the six-year Duterte presidency. Use this guide while you still can. We are all probable victims of extrajudicial killings, and we will probably get killed at some point and be blamed as drug pushers to satisfy the president's flawed agenda to end the use of illegal drugs in the country.

First, don't participate in the comment section of a social network site. But if you want to see the ignorance, hateful, misogynist, bigoted comments of Filipinos, then be ready to face the worst consequence of your choice. But I'm just warning you, the horrendous screams of "dilawan", the firing of hate messages, and the ever loved bad grammar of the Duterte supporters can be seen in this part of any social network. Just don't look and continue on scrolling through funny memes.

Speaking of memes, there are many



Editorial Cartoon by Loren Juaban

A Guide on How to Survive the 6-Year Duterte Presidency

by Josh Valentin

unreliable memes out there that spread false information about current events which lead to the next tip—**do not believe everything you see on social media.** Do not believe those badly edited memes, and unreliable Facebook pages (I'm looking at you, Mocha Uson) that only spread

lies and hate. Follow reliable news sources instead, and do not believe that they're biased. The Facebook pages that claim to be "reliable news sites" and are "unbiased", that preach that reliable news sources are biased are (not surprisingly) the ones that are biased. Did you get that?

Listen to each opinion and value it. This is one of the weaknesses of Duterte supporters. Just because they think that someone's opinion is biased or the person that says this gets paid to say their anti-Duterte opinions. Don't be like them and learn to see both sides of the story, and value those opinions.

Actually, another tip: **be safe and don't comment anything that's anti-Duterte.** The comment section in your post will blow up with comments like "biased", "bayan", and more offensive reactions! Actually, scrap that. Use that freedom. When you see hate, you can stand up and be against it. Call out offensive remarks in general, anti-Duterte or not. Understand that they too want to point their grievances out through social media, but they just do it in a rude way.

Lastly, just be a kind person. Stand out against the rude comments, one-sided arguments, bigotry, misogyny, be nice instead. Let the Duterte supporters, just like the man they support, just blabber and keep talking without substance whilst you be a good digital citizen. Let them be like the man they support and be the menace in social media. **Just stand out and be the better person.**

general concept of beauty.

As the pageant shifts and develops, so does its purpose. As such, the message may get lost in translation to the point that people would view it as only a competition of outer beauty. In that sense, Miss Universe becomes a rivalry among women to see who would rise above and be crowned as the best one out there. This causes it to cater to the current culture of pitting women against each other and perpetuating our beliefs of "not being like other girls"; however, the pageant has candidates from all over the world, telling their own stories and having different styles and personalities. It honors women and chooses to see that all the candidates fighting for the title are equally deserving of receiving it; each of them possesses unique attributes that make her worthy enough to even be considered as the next Miss Universe. Given this, we must work towards redefining its purpose as a pageant. We must constantly keep in mind that this pageant tells us to celebrate the women in our lives, to be reminded of their value and the fact that women don't always have to fight for their place.

As noted earlier, over the years, the Miss Universe pageant's impact on women has changed to become what it has now— one that is empowering, but also one that may be a source of pressure for women, especially younger girls, because of the high standards set by this competition. With the wide influence of social media, it is now harder to control the way people perceive the pageant. The media often trims the content of the event to only certain parts; then deviates the attention of the viewers from the true purpose of the entire pageant. Because of this, the

pageant can sometimes strike insecurity and comparison among women, especially when it comes to their body image. It distorts their perception of beauty, which is the total opposite of what Miss Universe aims to do. It is supposed to show the world that beauty comes in all forms, and that what matters the most is the confidence and passion from within.

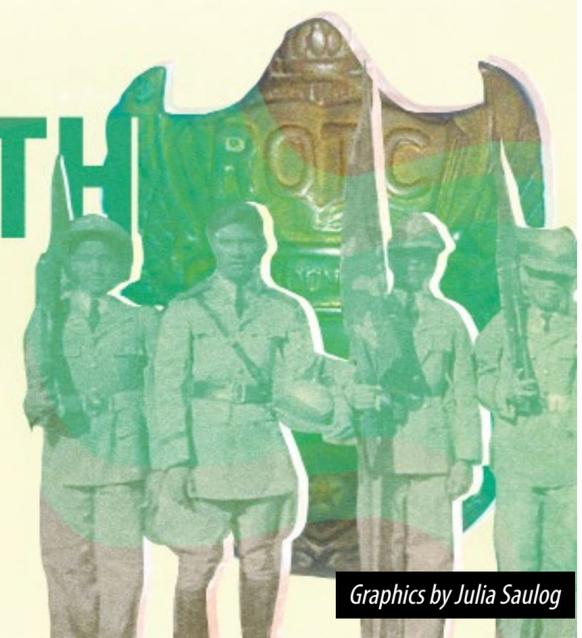
It is known that the winner of the Miss Universe pageant becomes a public figure, a beacon of charity all over the world. We think that this is the best part of this pageant because it is when the candidates redirect the attention from themselves and into something that makes an even more meaningful impact on people: their advocacies. The pageant has a good purpose at its core, as it gives the winner an opportunity to live out their advocacies and personal goals, and to go out and contribute to alleviating humanitarian issues. The other candidates, however, are not given the same chance to do so. Charity or humanitarian work is something that should not be available selectively, and we believe that all the women in the pageant should be given the opportunity to be exposed equally to the different parts of the world, especially the ones usually left unreached by others. Doing so would allow the pageant to send a less stereotypical, standardized and eliminative message, especially to women. It would show everyone that regardless of their background, looks or race, they can use what they have — which in this case is their image as models — to help others.

The pageant still has a good purpose

Continued on page 5.

THE REBIRTH OF R.O.T.C.

by Gerard Ignacio, Jaimie Salvador, Lia Salvanera, Lianna Cabigas, Loren Juaban, Raphael Llanes, Sabrina Peralta, Traci Sonoy



Graphics by Julia Saulog

Recently, the topic on Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) has dominated different news channels and social media sites around the country. Millennials, most especially those incoming Grades 11 and 12 students, have been voicing out their outrage at or support to the controversial program.

But what is the ROTC? The ROTC is a military education and training program that teaches students national defense preparedness. Originally for male college students, President Duterte has approved this mandatory program to be implemented for all Senior High School students in both public and private schools. The thing about the ROTC is that it has both pros and cons, which people honestly tend to forget.

So what are the pros of the ROTC? In this generation of technological advancements, where students glued to their gadgets all day, the ROTC could be beneficial for the students of the SHS program. First and foremost, the obvious physical conditioning it provides the students considering the fact the ROTC is meant to be a military conditioning and training program. The students would undergo the extreme physical regimen, akin to what actual soldiers of the Philippine military go through. It would improve and enhance the general health and fitness of the Senior High School students, which is something that the students honestly need in today's day and age. A lot of teenagers may

overlook it, but military training is not just purely physical, such programs also develop one's mindset. Discipline is one aspect that comes to mind when talking about the ROTC. Just as how disciplined the soldiers of the Philippines are, the ROTC's numerous activities imbue discipline through and through. Its strict and stringent plan forces the students to step up and act up.

"Patriotism, love of country, moral and spiritual values, respect for human rights, and adherence to the Constitution." This is the goal of the said program, according to Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol. As troops go through everything together—from eating meals, doing drills under the sun to marching with their guns—they are taught the values of organization and solidarity. The ROTC could quite possibly reignite the innate patriotism and overall love of country that, honestly, this generation has lost and forgotten. The pride of being a Filipino, which is currently slowly fading into the distance, would be reborn, so to say, with the reinstatement of the ROTC in the curriculum of Senior High School.

However, let us not forget that the ROTC has its respective disadvantages. Its past—notably the tragic story of Mark Chua—is arguably the most questionable trait about the program. In fact, it was the tragic fate of Chua that paved the way to the abolishment of ROTC through Republic Act 9163 (National Service

Training Program Act of 2001). The program has known to be prone to abuse by its some senior officers who take advantage of their positions and privileges, leading to controversies such as the fate of Mark Chua. Moreover, this program will be an added compulsion to an already strenuous schedule for Senior High School students. The stress of day-to-day school activities and the anticipated pressure coming from the ROTC may be too much for them to handle. Think of those who struggle academically; now, imagine them with the added pressure from the ROTC as they cope with the indefatigable demands of the classroom!

So, what exactly should we think of ROTC? Is it something generally beneficial to us students?

Or is it detrimental to our current lifestyle and schedule, being nothing more than a needless program? Honestly, no one can say for sure, especially since it hasn't even started yet. The ROTC can be likened to a coin. It has two very distinct sides, in this case, its advantages and its disadvantages. On one side, you have the patriotism and readiness that comes with the program; on the other side, you have the program's shortcomings and demands. The ROTC could quite possibly prove to be a complete success and could be considered a revitalized program, or it could be classified as yet another abject failure. Then again, that has yet to be seen and it will only be seen once the ROTC starts rolling into the different schools all around the country.

The Heart of Miss Universe

by Mikee Almalvez and Sofia Suarez *Continued from page 4.*

at its core; it just needs to be presented more carefully through media. There are also women who choose to defy the norm and to beat the standards set by society for what models, or women in general, should look like. A concrete example would be Miss Canada, who chose to compete even when her body was not like a typical model's body. She was able to represent majority of the women in the world, who do not have lean or slim figures, and for that, she should truly be given recognition. She was able to redefine the meaning of beauty and advocate the values of confidence and contentment with one's own body. This brave act was able to reiterate the purpose

of Miss Universe, and hopefully, it has started something that would continue to improve the pageant as a whole.

Miss Universe sets standards for ideal beauty — inside and out — but we must never restrict ourselves to these standards. We must remember that the concept of beauty is subjective — there are many interpretations and it is mostly a matter of personal preference. Beauty is everywhere; it is diverse and inclusive and does not come in only one form. Through Miss Universe, hopefully we are able to achieve that kind of perception and find that there really is beauty everywhere if you care to look.

The Heart of Miss Universe

by Mikee Almalvez and Sofia Suarez

Graphics by Julia Saulog

Running for over 60 years, the Miss Universe pageant has been celebrating women — beauty, brains, and heart — and empowering them to be 'confidently beautiful'. It has greatly evolved over the years, growing with each woman crowned. The judgment of each candidate has gone past

the mere standard of beauty, extending to their education and their ability to empathize with others. Diversity has also increased, progressing from the dominance of the fairer skinned to the representation of women of color, thus continuing to help us in molding our understanding of the

1. Choose your strand wisely.

DLSZ offers four strands: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), ABM (Accountancy, Business and Management), HUMSS (Humanities and Social Sciences) and Arts & Design. If you're confused about which strand to take, do your own research and ask your Grade 11 friends about it, but never ever settle for a strand if your reasons are similar to "because it doesn't have math" (usually said in choosing strands like HUMSS and A&D). With choosing your strand, you are already deciding which path you'd like to take for your career in the future. Also, take note that everyone still takes the basic subjects like Filipino, Math, Science, etc. regardless of their chosen strand, along with the special subjects such as PE and Computer.

2. Don't underestimate the change you'll go through.

Senior High School is like the Cosmic Inflation; you go through a sudden, accelerated period of change and expansion. It will definitely take you by surprise and if you don't step up your *tiyaga* game, it would be hard for you to get through. When your teachers tell you that Grade 11 is different from your previous years, they *really mean it*. Lessons go ten times faster with each subject lasting only one term, and the amount of pressure obtained from this is definitely higher because you don't have the chance to redeem yourself if you don't do well in a subject (as your teachers will reiterate countless times), but just keep yourself motivated! It won't be as hard because you will be in the strand you desire, studying subjects you will find interesting which may help you in the future.

3. Cherish your time with each teacher

One of the many things unique about Senior High School is that the set of subjects you will take each term does not remain the same all throughout the rest of the year. Due to this frequent change of subjects each term, the set of teachers you would have will change as well. While there are still teachers you may have again for another term (advisers are permanent for the whole year), there are those you may not encounter anymore. Now, time together with your teachers is more limited as compared to before, so *do not take them for granted*. Embrace the lessons they teach you—both in and out of their subject—and be good to them. After all, despite how little time you have with them, they are still your guiding light during this period of your high school life.

4. Don't let one subject get you down.

You will be going through so many different subjects—old and new, easy and hard, chill and tedious. Some of them will be more suited to your interest and skill than others. Those subjects that really ar-

Batch 2018's DECLASSIFIED SHS Survival Guide

by Counterpoint Batch 2018

Senior High School resembles a more collegiate chapter of your high school life. It is quite the journey, one that may be filled with confusing detours and crossed roads, but rest assured that no matter the situation, you will always fall back into the right path as long as you believe that you will. To make this journey all the more memorable, here are 12 pieces of advice that will guarantee that you get to see all the wonderful scenery Senior High School has to offer while you are en route to your final destination: *graduation*.

Note: Results may vary.

en't your thing would be so much harder to stay attentive to and study for, but just keep pushing! Don't stop trying your best because in the end, no matter what grade you get, what's important is that you did everything you could. Always remember that everyone has their strengths and weaknesses, and when one (or a few) subjects bring you down, know that there are other things you are good at. Let that idea motivate you to keep going no matter what.

5. Every minute of every day counts. Use them wisely.

With eight (8) hours in class and an erratic number of schoolwork—not to mention organization meetings, training and practices, and various unforeseen events—it seems as if the hours in a day are never enough. Time for sleep, exercise, and sometimes even eating is constantly being sacrificed just to get everything done. To avoid this, it is important to practice effective time management. When you have a task to accomplish, start as soon as possible. Putting something off just starts an endless chain of procrastination and a large pile of unfinished activities that will haunt you later on. *Do not cram*. Take advantage of your free time and ICL (Independent Cooperative Learning) periods to work on needed tasks. Of course, don't forget to allot time for your other interests as well, but be flexible. Time should be your greatest ally, not your worst enemy.

From group theses to individual es-

6. Coffee and Google Docs are your new best friends.

says, reflections, and pair drafts to be submitted before a certain time period, undeniably Senior High School will load you with a lot of deadlines. In order to keep you from turning into a zombie within your first term, SHS students have trusted upon the magical powers of caffeine and Google Docs. Immediately, you will find the app convenient when doing your group/pair works because of the user friendly and collaborative interface. On the other hand, caffeine is known to keep you awake for hours, so before the school year starts please do stock up on your coffee beans,

instant powder mixes, and canned or bottled coffee (keep it in moderation however, see tip no. 7). You will need it.

It's completely understandable if you

7. Remember to take care of yourself and others.

want to put your academics first; securing a good score on that paper *should* be important to you. However, amidst all the tests, homework, and performance tasks, remember that health is also a top priority. In general, taking care of your own mind and body is essential; but from a logical perspective, being in good health and sound mind can help improve the quality of your work. Fit enough self-care into your school day itinerary by learning proper time management, and while you're at it, spread some tender loving care to your friends, too. Offer a share of your *baon* to someone who hasn't eaten breakfast. Send gentle reminders of sleep to those who are online at ungodly hours of the night. Little acts of kindness go long ways, and it'd be tough to get through Senior High School without a support system.

Criticisms are a part of life. Despite

8. Be open to criticisms.

the amount of effort you put into a research paper, term paper, or essay, criticisms are still bound to appear. This does not mean that your work is unappreciated, however. Remember that criticisms offer room for improvement, and your *teachers always mean the best* when they give you one; so don't be too upset or angry. Let those criticisms be a guide to better improve your school outputs. After all, once those criticisms have been addressed, what is left is only an output deserving of a perfect score.

Remember that you are still human.

9. It's okay to feel frustrated.

You are prone to feeling negative emotions as much as you are prone to feeling more positive ones. Thus, feelings of frustration, anger and sadness are inevitable; you are bound to meet them, and the same saying especially holds true while you are in Se-

nior High School. It is no doubt that there will be times that the strength of your heart will be put to test, and although you must learn to be strong, often times *it's okay to show that you're not*. Don't be afraid to let someone know that you are struggling; *you are not alone*. Cry if you must, vent to a friend, classmate, or teacher if you need to; whatever it may be, *just let it all out*, and it helps. After all, once all those pent up emotions have been talked about and let go, you would be able to continue achieving Senior High School with an even stronger version of yourself.

10. Every struggle comes with its reward.

SHS is hard. Annoyingly, tiringly, painfully, and awfully hard. The thing to remember, however, is that everything in this world comes at a price. Nothing in this world, whether you like it or not, is free. And that's not entirely bad, because it makes achieving a goal much sweeter. The same goes for Senior High School. It is surely no walk in the park, but that feeling of pure ecstasy that comes after just one semester makes everything worth it, not to mention the amount of knowledge, experiences, memories, and preparation you gain after Senior High School. It might seem daunting at first, but in reality it's great, really great!

11. Consider every opportunity that comes.

While your grades are a vital part of your life as a student, you should also consider the opportunities that come with high school like new organizations, various competitions, and after-school activities that only come once in a lifetime. You might not be able to find anything similar to that after you graduate. So find a school activity that will cater to your interests. If there are no available clubs and organizations in school, you can start your own club or organization. Senior High School provides you with an opportunity to do just that, so grab it if you must. And you don't even have to limit yourself to school; there are a lot of happenings and events going on outside of school such as seminars, workshops, and the like. Step out of your comfort zone and expand your horizons.

And for a bonus tip, don't forget to enjoy! Remember, Senior High School is still high school, despite all the college vibes you will be getting from this time in your life. Take time to see your friends, learn something new, and just cherish your life in general. After all, Senior High School is just a portion of your life; you have much more to look forward to right after.

CoPo
BATCH 2018

February 4, 2017 was truly a night like no other as the Juniors and Seniors celebrated colours, creativity, and artistry in this year's Prom.

Vivant took place in Dusit Thani Hotel, with a setup so picturesque, it looked like a scene from a painting brought to life. Vibrance was very evident from the start to the end. Steffie Laurel and Richard Juan hosted the event and injected vivacity and liveliness into the atmosphere as they went around interviewing the young ladies and gentlemen gathered at the venue. When they were not hosting on stage, there were performers instead keeping up the effervescence. Various student bands and music groups such as MLC and Shipwreck shared their talents. Aside from student bands, there were music groups from outside of school such as Kundirana, and surprising solo acts from budding singer-songwriter Jan Ruiz and famous rapper, Curtismith.

Throughout the night, various awards were given out. This year's pre-



and Angelo Buencamino were standouts among the Juniors, just as Jill Panginiban and MJ Ozamis were for the Seniors, the four being recipients of Head Turners awards. Stags did not go unnoticed: The stags of the nights were Ally Sengco and Paolo Cruz for the Juniors and Nina Rubio and Mico Cruz for the Seniors. On the other hand, Prince Gaiser and Bianca Maniquis stood out among all the other couples and were named Couple of the Night. Of course, Prom is not prom without its royalties. Elijah Valdecantos and Alyana Militante were crowned Prom Prince and Princess while Josh Mendiola and Dian Seranilla were crowned Prom King and Queen. The crowns and sashes added to their elegance and dash. The dance floor was cleared and the two couples had their moment together before everyone else started invading the dance floor again.



Before enjoying the rest of the night, everyone took the time to pay attention to the turnover ceremony where Jill Panginiban, Katrina Bisuña, and Zoie Garcia passed down wisdom to Alyana Militante, Jaimie Salvador, and Nina Enriquez in the form of art materials and metaphors. Alyana also made mention that this year's prom committee broke records and created history by having the most number of Senior attendees. Before the clock struck midnight, almost everyone was found dancing the night away on the dance floor. Some were found by the photo booth trying to grab some last minute photos, while

others just relaxed with their friends or their dates. In that moment, every inch and every corner of the ballroom was filled with smiles, fun, and enjoyment. In this scenario, you could see the true meaning of prom: It's not about snagging the highly coveted awards or standing out in your suit and gown; it's not even about finding the perfect date. It's a time where we can fully enjoy ourselves and be one with our classmates, teachers, and friends without having to worry about academics.

Photos courtesy of D-Tailed Imagery Co.



TEACHERS SPEAK WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT WITH A STUDENT?

The flowers are blooming, birds are chirping and somehow we know Summer is near. We've yet again survived another year. We couldn't have had as much fun without our beloved teachers. They've contributed all we've learned this year; not just lessons in class but also lessons we can use in life. So lets end this year looking back on this year and seeing the most memorable moments of our teacher's with their students.



"It's when a student approached me and told me she's going through that time. I was able to share with her some things that I learned when I was at her age. Somehow I knew that the knowledge I was imparting to my students will be forgotten as time goes by. But I hope that as they encounter lots of things, the was I see life and live would impact and help them. Moments like this is definitely one for the books. Fun fact, I ended up crying with her."

- Ms. Arizza



"One of my students never finishes answering his assessments. Since Term 1, he leaves most of the questions unanswered especially the understanding part. I always put a note on his paper encouraging him to even try. Until last week, during our formative assessment, he decided to answer his assessment on his own and even asked for my help. We had one on one discussion during PreCal time. In the end, he said that he understood the topic. Since then he's been performing in well in the succeeding assessments and was even excited to take them because he knew how well he prepared to answer such. That's one of many fulfilling moments I have as a teacher. It truly pays to see my efforts encourage students to better themselves."

- Ms. Donnalyn Briel



"Memorable moment for me is when students tell me to calm down when I am nervous because I keep asking 'are you nervous?' Another is when students make an account for all my song lines or commonly used expressions like 'echosera, maling mali ka,' or the airplay codes."

- Ms. Emie Baylon



"My most memorable moments with my students are always the 'kwento sesh' after class. As each student approaches me and tells his/her stories and asks for advice, I am more than motivated. Love those times!"

- Ms. Addie Zaballero



One Great Teacher: Ms. Aldea

by Dottie Bayang and David Bayang

Once you reach high school, you tend to become complacent with your special subjects. You give less than a hundred percent during class, and you submit works and presentations that are apathetic. Despite how negligent you can get when it comes to these subjects, you still manage to get passing, if not high grades. The teachers handling these subjects become additional random faces you see in the hall because of the less frequent meetings in a week. There are some cases where they will teach you lessons that have no practical application and they will suddenly leave your life without having any bearing whatsoever.

Though there is an exception, and that is Ms. Ardel Aldea. She manages to touch your heart and leave a great impact

on your life.

Ms. Aldea has a style of teaching that is radical and distinct. She teaches a lesson about anything with such zeal and purpose rather than apathetically clicking the forward arrow to get through all the slides in her PowerPoint presentation. And if that isn't enough for you, she always has amusing activities that serve as an outlet for you to apply what you have learned. For example, if you are learning a certain indigenous instrument, after your practical tests, you will have the opportunity to perform any OPM song using a variety of instruments so long as you incorporate the indigenous instruments in your ensemble. How you plan to do that is up to you. Ms. Aldea's passion is quite contagious and along the way, you will find out

that you have been transfused with some of her enthusiasm for the subject, if not all.

When it comes to the way Ms. Aldea treats her students, she is impartial and relatable. She takes into consideration that not everyone has the same talents and abilities, but she firmly believes that everyone has potential. That is why hand in hand with impartiality is her ability to relate to everyone: the activities that she designs are something that can be done by anyone because she knows what her students are capable of.

One of Ms. Aldea's most remarkable features that she will forever be remembered for is her *tough love*. Even when it comes to the smallest details and mistakes, she will take the time to rebuke you, but this is not to be seen adversely. In fact, you can even approach her and try to make her understand your side of the story; she will take the time to listen and to respond accordingly. In the long term, you will see that her reproof was meant to mold you into a better person.

Altogether, Ms. Aldea is the epitome of an excellent teacher. She makes the most out of her subject, even though it is just seen as a special sub-

ject by most of her students. She helps you understand the topic, but if necessary, she will prioritize giving a life lesson over her lesson plan for the day. From that perspective, Ms. Aldea has accomplished her job as a teacher, even going beyond the call of duty. She is not just a teacher but also a mother, a friend, and someone to just jam with and have fun.



Photos by Kyla Buan

Play Review

by Mikaelle Karo



The play "Kwentong Asyano" was held in the Sylvia P. Lina Theater by the DLSZ Theater Company. It was an all student cast guided by the Cultural Affairs Office in partnership with the Philippine Education Theater Association (PETA). The student shows were from January 30 to February 2 while the Gala show was on February 3. The play was a collection of folk tales throughout Asia, specifically from Japan, the Philippines, Korea, and Vietnam. Each folk tale is rich in the culture of the country it is from.

The plot was composed of four different stories, all connecting in the end. Each story was a folk tale from a different

Asian character. The first one, a folktale from Japan, was centered on a young rabbit, who wanted to explore the world. She managed to trick some crocodiles into getting her to the next island. Realizing they've been tricked, the crocodiles then attacked the rabbit. The rabbit was left defenseless and alone, and at that moment two police officers came by. They were investigating a case of a broken egg. There were many different people who were accused of breaking the egg. In the end, it was revealed that the real culprit was an emotion, namely fear.

The next story was about a young man who fell in love with a fairy. He kept her in earth for some time, before she convinced him to let her see her sisters again, one last time. However, she wasn't allowed to return and the man found a way to her world. In the end, he was trapped in the mortal world because of a mistake he made. The last story was about a tax collector and a child. The child's parents owed money to the tax collector. One day, the tax collector went looking for the parents but instead found the child. She made a promise to the child and had a fly as their witness.

The tax collector then tried to revoke the promise but it was proven that the fly was an adequate witness, and the promise was kept.

The stories were culture-oriented and interesting. Although, at times, the storyline can be somewhat confusing. There are some parts where you don't really understand what is happening. Especially since the entire play was done in Filipino. In Zobel, I'm sure there are many people who do not have Filipino as their main language. Considering this, not everyone was able to understand the play, especially since some parts were poetic.

The cast is an all student cast, with students from across all levels, including the elementary grade levels, as the actors. Majority of the actors portrayed their characters well. Although they had an active, noisy, and potentially distracting audience, they never seemed to go out of character. Their movements were fit to that of how the character would move. The emotion they showed was properly. The grade school members were especially impressive, considering

all the lines they had to memorize, the emotion they had to show, and their age.

The stage props and costumes were impressive, especially for an all student cast. The props definitely set the mood of the scene, with lights changing colors based on the mood of that particular scene. In addition, the music, lights, and other effects were all timed perfectly. The costumes were simple yet they effectively portrayed the culture of the country. That and the make up also helped set the mood and give the audience an idea of the character's personality.

Overall, the play was good. The storyline was interesting and appropriate, even if some parts were confusing. The characters were portrayed well, and the props were good. The audience was also supportive and cheering for the actors somewhat consistently. I would suggest for them to mention the titles of the folk tale each story was based on, so that the audience may do some extra reading in case there was confusion. However, despite all of its flaws, I would say the play was still a good one.

The Senior Batch Has One of Their Last Bonding Moments



by Via Balcita

Batch 2017's ears rang with music at the Annual Graduation Songwriting Competition headed by the high school Music Department and held in the Center of Performing Arts Building last February 7, 2017.

In an interview with the creator of the event, Ms. Marceline Flores (known by her students as Ms. Marce), she told of how the idea first came up. "Using a popular graduation-related song may be an acceptable idea, but providing the opportunity for all our graduating students to have their original songs heard - inside and outside the classroom - is a better idea. I had thought of this idea as far back as when I first taught music in La Salle

Greenhills," she said. The practice of holding this competition has been going on for years now, celebrating its 10th anniversary this February. Ms. Marce has been placed in charge of teaching Batch 2017's general music classes for two years now and has been preparing for them for this competition since Junior Year - a surprising piece of information she had given during the interview.

"My students may not have known this but asking them to introduce themselves through rap to my two-jazz chord progression was the start of their introduction to songwriting output. I really enjoyed watching and listening to the entire class con-

tinuously, one-by-one, even if it took the entire period accompanying them on the keyboard," she had said, affection for the graduating batch evident in her response. Alumni and present music teachers were chosen to judge the competition, the panel composing of Miss Hannah de la Rosa, Mister Jake Masigan and Sir Daryl Galicia.

Some participants received special awards such as Best Song Interpretation (Kirsten Mayuga, Jill Panganiban and Pamela Siapno from Senior E), Best Song Arrangement (Ikoy Dumayas and Yna Albarracin from Senior I) and Best Music Video (Moon Artadi from Senior E). The Seniors now wait to sing their chosen

song for their graduation as a way to prepare themselves for the colleges that wait for them.

"Indubitably, I'm quite flattered that my song was chosen, despite all the other great-sounding songs. I'm glad to represent my batch. I wouldn't have done it without my co-Pechos. So this one's for you, me, and everybody. This one's for us," said Julio Banzon, one of the music and lyric makers of the winning song "This One's for Us".



Photos by Miguel Lukban

When God Opens Surprising Doors

by Geriz Bigol

In my 16 years as a campus minister and 9 years as the Lasalyanong Pinoy Moderator, it never came to me to speak and present in an international level. The invitation to present and share the “educator in me” and the program that Lasalyanong Pinoy (LP) as a leadership organization was a big surprise especially to my LP family. Believe me, these students were more excited about having the idea of international educators seeing their faces in our video presentation made by the brilliant, Gian Espeleta. Among all the programs that we have been doing like fundraising activities (*Meet Balls, Balut, Mani Para kay Br. Ceci*), formation programs (*Pananampalataya at Pagtataya, Pagkakaisa at Paghahanda, Pagtanaw at Pasasalamat*) and other inreaches and outreaches; it was *Kampo Kapatiran*, a camp for siblings, that they chose to be presented by yours truly.

The invitation came from Ms. Pauline Patrese Mangulabnan, a former high school math teacher of this school. She invited us on behalf of the Department of Professional Development of Teachers (DPDT) of University of Fukui. It is with gladness that the other invited presenter from DLSZ happens to be my friend and colleague, Ms. Heidi Caldo, our

high school Filipino Coordinator. She presented DramaFest and integration of academic subjects. We were six Filipinos who represented the country during the event.

DPDT is known in Japan for its revolutions on teacher education, professional development reforms, and nurturing professional learning communities in schools and among teachers in Japan. The Spring 2017 Fukui Roundtable Cross-sessions happened last February 15-21, 2016. This included classroom visits, discussions, cultural immersion and presentations. This year’s roundtable is the first international gathering coined as “Communities of Practice and Reflection for Global Collaboration of Reflective Lesson Study and Professional Learning Communities of Teachers”. We met educators from Japan, Canberra, Colombia, Indonesia, USA, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, Uganda, Australia and Lithuania.

During class visits, it was a *wow* moment for me to see how students of Fuzoku elementary enjoy their classes, discipline themselves and help in the cleaning of their classrooms. It was the same observations I had from the Junior High School of the same school. We were able to mingle with them during lunch wherein they stay in the classroom. A group of students even

served us healthy food. Student empowerment is also visible for there were Student Committees per subject that would meet after the end of the class with the subject teacher and discuss on what to do the next class meeting.

Another *wow* moment for me was knowing that the school did not have a security guard or maintenance. This called for everyone to be responsible with their own valuables, classrooms, and the whole school. The students’ discipline was also very remarkable that a teacher’s presence was enough for them to know how to act. These observations made me think if these practices were possible in our context. It was so wonderful to see students enjoy working together, and it made me think back to my grade school and high school days in Montessori and De La Salle-Lipa, respectively. I remember I was always in the first row because I was always the smallest student and would always be assigned as member of Monday cleaners. My favorite tasks were cleaning the blackboard and making the floor shine using *bunot* (coconut husk). It taught me how to be responsible and work with others, and it made me wonder if this practice would be made possible also in Zobel.

On our second and third days, we were able to hear educators from different countries share their experiences as teachers and the programs that they do. It was two days filled with stories of victories and triumphs for some but more on struggles, especially for those who were from Africa and some parts of Asia. But what struck me the most was when we discussed about the different countries we came from. We had Filipino educators from both public and private schools and as our sharing deepened, we got frustrated because of the reality of having a big gap remains. We ended with big hopes that educators of this generation will focus on what they have and not on what they do not have. We also hope that educators of this generation will become agents of change and



remain faithful in the vocation that they have chosen. And more importantly, we hope that the students entrusted to our care in our lifetime as educators be achievers not only for themselves but for others as well.

Looking back on my journey to Japan, I thank Lasalyanong Pinoy Organization for being enthusiastic about *Kampo Kapatiran*. We never thought that providing an overnight camp for siblings would bring us this far. I remember when my students first proposed the project because we wanted to emphasize the importance of family relationships and it just so happened that we had ten pairs of siblings as well as a pair of twins. I'd like to congratulate them for their idea, because their proposal three years ago is now an inspiration to other educators from other countries. Let us thank also our LP alumni who supported us in our projects, especially on this one.

I learned a lot from you, my LP babies, and I'm looking forward for more worthwhile projects. Continue to keep the fire to serve burning in your heart. I am sure that Br. Ceci is so proud of you and what our LP family has become. *Hanggang sa muling pagbukas ng pinto para makapagbahagi ang Lasalyanong Pinoy.*

Ate Geriz "Ganda"



Yes to Life, Yes to a Better Tomorrow

by Gelo Buencamino

It all started when I got the invitation to represent our organization, Search-In, with Alex Martin and Marco Ibana to be part of the Walk for Life, an event that took place at the

Quirino Grandstand in Manila on February 18.

We assembled at 3 o'clock in the morning, and by 4A.M. we were

greeted by numerous banners and faces that came representing various schools and other sectors all over the Philippines, to fight for something that we truly believe in—the preservation of life. It was very overwhelming at first glance to see so many people and a lot of ongoing activities such as the rosary walk, the speech of Cardinal Tagle about God's gift of life and our responsibility to nourish and protect it. Even though it rained at one point during the event, and I couldn't stand anymore because of physical fatigue, I was stunned at the many volunteers around me; I was struck by their passion to be heard.

As a Lasallian and Search-In member, I learned that it is essential to stand up and speak up for one's moral beliefs; that even the youth can influence others

and spark a change in society; and that societal differences can be set aside and unite for a common cause.

Walk for Life was a life-changing event for me, as it opened my eyes to a whole new perspective and brought me to a higher ground of understanding our country and one major issue that is confronting it. I learned that it is essential to not just talk about the things we want to change in our world, but also to act upon our words and take the initiative to be the change we want to see.

I genuinely wish for more students, teachers, and parents in the Lasallian community to be one with us in supporting our cry to say "yes to life and yes to a better tomorrow."

Music Magic

by Kitty Jardenil

It would be a huge mistake (even a grave sin) if you were to call music useless. Even if your heart is for baking or for dogs, there's always a special room in your heart for music. It gives life rhythm and soul; it gives a sense of direction, a sense of perpetual motion. It explains all the feelings that have welled up inside of you: the kick when they left you, the praise when you were alive, the hope at the bottom of Pandora's box. It was the closest thing to magic.

Last January 20, 2017, the DLSZ Jammers bent reality to their will yet again during their year-end concert called *Traffic Jam*. Bright lights, red and white sheets, and creative video backdrops accompanied the performers as they exuded confidence and feeling in their wide range of songs. Heart-warmingly enough, a number of alumni Jammers namely Mark Enriquez, Matt Hernandez, Luigi Montelibano, Earl Andrade, and Migui Bautista graced the stage once again to serenade the

crowd they called home. Furthermore, the setlist boasted renditions of various songs from the past, such as the concert opener *Tell Your Heart to Beat Again* by Danny Gokey performed by the Jammers' very own mentor Ms. Ardel Aldea alongside Aaron Jardenil, Cairo Peralta, Mark Enriquez, and Earl Andrade; a mash-up of SWV's *Weak* and TLC's *No Scrubs*, per-

formed by Sophia De Vera, Thzanuel Javier, Jenina Juson, Karren Ibana, Luigi Montelibano, Regina Velasco, Earl Andrade, and Renzo Igao; Maroon 5's *This Love*, performed by Renzo Igao, Alex Amol, Miggy Punzalan, and Aaron Jardenil; and John Mayer's *Heartbreak Warfare* performed by Jolo De Luzuriaga, Ziggy San Luis, Aaron Jardenil, Renzo Igao, and Miggy Punzalan. Let's not forget the phenomenal, hauntingly beautiful, and creepy performance of Thzanuel Javier and selected members of the DLSZ Symphonic Band

work, two key components of a successful collaboration.

Their talent has never been in doubt or a surprise. It's raw, sensational, and moving. But what elevates from what they can do on stage is their continuous respect for each other's talents and their constant dedication to their craft. In the Jammers turf, it's all about grooving to the music and enjoying one another while they jam to the music. It, truly, is magical.



Photo by Traci Sonoy



Photo by Miguel Lukban



Photo by Traci Sonoy



Photo by Traci Sonoy

Last January 11, Lasallian students from Grade 11 and the Senior Level had the privilege to volunteer and participate in For The Kids 2017 (FTK 2017) in DLSU Manila. FTK 2017 is a mini-Olympics for special children which helps children with physical, emotional and mental difficulties through friendly sports and games. It was truly a heartwarming experience to see the Lasallian community come together to serve children with special needs, and the love was truly overflowing from all of the volunteers' hearts.

Personally, it was a new experience

because the child I was assigned to has a speaking disability, which means that she is not able to communicate properly. At first, she was very shy and she did not want to open up to me, so being the bubbly and outgoing person that I am, I had difficulty adjusting to her personality. However, once the games started, it was so heartwarming to see her smiling and participating in the games even if she had difficulty doing so. It was a very humbling experience to spend the whole day with her, and the more that I spent time with her, the more she was willing to open up to me. At the end of the day,

it was very hard saying goodbye to someone who had helped open my eyes to the realities in the world, but I'm glad that I got to make her happy for the day despite her shortcomings.

As Lasallians, we serve; and this experience definitely widened my heart of service. This is something that I hope the rest of the Lasallian community can experience because it encourages us to put our whole hearts into the service of others. I felt the true joy of service in this activity, and I will never get tired of serving my community.



Kirsten Mayuga
SAVP AY 2016-2017

For the Kids 2017

Gabriel Cortez
Incoming SAVP AY 2017-2018

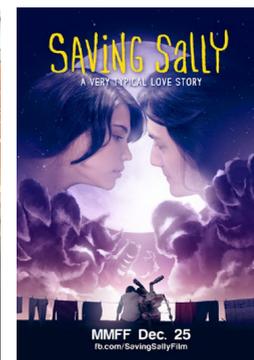


My experience during FTK was something I will always take into heart.

The amount of joy I felt during that day was immeasurable, and I felt that I was making a difference in someone's life. My assigned kid's disorder was ADHD, meaning he couldn't really focus on one thing at a time and would usually be hyperactive. At first, it was a struggle to take care of him because he kept running around the area, but something inside just knew that I was gonna have such a fun day. Along with his mother, Jay-R and I managed to complete the games assigned to him such as football and hit the bottle, and I could see the happiness in his face while playing and enjoying the activities.

For the Kids is such a memorable experience and one that I would recommend not just because of the fulfillment of being able to make someone else's day, but the realization at the end that God has really blessed you with an amazing and loving family and a good life and it really inspires you to really give back to the community especially to the least, the last, and the lost. I fell in love with this event because it not only helped me love my fellow Filipinos, but it helped me love myself by making me realize that I'm actually doing something good in my life. It was such a great experience with differ-

ent kinds of students from different areas really coming together to bond with the kids, and you could really see the kids' gratitude and joy when played with. I only wish I got to bond with my kid longer, as we had to leave after lunch, but I have no regrets spending a very special day (which happened to be on my birthday) with the Lasallian community and with the children.



Indie Films' Meteoric Rise in MMFF

by Raphael Llanes

Every time Christmas comes rolling around, Filipino families everywhere flock to the nearest cinemas to watch movie entries in the Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF). With movies ranging from comedic pieces, to a teleserye-inspired flick, to a chilling horror film the MMFF has everything. The best part about the film festival is that it highlights local talents dedicated to the art of cinematography and film — the showcase of Filipino pride.

MMFF 2016 is arguably the most diverse line-up in recent memory, if not at least the most distinct the festival has had for a while, all due to the rise of indie films and their inclusion in the line-up. Movies such as *Seklusyon*, *Saving Sally*, and *Die Beautiful* are some examples of this meteoric rise of indie. Indie films, otherwise known as independent films, are movies produced outside of a major studio. As

such, naturally there are less restrictions when it comes to the subject and execution of the film. Predictability, or rather how unpredictable the movie could be, is one of indie films' greatest strengths as they do not follow the same formula or pattern usually followed by mainstream films. The exposure the actors and actresses gain from starring in these indie films could also quite possibly catapult their careers into mainstream success. Beyond the technicalities however, indie films have more of a relaxed and genuine mood to them. Indie films feel more in-tune with the actual art of filmmaking, compared

to that of mainstream films that seem too synthetic and plastic. That is exactly why indie films should have more representatives in the MMFF in the years to come, if not totally dominate the line-up.

The MMFF is the most ideal platform to blast the amount of exceptional works of the hardworking, creative, and truly capable small-time directors due to the popularity of the festival all throughout the country. Frankly, the major drawback of indie films is the lack of publicity they receive. Compared to mainstream films that get a ton of publicity, indie films do

not. The addition of indie films causes the MMFF to become a less commercialized festival in contrast to the past. This is not inherently negative though as it is just a shift of content from mainstream to indie. Eventually, the constant inclusion of indie films will entice more Filipinos to a folksier experience. *Seklusyon* is one example of how great a Filipino indie film could be, given the right platform. *Seklusyon* bagged a total of eight (8) awards including Best Director, Best Screenplay, and Best Supporting Actress; it also came in 2nd in the box office, just behind *Die Beautiful*. If MMFF 2017 follows this example of accepting more and more indie film entries, no doubt that even the non-celebrities but great talents in the said genre will receive international acclaim in prestigious film festivals like Cannes.

Six Trends to Leave in 2016

by Josh Valentin

It has been three months since the whole world celebrated the end of the horrible year that was 2016—the year which we do not speak of. We were blessed with so much good music, movies, and TV shows during that year, but there were some trends that made 2016 the horrible year it was. So in the spirit of being three months into 2017, here are the trends that we should leave in the horrible year of 2016.



BOTTLE FLIPPING

Bottle flipping was a really iconic trend during 2016. Everyone was trying to flip bottles like how Michael Senatore (the high school student that started it all) did. The brave attempts were seen all over social media, even reaching our school with a "Bottle Flip Tournament" spearheaded by the BRAFENHS during last year's fair. This bottle flipping was fun at first, but then it started becoming a nuisance. I remember someone suddenly taking my water bottle without asking and just flipping it. Needless to say, please leave this in 2016. We don't need any more of this in 2017.



CLOWN SIGHTINGS

The paranoia was at an all-time high when photos and videos of clowns scaring people across the world surfaced on social media. Can you believe that a "yearly tradition" that has led to panic and dread was a trend in 2016? I can't either. The sightings last year were proof that the world really hates clowns. Can we please leave this in 2016?



POKÉMON GO

Yes, Pokémon Go. The 'Pokémon Go' fever spread like wildfire around the world, and our country wasn't exempted from it. DLSZ was inevitably part of the trend, as Gate 2 was a Pokéstop. The day 'Pokémon Go' was launched in the country, numerous students caused a huge crowd to flock Gate 2 to get some rewards at the Pokéstop. The game was fun at first, but then it just started to be an extreme hassle. Crowds of people running to catch the Pokémon they have been looking for has resulted to a lot of accidents. As of this article's publishing, Pokémon Go has released 80 new Pokémon for the players to find. So I beg of you, let's not fall into the Pokémon Go hole this year.



MUSICAL.LY

The app, particularly famous with DLSZ Grade School students, has been a menace to society. With the majority calling the app cringey and annoying, musical.ly has been one of the most horrible things that have graced 2016. With the rise of infamous "musical.ly stars" such as Jacob Sartorius, the app has gone from bad to worse. Most people think of musical.ly as one of the most obnoxious apps of all time, and I can't help but agree. This app shouldn't be brought back this year. Correction: Let's not bring back the app forever!



DABBING

I think of dabbing as one of the things that have defined 2016. If you noticed, we have involved dabbing into our daily lives in 2016. You can even dab to everything in this list. From dabbing when you successfully flip a bottle, catch a Pokémon, make a musical.ly, you can probably see some clown sighting videos with clowns dabbing, and we've all (admit it) dabbed to "Closer" by the Chainsmokers. Dabbing wasn't just a trend, it was a lifestyle. A lifestyle that we should leave in 2016! This is hard to do, but like how we made it out of 2016, let's work together to end the dab. Please, and I beg on my two knees, leave the dab in 2016.



"CLOSER" BY THE CHAINSMOKERS

Let's not even talk about how this song was nominated for the Best Pop Duo/Group Performance at this year's Grammys, and thank goodness they didn't win (the duo 'Twenty One Pilots' won the award). This song was so overplayed in the previous year that hearing the intro of the song will provoke negative comments. And don't even bother playing this song in public. If you do, prepare to be kicked out of the room! A lot of people seem to agree to let this song stay in 2016. Let's not pull it closer to 2017, okay?

My Lasallian Leadership Journey

by Jill Panganiban, DLSZ Batch 2017, Executive President A.Y. 2016-2017

Dearest guests, fellow students, teachers, staff and administrators, good morning!

It's the day of turnover and the proverbial "thank you all" message is expected in this speech. As grateful as I really am for everything this experience has given me and for all the people who have made my term a success, I, instead, have decided to dedicate and use this opportunity for all those who have been forgotten, who feel alone, and who need help. I am going to wrap everything I have gained from this experience into a present formed as a speech and I will give it to those people, to ease their burdens, to make them feel less lonely, and to have them feel the joy in serving others. I guess this is my way of "thanking it forward."

During my first presidential speech this academic year, I was dressed up as Dr. Seuss talking about my love for service. But today, I am dressed up as Peter Pan who will still talk about my love for service and how

serving is the best way to live your life.

Peter Pan once said, "To live would be an awfully big adventure."

There's a famous saying that goes "only a life lived in the service of others is worth living" -- And I couldn't agree more with it. To connect it with the quote from Peter Pan, living a life in service definitely takes you to big adventures. In my case, service has taken me to my biggest adventure yet which was being your Student Council President. I can certainly tell you that this year was surely one big adventure- to have my Senior Year devoted in making sure everyone from the student body is happy; To have been given so many chances to touch people's lives. This adventure has given me countless opportunities and has brought me to many different situations. I can unquestionably say that I lived my last year in De La Salle Zobel the best way possible. Why? Because if it weren't for the opportunity to serve you all then I wouldn't have learned or gained all the things I have from the experience. If it weren't for the opportunity to serve, I wouldn't be

who I am today.

You see, with service: there is really nothing to lose and everything to gain. We shouldn't be afraid of giving ourselves because the feeling of fulfillment that will be getting after is far greater than what has been given. We shouldn't be afraid to serve because it does nothing but open new doors and help us learn so much. We shouldn't be afraid because it is how our savior, Jesus Christ, would want us to live our life too.

I chose to share with you this message about service as my last because I want all of you to live your life to the fullest. To go on a big adventure rather than watch people live it out for you. Experience it first hand and get to see Jesus in the people you meet; or if you are truly blessed, even have people see Jesus in you. Living your life like this is the closest we can have to living it just like our founder,



St. La Salle. Service allows us to be His instruments for Him to reach others. How is that not the best way to live your life?

I hope that not just I but the 31 of us have inspired you to love service as much as we do because, like what I said a few months back, that to us, service will genuinely be our true legacy.

I'd always end my speeches with a quote, but this time I will end it with a question:

"What are you doing for others?"

Thank you for everything and Animo La Salle!

all the guidance and advice you've left behind. Thanks for the mentoring you have done and thank you for serving this school with overflowing love and commitment.

As your new Student Council President, I will strive to continue your legacy. Council 2018 plans to continue molding the students' hearts for service while executing your platform to bring out the spark and the light within each individual in the Lasallian community.

It may take only one person to spark the light, but with the help of the students here today and the foundations set by those before us, this new council will not stop at sparks. We will ignite change in those around with a passion for the future of this school.

I am glad to be of service.

difference in terms of their understanding the purpose of the blended learning. When the use of Mobile Learning Device (MLD) was still new in DLSZ, teachers did not fully understand how to maximize the use of technology in teaching their lessons. It was difficult for teachers to find a way to make learning fun for students. Now, applications like Kahoot! are used to make classroom activities easy and fun. With the new apps that are available in the classroom, teaching and learning become more interesting.

Ms. Emie shared that going to the Microsoft Education Exchange will put DLSZ on the map of educational technology, allowing other countries to know that even in a third-world country like the Philippines technology wires both teachers and students. Moreover, it will allow other countries to identify our school, not to mention that it is going to be a learning experience for Ms. Emie. From this conference, our school can learn techniques used by other schools in implementing EdTech.

My Love for Service

by Alyana V. Militante, DLSZ Batch 2018, Incoming Executive President A.Y. 2017-2018



Fellow Lasallians, good morning.

My first day serving as part of the student council was back in 2013. I was in Grade 8. That year I found my love for SRCC in its service to the student body. My love that year only grew bigger as I went on to serve as the Grade 11 Level Rep alongside Council 2017.

Therefore, I would first like to say "Thank You."

Thank you to my party, MORE, and SRCC 2014 for giving me the opportunity to provide the student body with bigger and better opportunities; for allowing them to have more.

Thank you to my 2017 party PUSO

for strengthening, through service, my heart and the hearts of our student body.

Thank you to SRCC Council 16-17 for a wonder filled year.

And a big thanks to all of you here, the student body, for all the support you have given us, for being both reactive and proactive to SRCC projects, for appreciating our efforts and service. Thank you for believing in us.

Lastly and most importantly, Council 2017, at the start of your term, your goal and platform was to bring out the students' hearts for service. You've taught us all so much. Through your service, you've molded the heart of each and every Lasallian present today. Thank you for

Microsoft Education Exchange

by Cedric Joshua Atienza

De La Salle Zobel's very own Ms Emelita "Emie" Baylon will represent the Philippines in the forthcoming Microsoft Education Exchange, which will be held in Toronto, Canada from March 19-25, 2017. The Educational Technology Unit Coordinator has been chosen to represent the country because of DLSZ's intense curricular ties with technology.

According to Ms Emie, DLSZ is faring well compared with other schools in the National Capital Region. "I think we're at par with other surrounding schools in terms of how we understand the blended learning now," she said.

The new training and programs for the teachers effected significant

Through the Lens

by Zoe Ocampo

A look into the minds of the students who are often found behind a camera. They are Michael Lirio, Kirsten Banal, Bea Guieb, and Leroy Bulaong.



Photo by Bea Guieb

1. What inspired you to pursue photography?

Michael: My dad was my #1 inspiration but then I never really showed interest until summer last year. That was when I randomly picked up one of his cameras and learned how to do photography.

Kirsten: I always had an interest in photography as a kid but only got really into it when I saw other people's work. Capturing photos is something I've always liked to do in my free time and when I get to travel.

Bea: Most of my family members have photography as a hobby so I got a hand-me-down camera at a really young age. I guess that led me to become passionate about it and made me want to learn more.

Leroy: My family has a long-running history of being in communication arts. My father, my uncle and many more generations of my family held a camera as part of our livelihood. My great grandfather was even a cameraman for the Malacañang! It's no surprise that I also picked up a camera.

2. If you were a type of camera what would you be?

Michael: Canon FTB, because it's got an old soul.

Kirsten: Sony A7s, expensive & hard to get. (lol jk)

Bea: I love classics so I would probably be a Mamiya TLR Camera.

Leroy: My trusty Canon DSLR with a 50mm f/1.8 prime lens! My DSLR is what I'm most comfortable shooting with as it takes away the possibility of zooming in and makes you think of more creative ways to shoot! It makes me more fluid, and I get to adapt easier to different environments.



Photo by Michael Lirio

3. What are your favorite subjects to shoot?

Michael: Landscapes, most especially at night to get those long exposure shots. Also candid shots of people because not one shot is the same.

Kirsten: I mostly do portrait photography.

Bea: I don't really have any favourite subjects to shoot but I love taking candid shots in events.

Leroy: People, Animals and Landscapes! This is the part of photography that is most interesting because this is where it 'takes' you to places and to different types of people. It's the interaction between the subjects that matter the most.



Photo by Leroy Bulaong



Photo by Kirsten Banal

4. Describe your photography style in one word.

Michael: Lowlight.

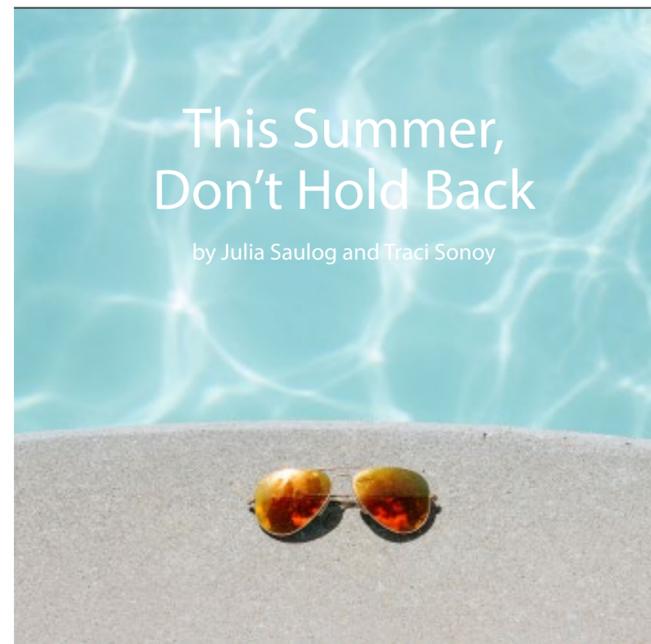
Kirsten: Me.

Bea: Reflections.

Leroy: Colorful. I feel that it is too widespread to see that generic, desaturated Instagram 'aesthetic' that we see in Tumblr, Twitter and of course, Instagram. I'd like to show something unique and something that really expresses what I see and think in a subject.

This Summer, Don't Hold Back

by Julia Saulog and Traci Sonoy



Summer comes, and finally you find that sense of freedom that's been buried beneath all the paperwork and stress-induced nights. It's the season when TIME appears to be by your side - despite barely being there during moments where you needed it the most - and invites you with count-

less of opportunities to do the things you never got the chance to do for the last ten months. While it is easy to just stray away, forget the world, and make up for all the sleep you lost in your pursuit to keep up with deadlines, remember that summer comes only once every year, and although it

may only seem like a short while, if used wisely, those two months are enough.

Enough for what exactly? Well, that depends on you.

There are plenty of ways to make the most out of your summer - and it doesn't take travelling the whole world in order to do so. Sure, seeing the sights in Europe from a cruise ship and eating authentic Japanese food in a small bustling restaurant sound like pure bliss, but those are just a fraction of the things you could do to have a fruitful summer.

With the academic weights taken off of your shoulders and two months free of responsibility by your side, summer is the perfect time to take opportunities and learn new skills or discover things, and we don't mean doing advanced readings on your subjects the next academic year (although, if that sounds like something on your summer agenda, that's great, too). Just because you are free from the classroom in the summer doesn't have to mean that your creativity should be left to gather dust along with your school

bag.

Read the books you didn't have the time to read when you were busy reading the contents of your syllabus. Learn the recipe of your favorite dish to satisfy your dear tummy's cravings. Achieve your goal of becoming a trilingual by finally taking that language course you've always wanted to take. If you're tired of feeling inferior to your friends, learn to ride a bike, then proudly show them your newfound ability next time you meet them.

Whatever it may be, don't hesitate and just welcome all the possibilities summer has to offer. You don't need to become a world explorer or a scientist of some sorts to make the most out of it anyway. Simply being yourself and choosing to do the things you love the most already warrants of a summer spent productively. After all, what kind of summer experience would it be if there were no adventure stories to tell afterwards?

Don't hold back this Summer 2017. Instead, use the time to your advantage. You may never really know how much two months can paint a whole new picture.



pinagtagpo ni anne

Pinagtagpo na naman tayo ng mundo. Nandito ka ulit sa aking buhay, at ako ay parte muli ng buhay mo. Ilang taon na ang nakalipas noong pinaghiwalay tayong dalawa. Ang ikaw at ako ay muntik nang maging tayo, muntik na pero hindi ko alam kung ano ang nangyari sa ating dalawa at ang alam ko lang ay ako ay nagsisisi sa aking pagpapabaya. Minahal kita at minahal mo ako, pero wala tayong sinabi, walang nagsalita, walang nagparamdam. Siguro hindi lang talaga tayo para sa isa't isa sa panahon na iyon. Malay mo, tama ang ating pag-ibig pero mali ang panahon.

Ngayon na binigyan na tayong dalawa ng isa pang pagkakataon, alam ko sa sarili ko na hindi na kita bibitiwan, hindi na kita iiwang muli. Hindi na ako papayag na paghihiwalayin tay-

ong dalawa ulit. Ako'y masaya dahil kasama kita at alam ko na hindi mo ako susukuan. Nangako ka na hanggang sa dulo tayong dalawa at pinapaniwalaan ko iyon at pinanghahawakan ko ang pangako na iyon. Naniniwala ako na tayo'y tatagal, na tayo'y lalakas, na tayo'y magiging masaya hanggang sa dulo ng walang hanggan. Araw-araw mong pinapaalala saakin kung bakit ako mahalaga sa iyo at kung bakit mo ako mahal at siguro dahil doon, ako'y pa konti-konti nang nahuhulog ulit para sayo.

Naalala ko na noong una kitang nakita, una tayong nag-usap, una tayong nagtitigan, naalala ko lahat, naalala ko lahat. At ayon ang rason kung bakit ako ay naniniwala na sa pagmamahal sa unang tingin. Dahil mahal kita, dati pa, nung simula pa.



wistful by Patrick Berba

as the sky opens
I hope to hear a choir so calming
that it calls off the demons
until my vision can see foreshadows in the light
before I close my eyes, as the twilight rests gently on my cheek
ideally it'd be nice to see your face along with Jesus
in the place described as *paradiso*
I feel the Reaper badly wants to

meet me
maybe because I'm a dreamer and sleep is the cousin of death
but I decided to take a risk and knock on the door
summoning a portal through a pool of alcohol
hey big man upstairs
why do these words never take me elsewhere?
why is everyone fast asleep?



#52 by Pablo

Affection's an affliction
That a many few have gotten
In between addiction
Or sickness that one caught

It comes in feeble daydreams
An idle, idyll, passing
Become of it, a malady
A nuisance everlasting

But what is in this illness
That blinds all those who see
And fills their minds up to the brim
With "love" and ecstasy?

Is it truly a woe
To give deep admiration
Or is it when we fall
To deep infatuation?

Is it truly wrong
When we give them our all
Or is it when life held dear
Would be sacrificed on call?

Confusion reigns in chaos,
And Eros reigns amid
Naïveté and daydreams,
In colors ever vivid

A mystery perplexing,
These thoughts but so divisive,
No choice nor common ground
For love is indecisive

Perhaps the most confusing,
That one could never tell,
Is when you can't discern
Whether they love you as well

if they do open those lids, it's another *siesta*
realize this mind only shines *¡por la mañana*
translation: this poet is enlightened
and although this planet is easy to leave
nobody really dies believing they've grasped every achievement
or confide in Peter that they've been booked into the
after life
came up with this style of prose everybody can ride with
so take your favourite authors, I'll toss their finest verses up into the hearse
but you digress, "It's all about aesthetic"
forget it, there's no saying *auf wiedersehen*
until I become the best
investing in this talent, mastering the craft
all I ask
is to put these into Psalms,
yet the question still lingers, dear reader
when this infatuation with the End,
becomes realer than a page from Revelation
are you worth it?
am I worth it?

MESSAGE FROM THE AUTHOR:

In the morning there is dawn. Although the sunrise is not the apex height of the sun, it is still beautiful. None of our lives have reached noon, so if you feel like you are overshadowed, there's still light to shine; the glare of your rays will get brighter over time.

What if? by Sofia Suarez and Jaimie Salvador

Risk (n)

: exposure to the chance of injury or loss; a hazard or dangerous chance

Risks. These are the things you decide to take when you want to live - when you want to fall in love, reach your dreams, become a better person, be an inspiration. You take risks when you want to be more than just a bystander and actually take part in the happenings of this crazy and confusing yet unique and interesting world. Risks are dangerous but they're what make life worth living, especially once they've been taken.

What stops you from choosing to take the risk is the fear of failing, fear that it might go wrong, that you might end up getting hurt or that you won't be good enough. The list of fears that prevent us from stepping out of our comfort zones is endless.

People say that we should do one thing everyday that scares us. If you do, you'd be able to live life at its fullest be-

cause life is all about taking risks, isn't it? It's about getting hurt, putting yourself out there not knowing what'd happen in the end, not knowing if things would turn out the way you want them to, but going with it anyway because you know that it could possibly make you, and more importantly, those you love, happy. Because you know that if you don't, there'd always be a part of you missing out on what could be.

The biggest risk is not taking any risk at all. So, take the risk. Put yourself out there. Step out of your comfort zone. Pray and hope for the best. We wouldn't really know how things will be unless we try, right? So what if it won't work out, if you get hurt? Then at least you tried and did something to at least try to figure things out. But then, what if it DOES work out? What if ends up being the best thing for you at that particular moment in time?

It's all a big "what if". Which one it ends up being, that would depend on you. You'll find out when you take the risk, when you take that *chance*.

right here, right now by la



Photo by Etienne Boulanger. Taken from stocksnap.io

Why does it sometimes feel like we're floating? Like we're just going through the motions of life, but not actually *living*? Like everything that happens sort of just passes us by?

I think of it this way—we have conditioned ourselves to live for the future. Everything we do has to be done because it would affect us one way or another in the days, months, or years from now. We pressure ourselves to know how our life is going to turn out and plan out our actions in such a way that they'd benefit us in the future. We bet on things that are uncertain and get frustrated when they don't turn out the way we thought they would. It's a continuous cycle that drains us day by day and makes it harder to keep going on to achieve our goals in life. We feel like we're not getting anywhere or doing anything substantial.

We live for the future so much, we fail to realize that there's so much we can get from the present.

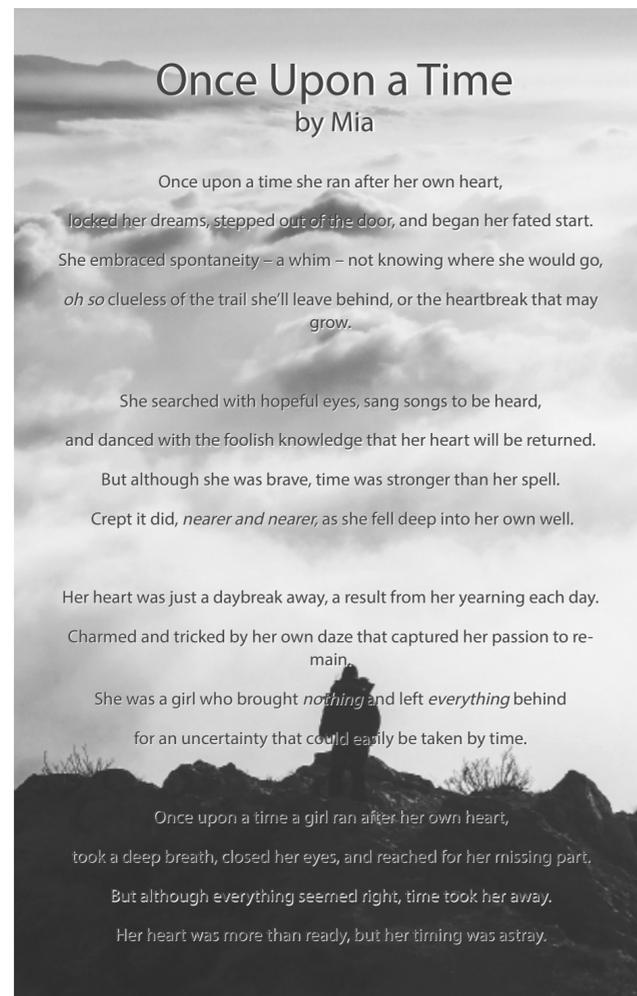
We need to understand that the future is something we definitely have no control over. Trying to organize our life or plan it the way we want is oftentimes a useless case because there are just way too many things in this world that could affect it. Sometimes, the best thing is to just let go of the future for a while, because it is in doing such that we see how much is actually already happening. It may sound cliché, but each moment—

with that exact emotion, those exact people, in that exact place, at that exact time—really only does happen once and if our mind isn't in it, it could so easily pass us by.

It is in accepting, experiencing, absorbing, and feeling the present that we can truly take on the future. It is what allows us to learn from our mistakes and become a better person—living them, and not just passing the situation by. It is also what allows us to be content, because living in the moment allows us to not only see the bigger picture, but notice the tiny details that make it complete. Living like this each day is how we can be genuinely *happy*. We'd then find the motivation to work towards our dreams and aspirations, slowly but surely.

It isn't as easy as it sounds—it takes a huge amount of strength, and an even bigger amount of trust to allow ourselves to let the future happen on its own. **But once we are able to find the strength and faith, life would be as beautiful as it was made to be.**

The future is uncertain and it always will be. We can't force ourselves to know exactly how things are going to turn out. The only thing we're sure of is right here, right now. Once we allow ourselves to accept the fact that for now, that is enough. We wouldn't just be floating; we'd be flying.



Once Upon a Time by Mia

Once upon a time she ran after her own heart,
locked her dreams, stepped out of the door, and began her fated start.
She embraced spontaneity—a whim – not knowing where she would go,
oh so clueless of the trail she'll leave behind, or the heartbreak that may grow.

She searched with hopeful eyes, sang songs to be heard,
and danced with the foolish knowledge that her heart will be returned.
But although she was brave, time was stronger than her spell.
Crept it did, *nearer and nearer*, as she fell deep into her own well.

Her heart was just a daybreak away, a result from her yearning each day.
Charmed and tricked by her own daze that captured her passion to remain.
She was a girl who brought *nothing* and left *everything* behind
for an uncertainty that could easily be taken by time.

Once upon a time a girl ran after her own heart,
took a deep breath, closed her eyes, and reached for her missing part.
But although *everything* seemed right, time took her away.
Her heart was more than ready, but her timing was astray.



Photo by Tim Marshall. Taken from unsplash.com

An Open Letter to Those Who Can't Get Timing on Their Side

by Rachel

It's okay if you haven't met the one.

Some people try too hard to get a significant other. Here's a small re-

minder that it's okay if you haven't met the one who will accept you, with your flaws and imperfections. Remember that sometimes love comes when you least expect it. Make the most of your

time now with your friends, family, and school. Learn to accept yourself completely, including your flaws and imperfections first, before you expect somebody to. Not everything in this lifetime is time bound, so take your time and don't fret.

It's okay if you didn't get accepted into your chosen position.

Once you get into high school, branches of opportunities are offered to you. These come in forms of student clubs, organizations, out of school opportunities, and even the student council. Here's a reminder that it's okay if you don't get in what you first applied for. Or the second. Or the third. It just means that there's a greater plan in store for you, all planned out by Him. Trust in His perfect timing.

It's okay if you didn't win first place or make it into the honor roll.

Competitions are neck-to-neck battles around here. If you lose and don't end up with a trophy or certificate, know that it's okay. Don't dwell

over it. Instead use it and work towards your goals. Get inspired and learn from your mistakes. You won't always win first place, but that doesn't mean you never will. You won't always be the best, but that doesn't mean you will never be. It's okay to not be okay sometimes. Growing up is already tough itself. It's hard enough to balance your academics, extra-curricular activities, and personal life. It's understandable that you won't always be at the highs of your life. However, every time that you find yourself at rock bottom, remind yourself that the only way from there—is upwards. You are entitled to grow. Everybody grows differently with various paces so never compare yourself to anybody else. When you feel that you aren't at the same spot and time as everyone, remember that you were never meant to be because we are all different. Your different and unique attributes are what make you who you are. Don't look down and blame yourself when timing just won't get with you, because it could actually be telling you to understand all the right reasons why it failed you.

With 2016 having box office hits with either comedy, action, horror or mystery as prevalent themes, Damien Chazelle brings us *La La Land*, which offers a breath of fresh air to moviegoers with its nostalgic feel of the classics mixed with the right amount of music and romance, highlighting an important message for everybody.

The story revolves around Mia, an aspiring actress, and Sebastian, a jazz pianist. The two of them struggle as they try to live out their dreams in the sunny Los Angeles, although the both of them are not successful at the start. They introduce each other to their own passions and find refuge in one another as they keep pursuing what they want.

This isn't the first time Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling, who play Mia and Sebastian respectively, were paired together. They both played each other's love interests in *Crazy, Stupid, Love* (2011) and *Gangster Squad* (2013), so the chemistry between the two actors was undeniable. The character of Mia, who has a quirky personality, matched that of Stone's as she sports a quirky personality as well in real life, making her perfect for the role. Gosling, a familiar face since his appearance in *The Notebook*, did



La La Land Review

by Lianna Cabigas

an excellent portrayal of the strong-willed Sebastian, enough to call him a heartthrob.

What makes *La La Land* stand out from the other musical movies released recently is its jazz genre. Justin Hurwitz, who is the movie's overall composer and Chazelle's fellow classmate in Harvard, captured the emotion of each scene so well that it left most of us on an L.S.S., especially to one of the movie's scores entitled "Mia and Sebastian's Theme", which is played by Gosling's character and is purely piano and no lyrics. We see the chemistry of the two colleagues in this area of the production as music definitely adds more life to a screenplay.

The cinematography of the mov-

ie did not go unnoticed either. Instead of sticking to one color scheme like how Wes Anderson does in his movies (evident in *Grand Budapest Hotel* and *Moonrise Kingdom*), Chazelle plays with colors in different scenes, depending on the mood. It is truly a reminiscent of the classics, with parts inspired from movies like *Singin' in the Rain* (1952), *Moulin Rouge!* (2001) and *Boogie Nights* (1997), to name a few. From the characters' costumes to the frame and lighting of each scene, it's no wonder that the movie is nominated for the Academy Award of Best Cinematography. In fact, that is only one out of the 14 awards it's been nominated for in the same show, including the Best Picture Award. All members of the production are still celebrating

as they bagged all seven Golden Globe Awards they were nominated for, which includes Best Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Original Score, and Best Original Song.

All technical aspects aside, one thing that definitely left an impact on those who watched *La La Land* is the message that it sends out. It teaches us the importance of the different people you meet and what their purpose is in your life. Some people will stay and others will leave, but it's all for a reason and all for the best.

The bittersweet — yet more on bitter — ending to the movie may have not fit everyone's taste, but that's what also makes it stand out from most romantic dramas today.

In conclusion, I highly recommend this movie for everyone to watch, most especially to adolescents and young adults who might be struggling with their relationships with other people. Its hearty content and soulful performances can definitely help you cope with a heavy heart. This movie is complete with a good story, soundtrack, and cinematography which are incredibly aesthetically pleasing to the eye. With that, I rate it a 9/10.



Photo credits: Jonby Bello



Photo credits: Nelson Uy

Br. Ceci Cup 2017

by Lianna Cabigas

The DLSZ Sports Development Foundation once again invited schools from all over the Metro and nearby provinces to participate in the annual Br. Ceci Cup. This year's competition marked the 13th Sports Festival held by De La Salle Zobel, which took place every Saturday and Sunday from January 18 to February 26.

This year's Br. Ceci Cup held competitions in Table Tennis, Basketball, Frisbee, Football, Swimming, Karatedo, Fencing, Track & Field, Baseball, Softball, Volleyball, and Judo. All events were open to grade school and high school students, even including collegiate varsity in some sports events. All events were held inside the DLSZ campus with the exception of baseball and softball, which were held in the nearby Alabang Country Club. Aside from the sporting

events, a fun run was also organized for all to join.

The Br. Ceci Cup was originally a football tournament that gradually became a multisport competition. The aim of the event is to promote sportsmanship and camaraderie amongst the different schools, giving athletes the chance to befriend fellow athletes from different schools. The event also aims to raise funds for DLSZ's student athletes.



A Look at Both Sides of the Court: Marcus Del Rosario's Journey to Junior Davis' Cup

by Regine Hizon

name," Del Rosario humbly explained.

We've witnessed many reach the top: bagging gold medals, bringing home championship trophies, and representing their school in prestigious competitions, but do we ever pay attention to what happens at the bottom of the mountain peak? Being a student athlete is no joke. The path they take to conquer their mountain is always the hardest. It is filled with sacrifices, mistakes, hard decisions, and the constant phrase "do better" haunting them with each step they take. In times of trial, what does it take for a student athlete to keep going?

Like every student athlete, Marcus Del Rosario's life does not only revolve around serving aces in competitions but also acing the field of academics. As an honor student and an ace player, it takes him discipline and great time management to play both roles. "I'm like a working student that has a full schedule," Del Rosario says, "so I managed my time wisely and balance the things I need to do."

Since Marcus is a full-time student, he attends classes from 8A.M. until 4:20P.M. After school, he trains for a minimum of two hours each day. Then, he goes back home for home work and other school-related tasks before he calls it a day.

Del Rosario's dedication to tennis and his studies has been paying off. He has proven himself as a tennis player by winning many competitions including the Palawan Pawnshop - Palawan Express Padala Regional Age Group Tournament, Cebuana Lhuiller Tennis Championship, and Olivarez Cup. In school— his other court — Marcus is the able President of his class and a consistent honor student. Recently, he received a gold certificate for being a First Honor last Term.

"For me tennis isn't just a sport that I play, but a medium to glorify God's name and make other people know Him. Because I am certain that this talent is from God, so when I win, I always claim His

Playing a sport for nine years is not easy. It is, for sure, that Del Rosario has picked up lessons and encountered difficulties in the earlier years of his tennis career. In fact, one of the biggest challenges he has experienced while playing tennis was being complacent, and at the same time, overconfident. "There was a time that I became too satisfied with the things that I was achieving and I didn't train hard anymore. After that I started losing, and I struggled to get back to the level I was playing," he shared.

Suffice it to say that the young athlete learned that he must work hard and be humble at all times. It was those lessons he had learned along the way that helped him conquer more overwhelming challenges. When it comes to motivation, it is through making God and the important people in his life proud that keeps him going forward.

As his passion for the sport keeps growing, it is no surprise that Del Rosario was chosen to be part of the Philippine Team for the 2017 Junior Davis Cup. With a new milestone in his tennis career, Del Rosario feels honored to represent the Philippines in such a prestigious competition and is satisfied that his hard work has paid off.

Training harder than he has ever done, Marcus Del Rosario along with the rest of the Junior Philippine Team aced their way to the top last February 20 to 25, 2017 in the elimination round held in India. The team was able to beat Iraq, Bhutan, and Pakistan during the round robin with an all sweep 3-0. They then beat Lebanon with a score of 3-0 in the semi-finals. Bagging the title of "Champions" in the elimination round and conquering Singapore with a score of 2-1, the Junior Philippine Team advanced to the next round of the tournament.



Iñaki Lorbes Wins 1st in NAGT

by Cholo Aguilar

DLSZ's Junior Tanker, Iñaki Lorbes (Batch 2020), recently won first place in the National Age-Group Triathlon (NAGT) Junior Category held in Subic Bay last January 29. The event was an official triathlon race organized by the Philippine Sports Commission and the Philippine Olympic Commission.

Lobres was able to complete a 600m swim, 16km bike, and a 2.5km run course. On the way to the top, he went as far as de-

feating some of the junior national team athletes with a time of 47 minutes and 38 seconds. With this victory, he was able to earn points that allow him to secure a spot in the Philippine Team for the 2018 Youth Olympics.

There were 11 participants from DLSZ. Among them were Liam Anthony Tangan (2017), the DLSZ Varsity Swimming Captain, and nine members of the DLSZ Triathlon Team.



DLSZ Junior Tankers Win 47th WNCAA

by Charity Patricio and Lia Salvanera

The ladies of the DLSZ Junior Tankers, the current champions of the UAAP Girls Division, were determined to go back and compete in the 47th WNCAA to uphold their title. The competition was held at San Beda Alabang last February 5, 2017.

The team won all their relays including 4x50 medley, 4x50 freestyle, 4x100 medley, and 4x100 freestyle. Nikki Pamintuan (Batch 2019) once again won the Most Valuable Player award and bagged gold in the following events: 50m and

100m backstroke, 50m and 100m freestyle, and 50m and 200m individual medley.

The members of the team were Kayleen Keh (Batch 2021), Atelle Reyes (Batch 2021), Raven Alcoseba (Batch 2021), Kara Mendoza (Batch 2020), Milcah Mina (Batch 2020), Bela Magtibay (Batch 2020), Shannen Tan (Batch 2020), Dylan Tangan (Batch 2019), Julia Burgos (Batch 2019), Nikki Pamintuan, and Jana Laurian (Batch 2018).

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