



counterpoint

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De La Salle Santiago Zobel's 41st Vision Mission Week: LUMIN41RE

BY: Meithzel Javier

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Photos by SPO, Roxanne Darvin, Ophrey Kian

Philippine Lasallian Human Rights and Democracy Week Exhibit launched in DLSZ Alabang Campus



Photo by SPO

Executive Vice President Raffy Reloza, LFMD Director Ms. Evangeline De Peralta, and SAO Head Mr. Ben Sazon opened the exhibit.

BY: Ms. Juay Perez

Pressing local social issues, from the West Philippine Sea dispute to lowering the age of criminality to the signing of the Rice Tariffication Law, were the focal points of the exhibit held at the Center for Performing Arts Lobby at De La Salle Santiago Zobel (DLSZ) Alabang Campus last September 17, 2019.

The exhibit launched the celebration of Philippine Lasallian Human Rights and Democracy Week. Activities lined up include a dialogue with farmers and

setting up of booths selling farmers' local produce. In support of the plight of our Filipino farmers, the school community is invited to visit and buy their products for the duration of the exhibit from September 17 to 20, 2019.

Organized by the Social Action Office in partnership with the Christian Living, Social Studies, and HUMSS department, the exhibit transferred at the ground floor of the Spark Building in DLSZ Vermosa Campus from September 25-27, 2019.

Zobel Parliament Bags Multiple Awards in Korea

BY: Audric B. Vitangcol

Members of the Zobel Parliament debate team won several awards in the Korean Schools Open Pre-University Debating Championship (KSO) held in Ewha Woman's University, South Korea last August 9-11, 2019.

The members and their winnings are as follows:
Yzza Sering (Batch 2023): Quarter Finalist
Clarisse Tan (Batch 2023): Quarter Finalist, 4th Best Speaker (14 Under Category), 9th Best Speaker (16 Under Category)
Jessica Lee (Batch 2022): 1st Best Speaker (14 Under Category), 3rd Best Speaker (16 Under Category), 7th Best Speaker (Open Category)
Jarom Aguilar (Batch 2021): Semi-Finalist
Andre Gonzales (Batch 2021): Semi-Finalist, 9th Best Speaker (16 Under Category)

KSO had a total of 75 teams competing from South Korea, China, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and

the Philippines. It also included a diverse pool of judges invited from all around the world. The invited adjudicators included Madeleine Bosler, Thomas Shortridge, and Eden Blair, all esteemed speakers from Australia.

Clarisse Tan (Batch 2023), when asked about her experience in KSO, said, "The competition was scary because the debate culture of other countries was way different from that of the Philippines as the standards of the adjudicators and manner of the debaters was different, but it was also fun because we met new people and learned about how different countries debated. It was also a first for many of us in an international circuit."

Her message to aspiring debaters who also desire to compete

internationally, "Just go for it! It might be scary and hard now, but at the end of the day, you have your team behind your back. Whether you win or lose, the experience and the friends you make would make up for it."



Photo by Ms. Juhainah Turqueza

(From left to right) Yzza Sering, Clarisse Tan, Jessica Lee, Jarom Aguilar, and Andre Gonzales of Zobel Parliament bring home awards from Korean Schools Open Pre-University Debate Championship.



Photos by SPO

#LUMIN41RE: Grade 10 and 8 Emerge Winners in "INTERBATCH" Cheer Dance Competition 2019

BY: Bernette Morillo & Dominique Perlas

The Grade 10 and Grade 8 were crowned as the winners of their respective Interbatch Cheer Dance Competition categories held on November 23, 2019 at the Sports Pavillion of De La Salle Santiago Zobel School. The event was an annual part of the celebration of the founding of the school for its 41st Anniversary. The participants of the first contest are

Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12, with the Senior High School (SHS) consisting of one performance. Batch 2022 moonwalked their way to first place, followed by Batch 2023's performance inspired by the 80's, and the SHS settled for third with a stomp performance.

Grade 7, 8 and the JHS Vermosa students competed in the second contest. Batch 2024 Alabang Campus bagged first with

their rain-inspired choreography, followed by an out-of-this-world performance by the JHS Vermosa cheerleaders while the festive Batch 2025 of Alabang Campus came in third.

The Interbatch contest happens yearly during the Family Fun Day, which is scheduled every last day of the Fair celebration of the school. The whole day consists of performances from other grade levels, as well as a raffle draw.

INCENDIUM: Battle of the Bands at 41

BY: Raphael Hebron

Last November 21, 2019, De La Salle Santiago Zobel School held its annual Battle of the Bands competition, entitled "INCENDIUM: Awaken the Fire Within," in line with the 41st Vision-Mission Week. The event is held every year to showcase the talents of student-formed bands, as well as to have them compete for the title of Best Band, and other awards including Best Guitarist, Best Drummer, Best Vocalist, and People's Choice. This year's event was hosted at the Sylvia P. Lina Theater, and invited alumni and previous Battle of the Bands winners – Miguel Amores, Gabriel Cortez, Ziggy San Luis, Fern Tan, and Elijah Valdecantos – served as judges for the program.

A total of 8 bands competed in this year's Battle of the Bands, representing a mix of students ranging from Grade 9 to Grade 12; these bands being selected from an initial screening event held weeks prior. Each band, given around 16 minutes to perform their selection, gave their all to vie for the top spot and wow the audience, showcasing songs that range from a variety of genres including classic rock, indie music, and hip hop. The competition

began with the performance of I CAN'T HEAR YOU, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?, followed by Beat Bulaga, Ontri, DEFCON, NICE!, Not Sure, Food Fighters, and 4 DA BOYS. As the judges took time to decide on the winners of the event, an intermission number was held by FourPlay MNL, an alternative rock band from Quezon City.

Contrary to the events of last year's Battle of the Bands, the winners were announced on the same night of the event at the same venue. The award for "People's Choice" was given to I CAN'T HEAR YOU, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?, consisting of Ram Cortez (11C), Monchie Punzalan (11H), and Manu Dumayas (12B) who received the awards for Best Guitarist, Best Drummer, and Best Bassist, respectively. The overall winners were announced starting from 2nd Runner-up, which was awarded to Ontri; consisting of Francine Carlos (10G), Alfonso Declaro (10I), Aaron Hernandez (10B), Arvie Palaganas (10D), Ashana Avenir (9H), and Patrick Faraon (9I). The award for 1st Runner-up was given to NICE!, consisting of Monchie Punzalan (11H), Manu Dumayas (12B), Jake Fandiño (12C), and Nika Maristela (12K); Maristela being given the award of "Best Vocalist" for her performance. Finally, the award for Champion



Photos by Gabby Marcelo

of this year's Battle of the Bands was presented to 4 DA BOYS, consisting of Monchie Punzalan (11H), Manu Dumayas (12B), Martin Amora (12F), Pablo Capati (12F), Diego Hilado (12F), and Angelo Cabanban (12J).

De La Salle Santiago Zobel's 41st Vision Mission Week: LUMIN41RE

BY: Meithzel Javier

With the theme Luminaire: One Light One La Salle, De La Salle Santiago Zobel welcomed its 41st Vision-Mission Week (VM) last November 18-23, 2019.

Held to take pride in the Animo Spirit, this annual celebration is participated by students, faculty, administrators, and parents, with the main events being the VM Orientation and Mass, ICONS, Fair, and Family Fun Day.

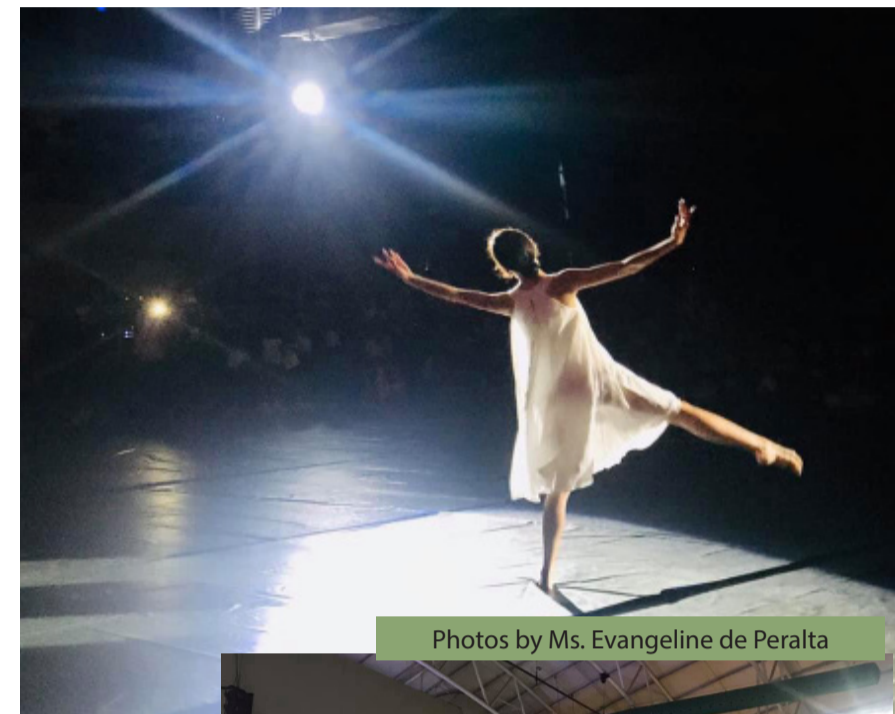
The ICONS is an all-teacher concert prepared for students, with the theme Stronger than Yesteryears for this year.

The annual Fair, lasting from November 21-23, 2019, was prepared by the SRCC. Several food stalls, dry goods, gimmick booths, and plentiful activities were available. Similar to the previous years, the 41st Fair celebrated Collaboration Night on November 22, 2019, with the theme Hiraya, which is a concert participated by special guests: Gloc 9, I Belong to the Zoo, Orange & Lemons, Lola Amour, Basically Saturday Night, Ysanygo, Zobel Dance Crew, Danzah Animo, Indak Lasalyano, and Animove. Another event is the Battle of the Bands which was held the day

prior to the Collaboration Night, with the theme Incendium: Awaken the Fire Within. This event is a competition amongst student-composed bands screened prior to performing on stage. The long-rehearsed Stomp and Beatbox Competitions were also continued this year to show sportsmanship and batch pride between the Grade 11 and Grade 12.

The final day of Fair composed of the Family Fun Day, wherein students from Pre-kinder to Grade 6 show a dance performance themed OPM this year. Meanwhile, Grade 7 to 12 students had their Interbatch Competition.

long with other La Salle Schools, De La Salle Santiago Zobel continues to celebrate VM week in memory of its founder since 1978.



Photos by Ms. Evangeline de Peralta



#LUMIN41RE: "Tawag ng Tawanan" with Guest Star Alex Calleja

BY: Dominique Perlas

Comedy show "Tawag ng Tawanan", was held on November 22, 2019, at the Sylvia P. Lina Theatre from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, with special guest star Alex Calleja. The event is a part of the annual celebration of the founding of De La Salle Santiago Zobel School.

A major guest of the show was Alex Calleja, a stand-up comedian, host, movie, TV, radio personality, and writer. He is most recognized by the people as a part of the national afternoon TV show, SHOWTIME, in ABS-CBN.

Originally scheduled from 10:00 am to 11:00 am, the event had been pushed back due to other events, and had then started from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.



Photo by Eidd Tayag

Collab Night: Hiraya 2019

BY: Ethan Edward Mason

Collaboration Night: Hiraya was a night that brought everyone delight during the evening of November 23rd. Held at the DLSZ Sports Pavilion, this year's special guests include Gloc 9, Ysanygo, I Belong in the Zoo, Orange and Lemons, Lola Amour, and Basically Saturday Night.

The opening event features an interlude of dance crews which includes the Zobel Dance Crew, Danzah Animo, Indak Lasalyano, and Animove.

The first band was I Belong to the Zoo known for their songs Sana and Patawad Paalam. They were followed by Ysanygo. Orange and Lemons performed next including well-loved songs like Hanggang Kailan and Heaven Knows. Basically Saturday Night and Balang Araw were next in the line-up. For the main event, Gloc 9 performed including Simpleng Tao and Hinahanap ng Puso.

Students really enjoyed the night's performances. When asked about the show, Gr. 10 student Sancho Luis Go has this to say, "Bright and hyped. Lola Amour HAS GOT to

be the highlight of Collab."

People being with their friends, having fun, leaving all the stress and worries behind made Collaboration Night 2019 a special night of the VM Week Fair.



Photos by Gabby Marcelo

OPINION

The Struggle of the Filipino

Rice Farmer

BY: Raphael Hebron

It has been a few months since Republic Act No. 11203, commonly referred to as the Philippine Rice Tariffication law, came into effect. The bill, which sought to help address soaring inflation by allowing the public to access cheap rice, has fulfilled that promise for the most part; rice has now drastically lowered in price and is now affordable and accessible to the general public. However, when the price drop is as drastic as a plummet to seven or eight pesos per kilo of what was once worth eighteen pesos per kilo just a few weeks prior, the rice industry starts to fall apart. What was once the centerpiece of our agricultural industry now struggles to make ends meet, as farmers who rely on the sale of their crops now get a quarter of what their earnings used to be.

Today, the imports of cheap rice by the National Food Authority (NFA) inflate the market and grouped with the Rice Tariffication law and reports of what can be described as the worst harvest season in the history of palay production, our farmers cannot help but deal with the fact that this industry implosion is largely due to the government's actions. The Rice Law was put in place to ensure food security, make the country's already struggling agricultural sector viable and globally competitive by using tariffs (import/export taxes), and stabilize food prices and inflation. While this law has ensured food security to the general population, the country's agricultural sector is pushed farther from global competition thanks to the internal problems we face due to the almost non-existent incentive for our farmers and our growing dependency on rice imports from Indonesia and Vietnam, countries that made the Philippines one of the largest rice exporters some decades ago.

The struggling rice profits doesn't just mean bad news for the farmers. The whole

community struggles, most especially in rural areas where agriculture is the main source of income. All we are seeing now is that our farmers are suffering daily, and many consider giving up the trade. This will have severely damaging effects on our economy and our agricultural sector, not to mention the irony of the rice industry facing extinction in a country once known for its quality rice exports. The number of farmers per generation already declines, and when the existing farmers contemplate quitting, there just might be no more rice farmers to grow our crops.

It is hopeful to see that the people have started doing their part in support of our farmers in this trying time, as several humanitarian and agricultural organizations come together along with online efforts to support local farmers through various initiatives. We all can do our part in supporting our farmers by buying locally grown rice, recommending others to do the same, and joining group rice buys to directly support the farmers and eliminate the middleman. As hopeful as this sounds, it isn't an excuse to take the blame away from the government, those who put our country in this situation in the first place. It is a step in the right direction to see efforts made by the House of Representatives to reverse the negative effects of this bill, going as far as to consider the bill's repeal. Government officials speaking out against this bill do a good job in voicing the concerns of our farmers and those in agricultural



provinces dependent on the earnings of the rice market.

Republic Act No. 11203, the Rice Tariffication law, was implemented to help boost the agricultural industry but has done the opposite: providing a legal loophole for traders to profit extensively at the expense of our livelihood as a result. Our farmers are struggling to make ends meet, and while the people are doing what they can to support them, nothing major will happen if the government does not step in and fix their problem. As part of the general public, we can each do our part to support the farmers by buying locally grown rice; keeping this as a temporary solution in mind. The people cannot be expected to compensate for and tolerate every mistake the government makes on their part, especially when it comes to managing agriculture in an agricultural country. You take away the profit, you take away the labor, and you have the collapse of an industry. The labor of our rice farmers should not be taken for granted; they are the backbone of our society that provides food for all to consume. If cutting down on savings helps the stability of one of the most important industries of our nation, then it is worth the extra money spent to help the country.

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OPINION

Time for Change

BY: Mikaelle Karo

The Earth is dying. This message has been repeated over the years, and through the actions of a 16-year-old climate activist, Greta Thunberg, people are realizing the severity of this global crisis. Temperatures are rising. Ice caps are melting. Forests are on fire. Different species are on the verge of extinction. Plastic can be found nearly everywhere: in food, oceans, clothing, and inside the stomachs of other animals. This is the planet our generation is set to inherit. Cleaning up the effects of the actions of the generations before us seems to fall on our shoulders, as the current leaders have not been doing much to resolve this issue. Greta Thunberg began striking for climate change in August of 2018: she would skip school to sit outside of the Swedish Parliament demanding lessened carbon emissions. Thus, inspired by her actions, young people all over the world gathered together to attend climate strikes.

The youth refuses to stand by and allow the Earth to collapse around them. Four million students gathered to join the climate strike last September 20, 2019. Not only was their absence excused, some countries actively encouraged their students to attend this protest. Many of these attendees hoped that their voices would be heard. Attendees gathered with signs begging for changes and actions. They want the government to do something about this issue. In Australia, the youth demanded no new mining projects, 100% renewable energy generation and exports, and a just transition to new jobs for current fossil-fuel workers and communities. There are some who criticize the participants of the climate strike because they are "too young" and "should focus on the future." Despite these negative responses to their actions, students still continued with the strike and the turnout was amazing. It does not matter how old one is, anyone can be concerned about the environment. No one else



Photo from Pixabay.com

seems to be stepping up and doing something about this issue, so it falls on the youth to raise awareness and call for change. The fact that many of the attendees skipped school to attend this strike shows just how relevant this issue is. To them, the one day of missed class barely meant anything in the long run. Protecting the earth is protecting our only home. After all, what is the use of attending school if we do not have a future to look forward to?

The Philippines is nearly at the tipping point of this environmental crisis. In fact, two cities have voted to declare a climate emergency though nothing concrete has been established. Our country has one of the most severe cases of air pollution in Asia. It is projected that there will be more droughts and natural disasters occurring throughout the country. There are multiple mining projects being done all over the country, most of which are actively supported by the government despite the many hazards it poses. We will not receive the worst of climate change in the Philippines, rather it would be the indigenous people and other vulnerable communities. In the case of the Lumad communities, it is not just the effects of

climate change they have to watch out for. They are being pushed out of their land by large scale mining companies hoping to take advantage of the natural resources in their area. Schools are being shut down in order to move the entire community to another location so that their children can receive an education. If they do not leave, then they are killed. It was not the mining companies who drove the Lumads out of their lands, but the Philippine government. They drove out entire communities and killed many teachers and students just to acquire their lands for mining; an activity that is often extremely damaging to the environment.

In the end, we must remember that the Earth is our home. One day, we will be the future leaders of the world and the environmental issues will be our responsibility to fix. However, that future may not even arrive. Scientists predict that in 11 years, the climate crisis will be unstoppable. If major changes are not made, then we may be looking at the possibility of mass extinction. Ignorance is no longer bliss. Nothing will happen unless we do something about it— in fact, it may even get worse. Now, it is time to change for a better future.

DOST: Lowered Budget

BY: Roxanne Darwin

People around the world rely on technology for a myriad of reasons, carrying on with their lives without thinking about where exactly these technologies come from. We, Filipinos, are no different. Every day, we use products from big brands from America, Japan, Europe, and other foreign countries. But just because most Filipinos rely on their products and innovations does not mean we should put the cap on ours.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) had approved a 2020 budget of P20.1 billion for the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) which is P79.85 million lower than last year's budget. This change, of course, affects institutes and

administrations that fall under DOST, such as the Philippine Atmospheric and Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), and the Philippine Science High School (PSHS).

In response to the lowering, Aklan representative Teodorico Haresco Jr. is pushing for the DBM to increase the DOST's budget with another P5 billion, and it's understandable.

Naturally, the DBM would and should have their own reasons for the budget lowering. However, the Philippine Science High School also falls under the budget of

DOST. This could lead to some PSHS students feeling discouraged from the lack of attention and priority the government is giving them, more especially since the Philippines had climbed nineteen spots, even ranking fifty-four in the Global Innovation Index this year through the research and development efforts of the agency.

Modern-day Filipinos now rely on the different developments of science and technology, which can range from disease cures to the simple devices we use every day. It seems that we tend to overlook the efforts of the DOST and instead focus more on their results, and those results won't improve with a lower budget.

FEATURE

ONE GREAT TEACHER:

A New Sense to Numbers

BY: Nigel Jeon

It's no secret that Math isn't the most loved subject. Many people point to a number of different reasons as to why this is, but for me, it's the overwhelming binary nature of its answers.

In reading, writing, and literature in general, your interpretation of a certain text can never be marked as wrong. The meaning of the words, phrases, and sentences can take the form of whatever you want it to be, and even if it's so far gone from the true message of the author, your interpretation will remain your interpretation, and no one can ever take that away from you.

We students are so used to these gray-area type of problems. Whenever a teacher says, "There are no right or wrong answers for this question," we jump from our seats to get an answer in, but if the teacher asks a question that has a black and white solution, we're suddenly not so confident in our sentiments.

It's this doubt prowling on the student's mind that makes Mathematics one of the most daunting subjects that a high school student will ever face. Unlike the naturally understandable, thought-provoking, and layered nature of essays, texts, and poems, in Math, what you see is what you get. There is no "gray area" in this subject; you're flat-out either right or wrong, and if you so happen to be the latter, it's you who has to adjust.

It certainly doesn't help that numbers aren't the prettiest when they're not in one straight line, and many students will agree with me when I say that the extent of how complicated Math can be is overwhelmingly palpable.

But some people, rare as they may come, can make sense of Math's garbled mess, and of these people was my Grade 10 Math teacher Ms. Julieanne Fresnido, or as we like to call her, Ms. Yhen.

We came to last school year as Ms. Yhen's first batch as a teacher in Zobel. Our class's first few days together with her were marked with nothing more than a few muted laughs and awkward introductions. These few days came and went, and after a measly few weeks of interacting with one another, we gelled with Ms. Yhen like peanut butter and jelly.

Yet naturally, a speeding friendship like ours would have its fair



Photo by Ms. Sef Cambaliza

share of debilitating road bumps; there were times where Ms. Yhen looked at us with eyes of profuse disappointment, and at times like these, our entire class would stand quiet as her poignant gaze enveloped the room.

See, Ms. Yhen is a person who is near and dear to everyone's heart. There was not a day where she didn't try her best to make sense of the numbing numbers painstakingly scribbled on the whiteboard wall. She was a teacher who understood that not everyone had an inclination for Math, and rarer yet, she was a teacher who first made you love her subject before teaching it. Truly, people like her are few and far between.

Recently, I had a conversation about her with two of my closest friends. I asked them, "Was there something about Ms. Yhen that stuck with you the most?" and after a few thoughtful beats, they came back to me with stories beyond compare. These friends of mine, gifted as they are, grew more in the gray area of questions and answers, yet here they were, listening to every single word and jotting down

every single number that flew out of Ms. Yhen's discussion. This was peculiar to me. "Why were you guys so intent on doing so well?" I thought to myself, and I didn't even need their answers to confirm my assumptions.

Ms. Yhen, more than anything else, is a beautiful human being. She was the atypical type of mentor in the sense that she was a friend before a teacher. The way she carried herself showed to you that she wanted you to get high grades not because it's candidly required, but because it's in her heart to wish to see you succeed. Without a shade of doubt in my mind, I can say that Ms. Yhen is the teacher we all terribly need yet we all definitely do not deserve.

To my mentor, my teacher, my parent, my guide, and my light: Thank you. Nothing in my class's time here in this school can ever surmount the pride that we all feel in our hearts when we smile and say that you were our teacher and you are our friend. From the bottom of our hearts, we love you.

FEATURE

UNSUNG HEROES

BY: Student

For ten months, I wake up dreading the thought of having to go to school. Five days a week, eight hours each day, repeating the same routine. What a nuisance it was. How I wish the tables and chairs were beds; the lights were always off; that the classroom were my home. If only I could mute all noises, shred all my papers, do what I want to do. "The workload is too heavy!", "The deadline is so unrealistic!", "Why do we keep having tests?"— my peers thought the same, and I could not handle the injustice we, students experience.

But I did not look the other way.

On the opposite side of the room is one person against thirty others. A voice so

little yet is able to control the crowd. Who knew that a person only years apart from us can be so wise? Already knowing how to handle different classroom scenarios, they never fail to amaze. Not once have I seen them throw away their papers or hear them say "I give up" or tell someone that they're incapable.

While we rest in the comfort of our homes, they are left working on new worksheets, presentations, and activities on their desks. Even they, too, study continuously to prepare themselves for us. It is not in their intention to fail us, to teach us how to procrastinate, or even to make us cry. In fact, they sympathize with us. It is not in their deepest desires to fail nor scold a student; rather, they

wish to see students being able to understand and apply what they have learned in their subject. The joy that we feel when we understand a topic is the same joy they feel knowing that they were able to educate a student.

To our dearest teachers, Thank you for your patience — from when we disrupt your classes to our unnecessary use of devices.

Thank you for your kindness — for the considerations you gave even when I didn't deserve it.

Thank you for your wisdom — because apart from your being a teacher, you are also our second parent.

Thank you for your presence — because without you, I would not be the person I am today.

ONE GREAT TEACHER:

Igniting the Spark in Music

BY: Minji Kang

Teachers are not merely dispensers of knowledge to eager young minds; they also serve to empower, guide, and encourage students throughout the course of their academic lives. One of the

teachers who best exemplifies this is Ms. Ma. Marcelina R. Flores (Ms. Marce, to her students), currently serving in the Music Department of De La Salle Santiago Zobel School. With a tenure of over 12 years in the establishment, students often describe her as passionate, caring, supportive, and friendly.



Photo provided by Ethan Edward Mason

For Ms. Marce, teaching is more than just a job—it is a great responsibility that affords her the chance to see her students grow and improve with her guidance as the days go by. "Teaching children, learning with them and from them, and accepting the responsibility of helping them prepare for the future is what teaching means to me," she says.

Despite her passion and love for teaching, it has not always been easy. Like any other person, she faces struggles. She has to spend hours checking papers and making learning plans and modules.

She also has to deal with her students and wake up at the crack of dawn to get to school on time. Coping with all the stress seems impossible but "it is less tiring if I think that I will be happier when I realize

teaching is not so much about struggling courageously as surrendering to God willingly and allowing Him to accept me, no matter what happens," says Ms. Marce.

The experience of teaching in two different La Salle branches (La Salle Green Hills and DLSZ) has given Ms. Marce a particular view of what it is like to be a teacher in La Salle. In her point of view, it is not just a matter of having good credentials or being intelligent, but also having a balance of kind and firm which allows students to feel cared for and loved. Most importantly, the true mark of being a La Salle teacher is that of serving as a model of inspiration to their students. In Ms. Marce's words: "More importantly, a LaSalle teacher inspires; continuously wanting to do all his or her actions for the love of God." In the pursuit of this goal, students thus seek to better themselves, which also urges the teacher to improve; this feedback loop of continuous inspiration and self-improvement allows for both teacher and student to continually better themselves as the days go by.

Given more than a decade or two of teaching, it looks like Ms. Marce is exactly where she wants to be. "I honestly cannot imagine spending the rest of my life doing anything else," she says. Truly, she is the embodiment of what a great teacher should be—dedicated to both her students and her calling.

FEATURE

What is SOGIE Bill?

BY: Mikaelle Karo and Ophrey Kian

Should transgender people be allowed in the bathroom of their gender identity? The question of which bathrooms transgender people should use has been brought to light due to a viral incident in Quezon City. Gretchen Diez identifies as a transgender woman, meaning her sex assigned at birth was male, but now identifies as a female. Last month, she attempted to use the women's bathroom but was asked to use the men's instead, receiving insulting comments in the process. At first she resisted, but eventually, she gave in. However, she felt like she should have done something. Taking a video of the encounter, she asked the janitor why she couldn't use the women's bathroom, but the janitor had her arrested and kicked out of the mall. She spent the rest of the day in the police station until the charges against her were dropped.

Ever since Diez was arrested because of the bathroom issue, the SOGIE Bill received attention. People are split between supporting the LGBT Community in their quest for acceptance and equality, while others believe that it limits their own rights. Even the Senate is torn in terms of whether or not to support it, with both sides sharing their opinions on the bill in question. Many of these statements

have caused confusion as to what the SOGIE bill really is.

The SOGIE bill, or also known as the Sexual Orientation (attraction to others) and Gender Identity (inner sense of self) and Expression (expression of self) Equality Bill, is the proposed answer to the calls for action against discrimination, especially those involving the LGBTQ+ community. However, its protection is not limited to such; the bill protects anyone who may have been discriminated due to their SOGIE. It has an extensive list of what constitutes as discrimination, including but not limited to: the denied access to public service, healthcare, or other facilities/establishments; the refusal of admission or exclusion from educational institutions; SOGIE's use as a factor of hiring, salary, promotion, dismissal, and more in the workplace; public speech meant to insult, shame, or intimidate members of the LGBTQ+ community; and the denial of licenses or certificates, with the exception of the marriage certificate.

In response to the SOGIE Bill, other senators have spoken up about proposing a universal anti-discrimination bill. Last month, Senator Sonny Angara filed a bill against discrimination

of all forms. It included discrimination due to age, race/ethnicity, religion, political affiliations, social class, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, relationship status, disability, health, language, physical appearance, or any other status. Similar to the SOGIE Bill, it contains provisions to protect people from discrimination in education, work, access to services, and acts of hatred. It is seen to be a more comprehensive bill when compared to the former, although some believe that both can be passed as they both aim to end discrimination.

The LGBTQ+ Community has been received with large controversy in recent years. They have been subject to many cases of discrimination, hate, and violence. Regardless of whether or not there is a bill protecting their rights, it is just right to show them respect. It is the responsibility of the citizens to ensure that they educate themselves about what they do now know: culture, terms, or way of life. Some may unknowingly hold prejudices or use insulting language since it has been normalized in our culture. Regardless of one's opinion of their community and the bills in question, we are all human in the end. No one deserves to be put in a position where cannot feel safe in a place they should.

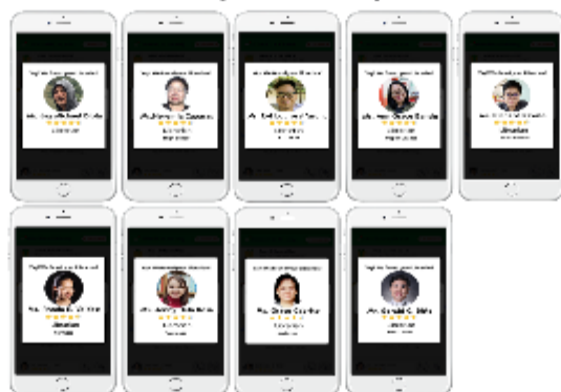
Grabrarian

Need some valuable information from the school database system? Here's how to conveniently book a librarian that will help you!

How It Works

1 Choose your Librarian

Choose a librarian whom you want to assist you



2 E-mail your Librarian

Email the librarian your desired topic at:

- diolajo@dlszobel.edu.ph
- caparash@dlszobel.edu.ph (High School)
- roj.afurong@dlszobel.edu.ph (HHS/AMHS)
- hanaigab@dlszobel.edu.ph (Upper Grades)
- richard.zavallo@dlszobel.edu.ph (Lower Grades)
- rhodora.valdez@dlszobel.edu.ph (Vermosa)
- jenisse.delarosa@dlszobel.edu.ph (Vermosa)
- cabri.tochr@dlszobel.edu.ph (Archives)
- garald.dino@dlszobel.edu.ph (Non - Print)

3 Wait for the document

Wait for the librarian to search, download and send your desired document to your e-mail.

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Image from DLSZ LRC Website

Grabrarian: LRC Service Goes Digital

BY: Kate Aguto

"Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one." - Neil Gaiman

The DLSZ High School Learning Resource Center (LRC) has recently launched Grabrarian which combines the concept of Grab and librarians, where you will be provided with and delivered accurate information you need with the use of technology.

Grabrarian is a new program that promotes the utilization of the school library with the added convenience of having the material prepared and ready for pick up when students or teachers are too busy to physically search the book themselves.

There are only a few simple steps in using Grabrarian. First, look for the emails of the librarians available on the official DLSZ LRC website. Next, email one of the librarians and specify the topic you need information on.

Then, all you have to do is to wait for the librarian to email you back with the book information. Lastly, all you have to do is to pick up the book from LRC and be sure to return on the due date. If it sounds simple, it's because it is.

I decided to try this service myself. I emailed one of the librarians about our current lesson in school and I was surprised to get a book recommendation related to the information I asked for in under an hour. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to pick up the book, but given the result, I was very happy with their service and I was actually very surprised at how quick their service was. I recommend this service to those who may be in a pinch and need information but can't go to the library.

FEATURE

Let's Do the WAK!

BY: Rebecca De Veyra

The School Counseling Office (SCO) launched its Wonderful Acts of Kindness program, or the WAK program, last September 25 at the Sports Pavilion.

The SCO created this program with hopes that the students and faculty of Zobel would become more aware of the importance of kindness. The students all wore yellow shirts in celebration of this activity. At the end of the event, everyone recited the Kindness Pledge.

"It's part of being a Lasallian. Compassion is one of the core values of La Salle, which is equivalent to kindness. I believe that, during this time, we need to spread kindness because so many cruel things are happening. Sometimes, in our own classrooms, in our own homes, we experience cruelty, so kindness should be revisited and should be experienced again," said Ms. Emilie Ocampo, the guidance counselor of Grade 9, when asked about the importance of the program.



Photo by Roxanne Darvin

On the days prior to the event, students were asked to create their own definition of kindness. This served as their entry to the competition, which was one of the events of the WAK program.

Money Heist

BY: Patricia Dimayuga

Are you planning a heist somewhere in the future and in need of inspiration? Whether that answer was a yes or no, this is the show for you!

Money Heist, otherwise known as La Casa de Papel, was created by Spanish television producer, writer, series creator, scriptwriter, and film director, Álex Pina.

This show will get your adrenaline pumping as it features pulling off the biggest heist in history! The 'perfect heist' is masterminded by a man simply known as the "Professor" who recruits, trains, and guides a team of eight highly experienced criminals each having a unique set of skills and abilities. The plot focuses on the objective of taking the Royal Mint of Spain, printing, and escaping with €2.4 billion.

This show is absolutely phenomenal and will leave you wanting more! Money Heist offers what you would typically expect of a heist plot--politics, psychological games, and interpersonal conflict. It is not just about the robbery itself; it is also about the amazing detail and precision of the precautionary steps they take to outsmart the cops and get out of there alive. As said in the show, the heist is like a game of chess: improvising, knowing the right moves, tying loose ends, and deception.

However, it also does an outstanding job of shedding light on certain social issues such as corruption, abuse, injustice, sexism, and so on. Be warned though that this is not a show meant for children as the show involves staging of crimes, violence, profanity, and gore.

Part of Money Heist's appeal is the emotional rollercoaster ride. There would be points in the story wherein you would feel like: "Yep, this is it. This is where they will all DIE." Then out of sheer luck and the ingenuity of the Professor, they are saved from impending doom--well, at least most of the time. Audience are left at the edge of their seat as this show is riddled with cliff-hangers and plot twists.

Testament to the shows strong writing is its characters and how the audience are left invested in these characters'

lives whether they are on the side of the law or not. You are constantly torn between whether you should be siding with the police or the criminals. Your idea of who the 'good guys' and 'bad guys' will be constantly shifting. There would even be instances wherein the hostages are painted as the bad guys; that is how good the writing is.

The character Berlin, played by the brilliant Pedro Alonso, is a great example of this. Berlin is a complex, over the top character who acts like he's the ringmaster of the circus, always putting on a show. More than that, he is a character of many layers. As eccentric as he is, there is of course a reason why he acts the way he does. He's a really fun character to watch.

Apart from their life of crime, you realize that there are more to these criminals. Like us, they have laughed, cried and loved.

Lessons of love and trust is evident in the show. The show brings in a new perspective on how sometimes, blood isn't always thicker than water. People who will be there for you through thick and thin, who always have your back, and who are willing to sacrifice their life for you can also be "family".

As good as the show is, you may also notice a few plot holes. For instance, the printing of money is a terrible idea. Economics 101 says that bringing in more cash into the market would lead to inflation, dropping the value of the currency. If the criminals succeed in printing their €2.4 billion, they are technically getting less value for it rather than just robbing the same amount that already exists in the market.

Or how and why would Moscow allow his son, Denver, to join a dangerous, life-threatening heist? Who would want to risk a loved one's life for an adrenaline rush?

Other than that, the show is remarkable due to its perfect blend of relatable characters, effective storytelling and stunning visuals.

Netflix's hit series La Casa de Papel (Money Heist), is expected to return for part 4 in early 2020.

TV REVIEW

Paano?

ni Zoe Galagar, BG10C

Mahirap kumilos, mabuhay nang may kulang
Wika ang kamay ng taong Pino ang nagan
Paanong manghahagkan, makikipaglaban,
Kung bahagi ng pagkatao'y kulang?

Wikang katutubo ang daliri ni Pino
Pa'nong mahahawakan ang kamay ng sinta—



Kalayaang mahal, 'di tuluyang madama
Pa'nong sasa'yo si Pino kung 'di s'ya buo?

Paano n'ya susubukan ang katapangan
Kung mismong mga kamay 'di alam ang gamit,

Pa'nong ang lakas ng loob ay mahihigit
Kung ang mga daliri'y walang katibayan?

Tunay na linis ba sa sarili'y sigurado?
Mahirap ang masinsinang paglinis, 'di ba?
Lalo kung daliri'y walang pagkakaisa
Iba ba'y malilinis ni Pino? Pa'no?

Paano, saan kukuha ng katapangan?
Malamang sa'ting pagkakaisa, sa'n pa ba?
Wika, paigtingin ang katutubong wika
Pili, Pino — paano mo 'yan sisimulan?



Pino'y ka ba?

ni Audric B. Vitangcol, G9F

Tunog banyaga ang salita,
Slang kung tawagin ang panimula.
Pag bumibigkas, tila hinahabol ng taga,
Bakit nga kaya...Pino'y ka ba?

Imported ang sapatos at bag,
Konsensya mo ba'y di binabagabag?
Sariling produkto'y di man lang mai-tanghoy,
Tunay ka nga bang Pino'y?

Saan ka lumaki?
Hindi ba't dito lamang sa Quezon City?
Ngunit ano ang una mong languahe?
Pilipino ba or salita ng ibang lahi?

Kung isa kang tunay na Pilipino,
Wikang sariling atin, kelangan kang mat-uto,
Dahil nasusukat dito,
Kung ikaw nga ay isang Pino'y sa diwa at puso.

Ang pagkakaisa, dito natin simulan.
Paggamit ng katutubong wika, bigyang halaga't pagkakakilanlan.
Ipagbunyi ang bansa mong sinilangan,
"Pino'y ako!"; ang isigaw na kasagutan.

Punla ng Paglaya

ni G. June Dioso, Guro ng Special Filipino

Tumubo sa lupang pinagkabuhasan
Ng dugo at pawis ng mga bayani,
Wikang nagbuklod ng pulo-pulong bayan,
Na hinati-hati ng wikang marami.

Tumubo sa luha at sa mga uha,
Niring mga sanggol sa unang salita,
Biniyayaan pa'ng wika'y kapagdaka,
Maging identidad kalul'wa ng bansa.

Tumubo na wika'y iisa ang pintig,
Mapag-ugnay-ugnay maging isang ugat
Ng kapayapaan, pag-asa't pag-ibig
Kahit ang pagita'y malawak na dagat.

Tumubo't lumago naging kayumanggi
Singkulay ng dangal niring ating lahi.
Wikang katutubo sa punit nagtahi
Upang ang bandila'y mama-yaning lagi.

Tumubo sa lupang laging inaagaw
Niring mga dayong nangan-duruhagi,
Biyaya ang wika 'wag baya'ng pumanaw!
Wika'ng magtatanggol sa'ting baya't lahi.



A Not-So-White Christmas

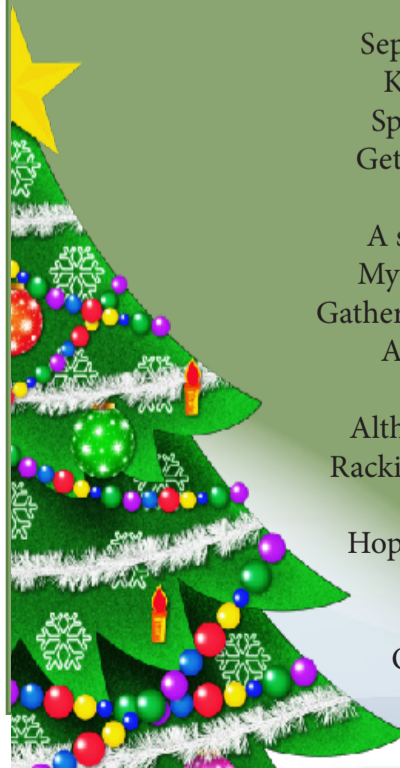
BY: Rebecca De Veyra and Minji Kang

September's only just begun but I hear the Christmas songs
Kids terrified of the naughty list and avoid doing wrong
Sparkling trees that are always present in each house I see
Get people thinking about what their gifts could possibly be

A special day when I get to see my cousins, titos, and titas,
My parents, brothers, and sisters, and my lolos and my lolas
Gathered together at a table filled with the most scrumptious food
As we share stories of our lives and lighten up the mood

Although there was no snow, we found ways to enjoy the day
Racking our brains for all the different games that we could play
Leaving cookies out for Santa so he can have a snack
Hoping that, the following year, he'll remember to come back

The entire day was great and no one made a fuss
Our Christmas isn't much, but it's good enough for us.



Athlete Feature: What brought you into the sport you are passionate for?



Matthew Torno

"My childhood revolved around playing basketball, in the streets, barefoot, with my friends. I loved the game so much that I tried out for it in my old school. It was difficult but I eventually got into the team because my coach liked me for having high motor skills. This was when the hustle started for me. I would stay in the court until midnight working on my game - that is how much I loved it.

I eventually got plenty of offers from big schools for me to play for them - it changed my life. It helped my mother and I since we are not the most well-off people so scholarships really helped us with education. My mother works hard and raised us by her own, feeding us

everyday so I'm aiming high to the professional level so I can give it all back to her and God".



Jona Angelo Magcalayo

"I started playing golf because of my younger sibling. I got inspired with how he always represents the country. Sometimes, he also would watch golf in the television which made me appreciate the beauty of the sport. I eventually yearned to be like some of the professional women golfers that inspires people with how great they are.

For me, joining golf has changed me to be a better person through self control and having sportsmanship, because of this, I was able to learn how to control my emotions."



Kurt Delos Santos

"Golf was very close to my heart ever since the age of 7. It taught me many things that I wouldn't forget in life. I learned Golf with the help of my grandfather. My grandfather was an avid golfer and cherished the sport til this very day. He introduced the sport to me at that age. I suddenly got interested in it.

The sport also taught me different life lessons which changed my life. I learned to be an honest man because golf teaches you to be very true to yourself because you cannot cheat in the sport. It also made me very close or sociable to everyone because it is a social game. Because of the culmination of these factors I believe that I became a better person. I would say that you should try the sport and it will make you become a better person."

DLSZ PE Department Holds Sports In-Reach Program

BY: Qichsia Paladin

Students from Poblacion Elementary School and Muntinlupa National High School were invited to "Pusong Palakasan", an in-reach program to teach them about various sports. The event took place on August 16, 2019 in the DLSZ Sports Pavillion, facilitated by selected DLSZ Junior High School students.

The program, hosted and headed by fellow DLSZ students, began with a talk about the importance of fitness, delivered by students from Grade 8. The invited students were then given the chance to try out dance, volleyball, floorball, and basketball.

"Giving the best opportunity for those who need it is the best that you can give to inspire the young generation to change the world to be a better place." said Sir Jay-R Beterbo, a previous student of Muntinlupa National Highschool, now a Physical Education Coordinator for DLSZ.

The event was initiated by the DLSZ Physical Education and Health Unit in collaboration with the Social Action Office and DepEd Muntinlupa and was sponsored by United South Floorball Club Zobel and Rotary Clubs of Manila Metro and San Marcelin.



Students from Poblacion Elementary School and Muntinlupa National High School performing a warm-up. (Photo by: Qichsia Paladin)

...Football Boys Triumph Borneo Cup

from p. 12

teams are headed by their coaches Richard Leyble, Selu Lozano, Pau Espinosa, and Ayi Bimbo.

The U15 boys competed against Smk kinarut Malaysia, Malaya fc Philippines, Indonesia muda Indonesia, Smk beluran Malaysia. In the finals, they competed again with Indonesia Muda and won with a 1-0 split.

Playing the game for MFC, the football players had mixed feelings. Alfonso Gonzalez said that they felt nervous not knowing any of the teams they were up against, especially that it was on an international level. But at the same time, they felt lucky to experience this type of competition in a different country.

When asked what led to their victory, Josh Meriño said it was because they felt that the Philippines was never really known for or expected to win in football. They felt the urgency to change the perspective of how football is seen. And ultimately, they wanted to give honor to our country, which is the Philippines.

For aspiring football players, Josh Meriño said that you must be "willing to be 110% committed in football. You must have the inspiration and discipline to sacrifice your time, work hard, play hard, and most especially to pray."

The tournament was participated by more than 300 athletes from all over the world, coming from Indonesia, Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Australia.

SPORTS



Photos above: (top row left to right) James Macasaet, Reign Ramos, Chelsea Gomez, Enrique Ilas, Sebastian Alcantara, Sandro Blardony; (bottom row left to right) Nico Castillo, Ryu Hizume, Natalia Ilas, Ezekiel Joson, Jholo Perez, Carlos Valencia (Photos by Reina Castillo Ilas)

DLSZ Taekwondo Varsity Wins in Various National Tournaments

BY: Reina Castillo Ilas, contributor

The DLSZ Taekwondo Varsity competed and brought home medals in several national competitions. These competitions were participated in by more than 2,000 taekwondo athletes from all over the Philippines. The competitions featured both forms (poomsae) and sparring (kyorugi) in different belts, age and weight categories.

Lorielay (BrafeNHS 2023) won Bronze at the “Batang Pinoy Championships” held last August 25-30, in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, for the Junior Boys Blackbelt Category.

Ezekiel Vincent Joson (BrafeNHS 2021) won Bronze at the “MVP Best of the Best Championships” held last October 20, 2019 at Ayala Malls, Manila Bay, Pasay City, for the Junior Boys Blackbelt Category.

During the 2019 National Taekwondo Championships held last November 9-10, 2019 at Ayala Malls, Manila Bay, Pasay City. The

following were victorious:

- James Emmanuelle Macasaet (2021) – Gold, Juniors Girls Blackbelt
- Chelsea Lianne Gomez (DLSZ 2023) – Silver, Cadet Girls Blackbelt
- Sandro Blardony (DLSZ 2025) – Bronze, Cadet Boys Novice 1
- Nicolas Aaron Castillo (DLSZ 2023) – Bronze, Cadet Boys Blackbelt
- Ryu Hizume (DLSZ 2023) - Bronze, Cadet Boys Blackbelt
- Carlos Martin Valencia (DLSZ 2022) – Bronze, Juniors Boys Novice 2
- Amanda Reign Ramos (DLSZ 2028) – Gold, Grade School Girls Novice 1; Bronze, Grade School Girls Poomsae
- Enrique Armando Ilas (DLSZ 2027) – Silver, Grade School Boys Novice 2
- Maria Natalia Ilas (DLSZ 2028) – Bronze, Grade School Girls Novice 1, Semi-Finalist,

Football Boys Triumph Borneo Cup

BY: Sophia Denaga

Twenty-five Zobel students playing for the Makati Football Club participated at the 2019 Malaysia Borneo Football Cup last September 30-October 6, which was held in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, East Malaysia.

The U15 team who emerged champions included Scott Mackenzie, Matthias Lozano, Arthur Kaufmann, Josh Meriño, Rizal Hoxha, Miguel Collo, Ishtar Mori, Alfonso Gonzalez, Gael Tablante, and Jian Caraig. Meanwhile, U14 and U13 respectively won second place. Playing for U14 are Arthur Kaufmann, Josh Meriño, Jian Caraig, Alfonso Gonzalez, Ishitaro Mori, Prince Reyes, Antonio Climent, Andrei Gonzales, Caleb Santos, Ivan Nocidad, Trez Marinas, Lance Locsin, Matt Gregorio, Jose Azur while U13 players are Anton Baretto, Jax Peña, Joaquin Collo, Lucas Aguilar, and Bacchus Ekberg. The



Photos by Rizal Roxha, Prince Reyes

DLSZ Swim Team Bags Awards at UAAP

BY: Tennissey Paladin

The DLSZ Swim team bagged awards at the UAAP Season 82 High School Swimming Championship last October 17-20, 2019. Eight schools participated in the event: Adamson University, National University, University of the East, Far Eastern University, De La Salle University, Ateneo de Manila University, University of the Philippines, and University of Santo Tomas.

The boys swim team won first runner-up, and the girls won second runner-up. They placed in various events, including the boys 100m Freestyle, girls 800m Freestyle, and girls 200m Breaststroke.

“UAAP 82 was one of the most memorable season that I’ve had. Despite the boys team losing our champion title by landing 1st runner-up, we never let it keep us down, said JP Elises (Batch 2022). “I had the best performance this UAAP season compared to the past ones. Winning my first individual bronze on the second day and winning a gold medal on the following day. Our coaches never failed to support and give us advice on the race proper. With the support of the swimming team from Taft and the parents, it showed the true Animo within us.”

Poomsae

- Paul Sebastian Alcantara (DLSZ 2029) – Bronze, Grade School Boys Novice 1

Other participants were:

- Ezekiel Vincent Joson (BrafeNHS 2021)
- Jhon Lorielay Perez (BrafeNHS 2023)
- Ezio Miguel Valencia (DLSZ 2024)
- Martin Rafael Isip (DLSZ 2028)
- Luis Oscar Caguiat (DLSZ 2026)

The Taekwondo jins are coached by Mr. Ricardo Santiago Jr., Mr. Noel Almaida, Mr. Edward Cruz, and Ms. Bella Cesista.

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