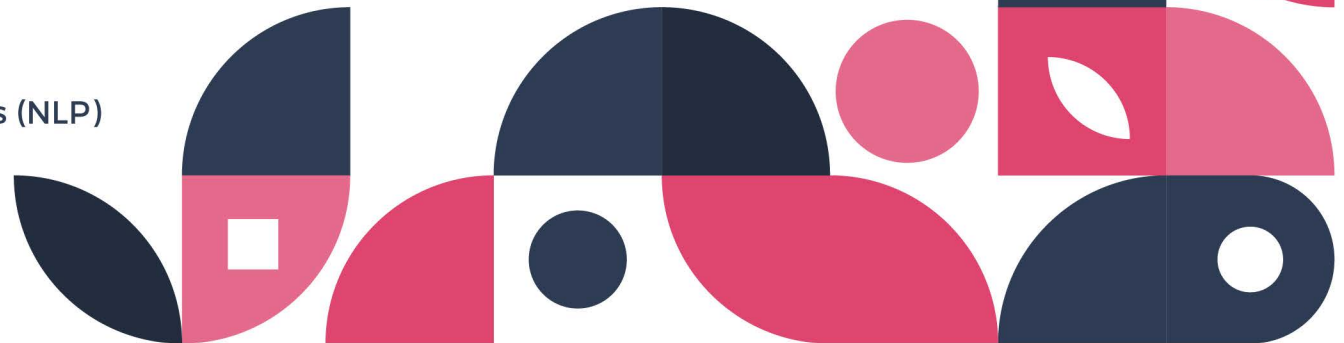


Impact Stories

Public Libraries' Contribution
to the Community Volume 2

Published by
National Library
of the Philippines (NLP)





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Foreword

While serving in the Public Libraries Division (PLD) of the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) for almost two decades, we have come to realize that the sequel to the Impact Stories of Public Libraries has become a very special and historic occasion in Philippine Public Libraries and Librarianship. When the first volume was launched last March 9, 2020 during the 61st Public Library Day in the Philippines, there was no doubt in our mind that this event must be replicated and continue to be held as we believe public libraries foster development and empower people down to the grassroots.

When the online learning for the first batch of the **Essential Skills for Public Library Personnel (ESPLP)** was offered in April 2020 when the pandemic had already begun to wreak havoc on the country, the PLD grabbed this opportunity to include “impact stories” that participants underwent or experienced in their own community and/or library as part of their expected outputs.

The expected benefits of this book to the readers are that they will be inspired upon learning about what others have done and continue to do in their respective fields and localities. This is in keeping with what Loida Garcia-Febo, the Chair of the **American Library Association (ALA) 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Task Force** inspiring-ly declared, “Libraries are hope.”

This book is especially relevant as we navigate the new normal environment and as we continue to establish the importance of public libraries in the country in these fast-changing times. This book in particular also illustrates how public libraries contribute significantly to the United Nations 2030 Agenda, specifically the 17 identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that we as a charter-member nation has enthusiastically subscribed to.

This book is also important to all those hard-working but unrecognized people engaged in public libraries to emphasize the significance and importance of their every day toil as they cater to every patron that they have sworn to serve. On the other hand, it is also hoped that end-users reading this book will be encouraged to emulate the library services and programs, and even get involved to improve and develop those existing library services and programs to serve their community even more. It may also help in the evaluation of existing programs and services and inspire new ones to be launched as well as replicated to other libraries as well.

It is our firm belief that this book is worth reading as it will provide a better grasp and increase public awareness about our public libraries and ignite interest and curiosity about them specially among impressionable children and young adults in the country. It has been the PLD's strong desire to come up with more sequels to this book as the online learning on ESPLP continues. In this manner, the NLP will be able to collate and organize concrete and real impact stories that public libraries continuously generate, and in so doing, public libraries will indeed empower development in the local, national, and even global spheres.

Blesila P. Velasco



Acknowledgement

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Sentro ng Karunungan Library

Baguio City Library

Ilocos Norte Provincial Library

Albay Provincial Library and Information Center

Asingan Municipal Library

Imus City Library

Quezon Provincial Library

Cagayan de Oro City Library

Manila City Library

Kalibo Municipal Library

Iloilo City Public Library

Umingan Municipal Library

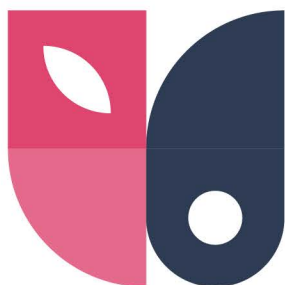
Pangasinan Provincial Library

Digos City Library

Alcala Municipal Library

Crispina Marcos Memorial Library and Museum

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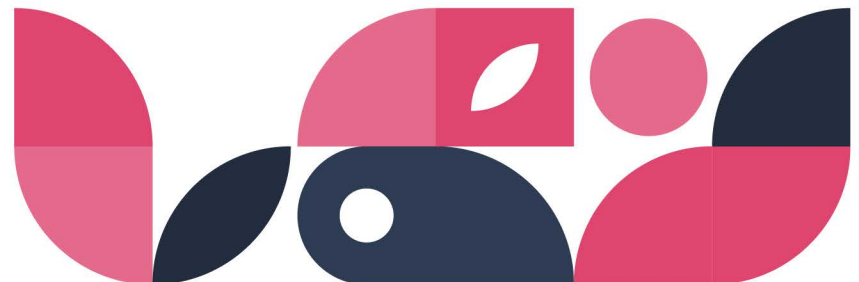
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Message from NLP Director

To say that this year is turning out to be an eventful year is obviously an understatement. No doubt that the year 2020, a critical year not only for our country but for the entire planet, which, as everyone knows, is in a crisis due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Some people call it the China virus because it originated from the province of Wuhan in China. Ironically, in the Chinese language, the word “crisis” consisting of two syllables written in two separate characters, one representing “danger” while the other “opportunity”. From this vantage point coupled with human nature as optimistic people, we zoom our focus on the opportunity rather than danger.



The challenges that this pandemic have brought upon us have forced us to highlight the resilience that is inherent in us Filipinos and has brought about endless opportunities for us to help one another and highlight the Filipino value of “Bayanihan”. True to this Filipino trait, our libraries and our library staff are no exception to this virtue and are in fact at the forefront of its practice and display.

As evidence of this, we have seen and heard of the news stories about libraries housing people who were stranded and had no place to go and other anecdotes of their going beyond the call of duty to help their fellow citizens in any way they can.

In the same vein, our librarians have also found ways to care for their library collections and research new methods to mitigate or prevent the spread of the disease while continuing their service the Filipino people. And all the while, library services have been continuously delivered to its regular clients and to the public who are in need of them, if not in person, certainly and reliably online.

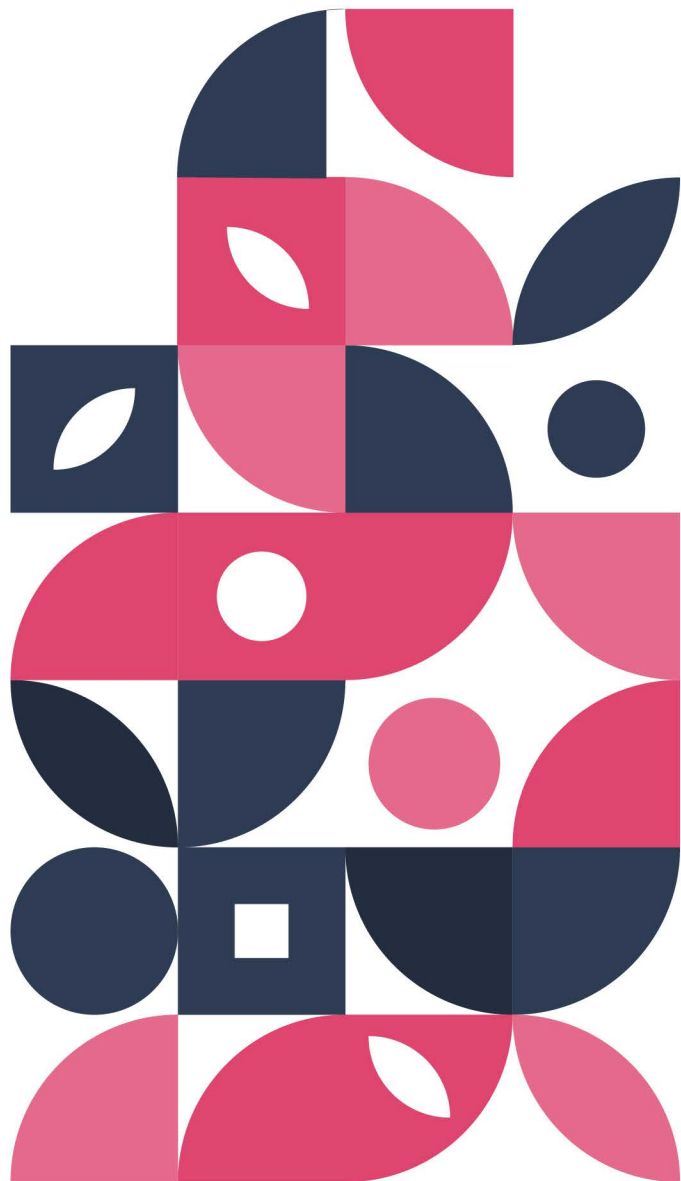
Amidst all this turmoil, our hardworking librarians and library staff have unfailingly and creatively found opportunities to innovate in the middle of this crisis. Perhaps the best illustration of this is in this compendium of Impact Stories: Public Libraries Contribution to the Community: Volume 2 that we have collated from our various libraries around the country responding to this challenge.

We are all inspired by their stories as we celebrate the 30th LIS month, with the theme: “LibREAL (Libraries: Relate, Engage, Advocate, Lead)”. By the same token, I would like to encourage everyone to actively take part in these activities and unite and work with our libraries in its renewed efforts to Relate, Engage, Advocate, and Lead Filipinos into the path of recovery and ultimate success.

Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano

Director IV

National Library of the Philippines



Introduction

Libraries and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

When people think of progress and development, libraries probably are the farthest thing from their mind. The stereotypical image of a library is that of a place where nothing happens - a place where people read quietly and where nothing but idle and unproductive mental and intellectual ruminations abound. So when one thinks of such an ambitious concept as the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Development, libraries are one of the last things that the ordinary person would think of as a major player in a program as grand as this. To see how grand, one need only read the preamble to the UN Program which is worth reproducing here in its entirety:

Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

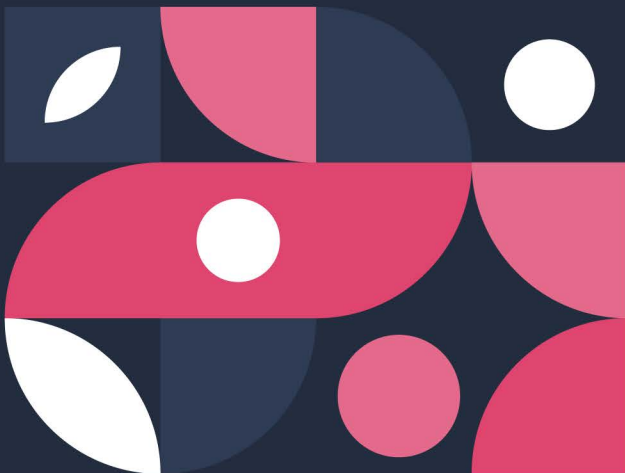


Preamble

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognise that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next fifteen years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet:

In furtherance of this agenda, the United Nations has identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform the world, namely:



GOAL 1: No Poverty

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being

GOAL 4: Quality Education

GOAL 5: Gender Equality

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

GOAL 13: Climate Action

GOAL 14: Life Below Water

GOAL 15: Life on Land

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

These are truly ambitious goals worth pursuing, not least because the survival of mankind itself probably depends on them. But how do libraries further development? How can libraries, and in particular our own public libraries contribute to this agenda? Libraries further development by helping people get the information they need to access economic opportunity, gender equality, quality education, improve their health or develop their communities. This is a role that our public libraries have faithfully lived up to throughout the decades, even centuries since the first public library in the country was first set up by the Spanish King in our country's capital hundreds of years ago.

This collection of stories and anecdotes from our hard working librarians and library-in-charge from all over the country are illustrative of how they contribute to this agenda. They are examples of how our libraries are already furthering development along these 17 identified SDGs. Individually, they might seem insignificant compared to the magnitude of the problems confronted and the ambitiousness of the UN's goals. Most of these activities may also not be seen to be directly addressing all or any of these 17 specific Sustainable Development Goals – but in their own small ways relative to the limited powers and resources available to them, they have surely and collectively punched way above their weight and have succeeded in chipping away at these goals towards helping the International Community achieve them by the end of the decade.



30TH LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES (LIS) MONTH

RATIONALE

By virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 837 series of 1991, November is the Library and Information Services (LIS) month. The celebration focuses on engendering public awareness to the invaluable service that libraries and information centers render.

THEME DESCRIPTION

For Year 2020, the theme for the 30th commemoration is “LibREAL”, a portmanteau for the word Libraries and the acronym for Relate, Engage, Advocate, Lead. The letters “Lib” could also be interchanged with the latin word liber (meaning “free”) and which is also the root of liberty (“the quality or state of being free”). With this play of words, this year’s catchy theme aptly and vividly captures the essence of the libraries’ role in attaining the sustainable development goals (SDGs) established in the United Nation 2030 Agenda and integrated into our Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022.




OBJECTIVES

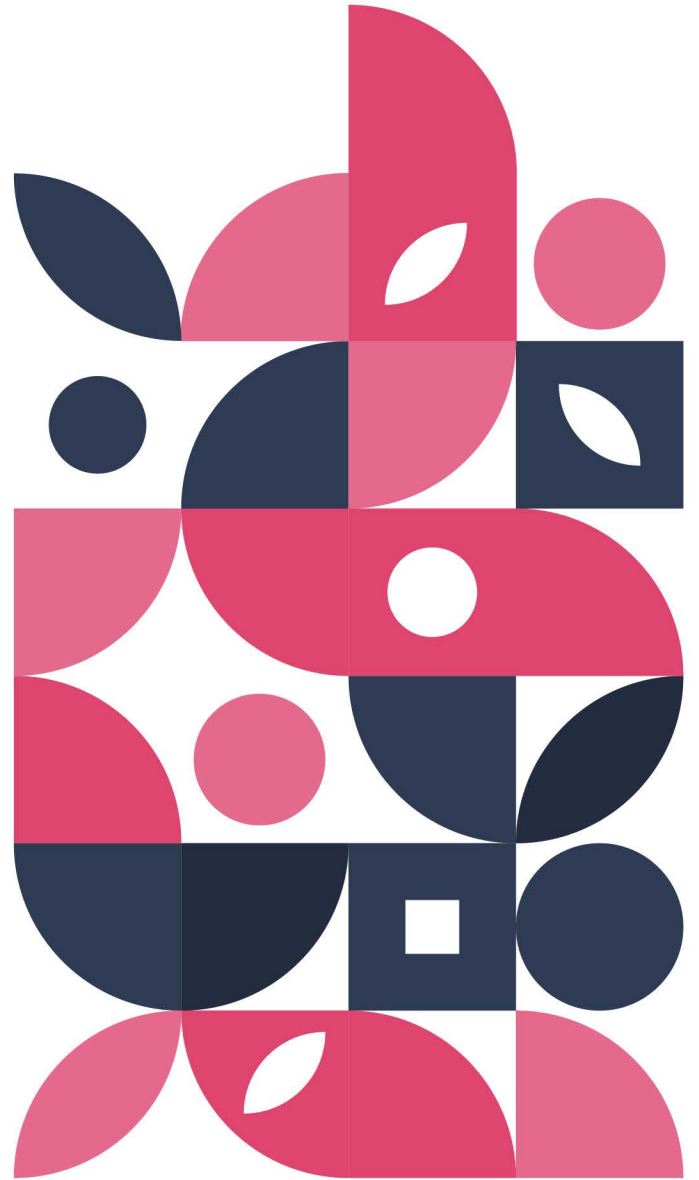
The month-long activities, under the direction and auspices of the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS), were designed to achieve the following objectives:

- 1 Relate** the libraries' wide range of products and services made accessible, available and relevant to the emerging and unique needs of modern society. Through the libraries' relentless efforts at reinventing itself especially in a technologically driven society, they become potent agents of change.
- 2 Engage** the communities and other stakeholders to generate interest about libraries and its services;
- 3 Advocate** the libraries' role in attaining the sustainable development goals (SDG) established in the United Nation 2030 Agenda and integrated into our Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022; and,
- 4 Lead** in an environment conducive to innovation, empowerment, creativity, and intellectual freedom.





Albay Provincial Library and Information Center (APLIC)



APLIC: A Sectoral Consultation Workshop



The Albay Provincial Library and Information Center is a public library that has a mission to serve people from all the different sectors of society and to give them the best and most reliable services and resources a library could offer. They recognize that they are not a perfect library and there is no such thing as a perfect library, but their goal is to serve their library clients to the best extent that they can muster.

They believe that it is not just for themselves but for the people they serve. In this regard, the library, with the help of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Albay came up with this “Sectoral Consultation Workshop” in order to improve the reliability and accuracy of their library services and resources and to enlighten everyone on the ideal direction of the library in order to achieve its purposes for the people. They came up with this activity because they knew that their library was lacking ‘something that can turn into everything’ from the resources to its services and even down to the physical facilities of the library.

This was really an idea from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan that officials and staff from the library immediately acted on to bring to life. It was a 2 - day activity wherein they also launched the Tech4ED Center dated March 7-8, 2019, in which the Academic Sector that included librarians, professors from the SUCs, DepEd Representatives Presidents of Student Governments in Schools and ALS Teachers were involved. Also included were Senior Citizens, Persons with Disability, Women and Government Sectors who participated in the various consultations in the course of the workshops held during the two-day period.

One could confidently state that the activity had contributed to the 5Ks and in some way helped to meet pressing issues because this provided a venue where every stakeholder from the different sectors of the community were able to discuss their needs and preferences. The workshop run smoothly with positive feedback from most participants. All the inputs of the participants were also duly recorded and brought to the attention of the people and parties concerned.

A lot of suggestions and recommendations were discussed and refined as well as possible solutions to problems that may occur along the way. During the sharing part which was held at the conclusion of the program, the library staff were heartened to hear many participants share their experiences of how our library had become part of their everyday routines and how it helped them improve their lives. Many suggestions were also made on how library services could be improved which were duly noted and taken to heart by everyone concerned.



ALCALA LIBRARY & MUSEUM

FINV DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTION

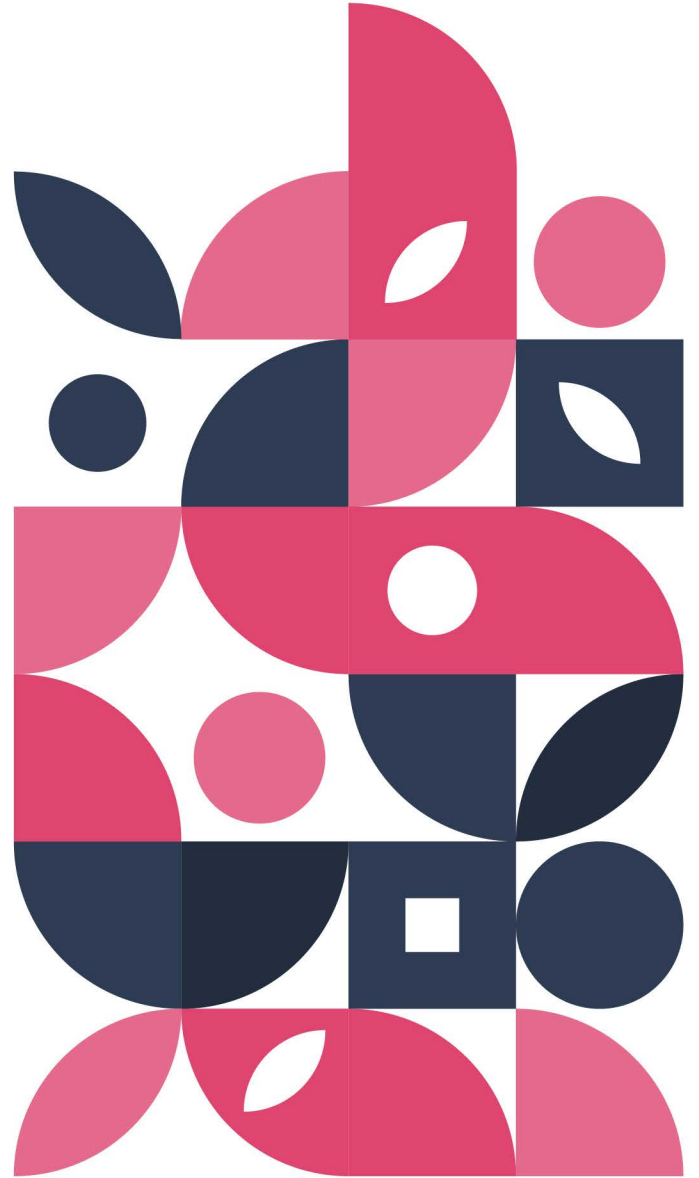
The white board contains several documents, including a notice with a circular logo on the left side and various forms or reports arranged in a grid-like fashion.

The doors have several notices posted on them. One notice on the left door reads "ONLINE APPLICATION AVAILABLE FROM 10:00 AM TO 10:00 PM". Another notice on the right door reads "ALCALA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY".

A notice is posted on the window to the right of the entrance, partially visible through the archway.



Alcala Municipal Library



The Alcala Municipal Library: Then and Now

The Alcala Municipal Library has undergone various transformation since it opened its doors to the public in 1960. The library then had its own building adjacent to the Alcala Town Hall. When the building was deteriorating and becoming inhospitable to researchers and library users, then Mayor, Atty. Manuel T. Collado and then Vice Mayor, Clemente Arboleda, decided to put up a new two-storey library building. During its construction, the existing library was temporarily housed at the Alcala Central School old Library in 2006. Then in 2007, it was transferred to the TOA building located at the Alcala Town Plaza. From the TOA building, it was again transferred to the Alcala Conference Hall at the Municipal Town Hall when the TOA building was demolished in 2010.

Despite all the hassles, troubles and hardship of transferring from one place to another, the library always rose again and continues to serve and satisfy the reading needs of the community, especially the elementary and high school, college students not only in our town but also from the adjoining towns.



The new building was inaugurated on May 3, 2013 and was renamed as Alcala Library and Museum. The newly inaugurated building has bigger/wider spaces for researchers. It is also equipped with computers that are hooked up to the internet, more lit, and with enough air-conditioning units.

Ex-Mayor Atty. Manuel T. Collado and Ex-Vice Mayor Clemente B. Arboleda they put up a library building having a comfortable and bigger/wider space for the researchers. The library is equipped with necessary facilities with computers that are hooked to the internet and more lit, air-conditioned reading area.

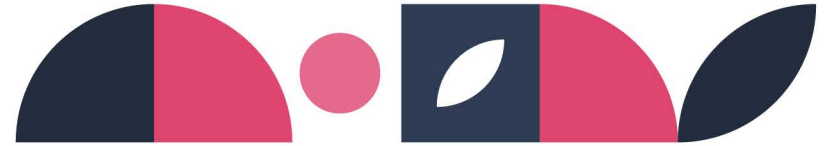
The library offers free internet access, encoding, and printing service to the library clientele. This library service helps many students in elementary, high school, college with their school projects in our town and nearby towns. We are also offering computer literacy training to the students who are computer illiterate especially those who are in the public schools during weekends.

Digital/Computer Literacy Training of Senior Citizens and Barangay Health Workers

During Public Library and Library and Information Services Month the library is conducting a Digital Literacy/Computer Literacy Training for 5 days to Senior Citizens and Barangay Health Workers. This training shows them how to use ICT in gaining new knowledge and current innovations. It also teaches them basic computer skills, including training on how to use the internet for entertainment and research. They are also taught how to access e-government services relevant to their needs.



Interactive Storytelling Training to Child Development Center workers



The Library also conducted Interactive Storytelling Training to Child Development Center Workers in collaboration with the National Library of the Philippines – Children’s Division Staff.

The training taught them the following: to explore how and when to use stories, storytelling models, mistakes and practice delivery skills; to have clear understanding of what makes a good story and how to use story in the workplace effectively and to promote the love of reading books and other reading materials.

Nowadays, the CDC workers are actively joining storytelling contests held from the different towns of Pangasinan. And many children come to the library to read and borrow books.



Still - Life Painting of Grade 6 Pupils of Alcala Central School

Another activity conducted was the Still Life Painting Training given to Grade 6 pupils of the Alcala Central School. This training aimed at familiarizing the students with various styles of arts and painting and paint a picture life, attempting to use paint effectively.

Similarly, storytelling activities were conducted for Child Development Center Pupils to foster the love of reading books and other reading materials.



SEN. LETICIA RAMOS-SHAHANI MUN. LIBRARY

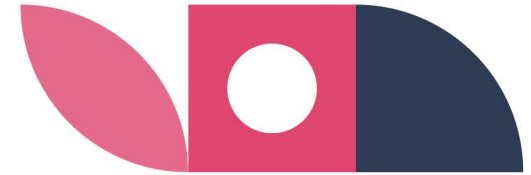




Asingan Municipal Library



My Co-Library Lovers



While the Asingan Municipal Library (which was named after the illustrious Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani) has already had a 30-year history of serving the community of Asingan, its newly hired librarian started her job only last March 2019. It's turned out to be a big challenge for her to run the Asingan Municipal Library and build it into a model to serve the community of Asingan.

At first she was hesitant to open the library service, and continued to be so even after completing her first 8 months in service. But as children came and went inside the library, she watched them eagerly read and explore things in the facility, watch cartoon movies and sometimes sit and join them in their reading, she got to know them very well. She realized without her even noticing that their very own children's library services has been established.





With the support of local government of Asingan they purchased an air conditioning unit, tables and chairs for the children and even more books for them. A short while later, she expanded the library basement to be the exclusive children's section of the library. By January 2020, she was able to invite even more students from nearby school to have a storytelling service for kindergarten and grade 1 students exclusively.

Soon afterwards, school principals were clamoring to join her newly established children's library service. The next step undertaken were the conduct of storytelling sessions held every Monday from 9am to 10am which soon became a regular service in the library. In these sessions, almost 500 children were accommodated every month. Not bad for a novice librarian after all.

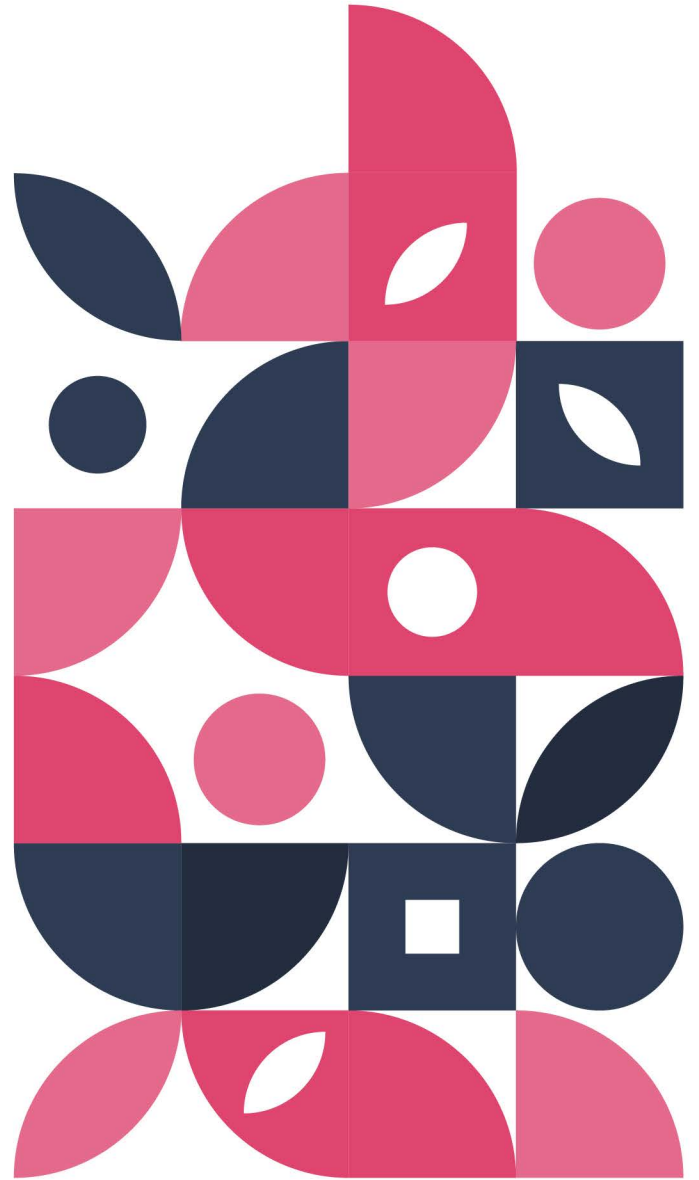
Looking back, she could not have made this on her own. She was blessed with the most helpful and supportive people around her, who were all willing and eager to help the library to grow through their steadfast encouragement and support. These people were the municipality's very capable Mayor Lopez, Vice Mayor Chua, Mr. Ranjit Shahani, other volunteers and all the dedicated library staff. They were her solid library partners, and faithful co-library lovers.







Baguio City Library

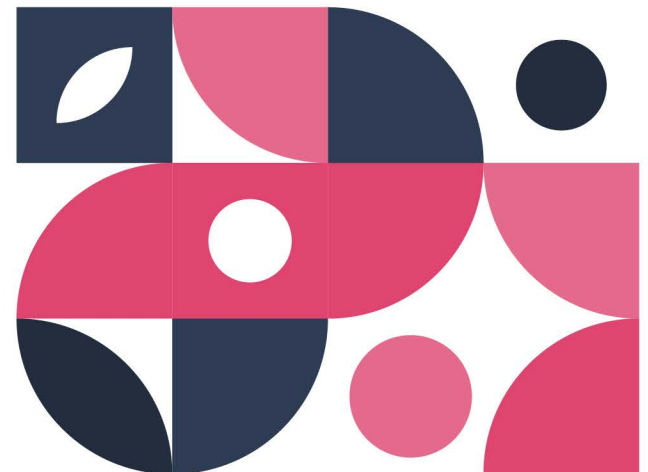


A SCHOOL-BASED READING PROGRAM



This program was launched in response to the low level of awareness about the City Library and its functions and services in the community as expressed in surveys and studies. It is also intended to promote love for reading among children which is at an all time low due to the proliferation of handheld electronic games and gadgets and their unfortunate preoccupation with and addiction to social media.

The library started with three elementary schools in 2018 with eight sections totaling 244 Grade III pupils. One story was read on a scheduled day per week for six weeks. After the reading, a short evaluation was done to see if they had read and understood the story correctly. Those who got perfect scores were given a simple token. After six weeks, there was a culminating activity per school which was participated in by the pupils and their teachers, principals, parents, barangay officials, and city officials. Pupils who garnered high scores were awarded with ribbons and medals. Parents were encouraged to actively participate and contributed towards the success of the activity.



The program was well supported and appreciated by the principals and teachers with the anticipation and hope that it will continue for the coming years to eventually cover all grade levels. It has also given the Library an opportunity to be introduced in the community especially to the children as well as to their parents and school officials. The pupils served as inspiration to everyone through their shared messages in response to the program and promises to visit the library and commitments keep on reading.

Although the program has just started, there was already a noticeable increase of attendance of library visits at the Library. Feedback from the teachers was likewise favorable, with the information that there was a marked improvement in school on the part of the pupils subjected to the reading program.

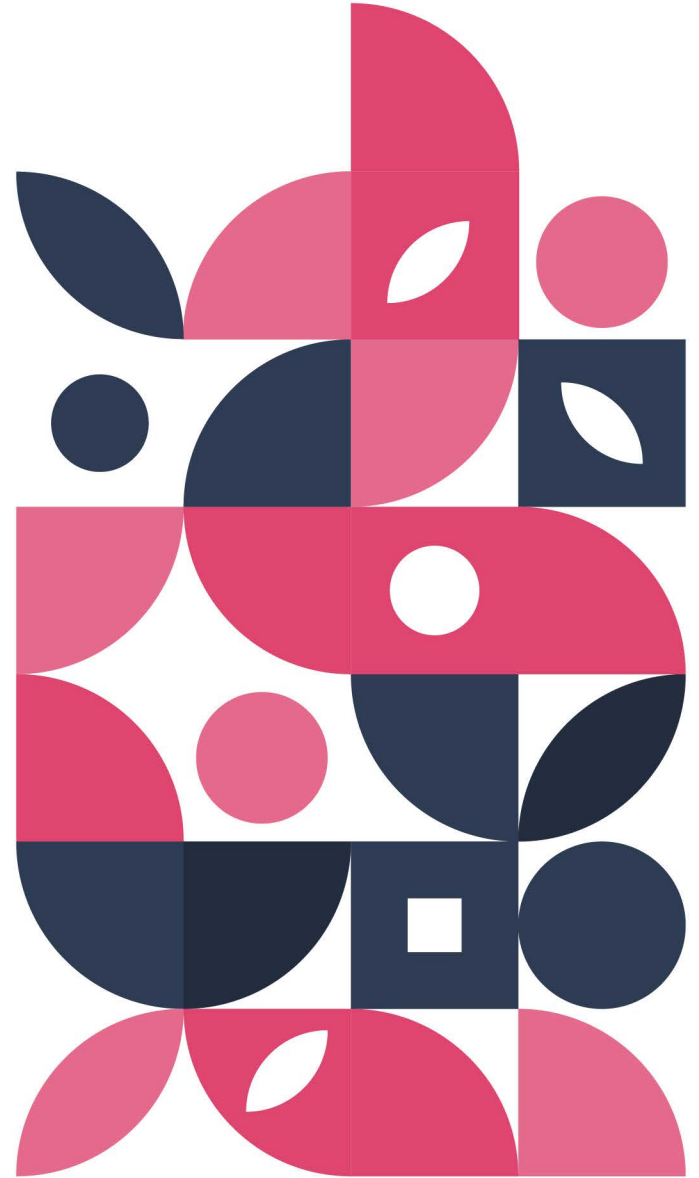
As a result of these encouraging developments, the Library has decided to continue the program, with the ambitious objective of eventually covering all public elementary schools in the City in furtherance of its mandate to inform and educate its constituents both in the public and private sector.







Batangas Provincial Library



Malasakit para sa Paslit na Bakwit



The Taal Volcano eruption last January 12, 2020 resulted in the disruption of numerous lives in the affected areas in Batangas and nearby municipalities and provinces. Many had to evacuate their homes and had to be relocated in various relocation areas around the province. Needless to say, all of these families experienced anxiety, stress, and physical and emotional discomfort. These hardships were particularly harsh on the children, who are among the most significantly targeted groups in the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This has given our country, and in its own small way the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) in particular, an opportunity to alleviate the plight of these particularly vulnerable sector among the evacuees. In furtherance of this international effort, the NLP, through the Batangas Provincial Library, initiated its “Malasakit Para sa Paslit na Bakwit”.



In this project, the Batangas librarians prepared an outreach program to cheer up and give some hope to the beleaguered residents with special emphasis on the paslit, or children who were affected the most. The Project Team identified children under seven years of age, found out their special needs and prepared stories specially suited to them and their particular circumstances.

From each of the various groups identified among the evacuees, two children were chosen to read aloud “Nang Magkakulay ang Nayon” by Susan de la Rosa Aragon, and “Ang Unang Baboy sa Langit” by Rene O. Villanueva. These storytelling sessions were held at the Dream Zone in the Provincial Capitol grounds last January 22, 2020. The stories were chosen in light of their relevance linking them and the children’s roles concerning “karunungan”, “kalikasan”, “kabuhayan” and “kalusugan”, themes shared with the UN’s own 17 identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly important to these children not only during the time of the calamity but also beyond.

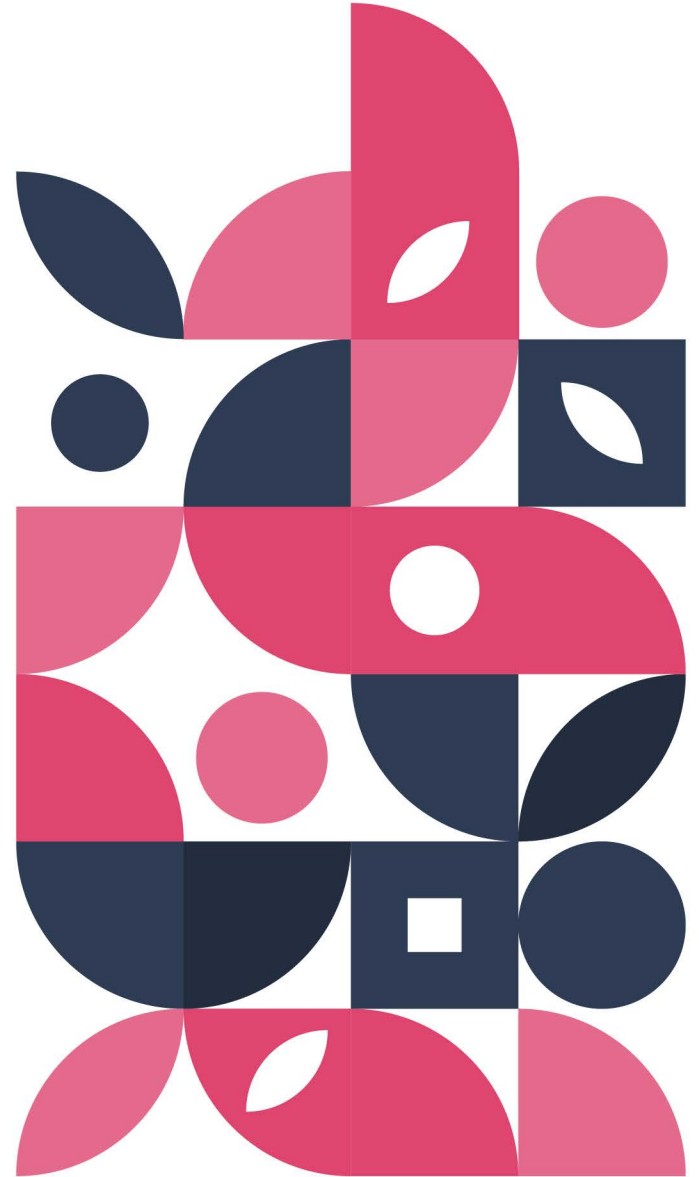
The backdrop of the eruption really imprinted in their young minds the need to take care of and respect the environment which by design was the particular emphasis and moral of the stories. The children did not go empty handed after the reading sessions. They left the venue with bags full of school supplies, coloring materials, toys, and other art and educational items purchased by the library. But most importantly, they left with a renewed hope and cheer reflected in their eyes as they happily left the venue after the programs.







Cagayan de Oro City Public Library



Lakbit Asoy Ta Diri Program



This is a program initiated by the Cagayan de Oro City Public Library to help students to be more active in reading and to improve their reading comprehension through animated story telling, read a-loud sessions, and through reading and writing tutorials. In this program, the Cagayan de Oro City Public Library personnel visited all the public schools in the city to promote the love of reading in collaboration with the Department of Education.

Essentially, the program included stories tied up with the 5Ks - Karunungan, Kalikasan, Kultura, Kalusugan and Kabuhayan. Instead of the students going to the library, the library went to the students.





To the youngest children who were in their most impressionable years, the stories and readings introduced moral lessons and themes with regard to the promotion of nature, culture, health, and the economy. To pique the interest of these youngest audiences more, these stories were usually presented with animated story telling with the students' active participation.

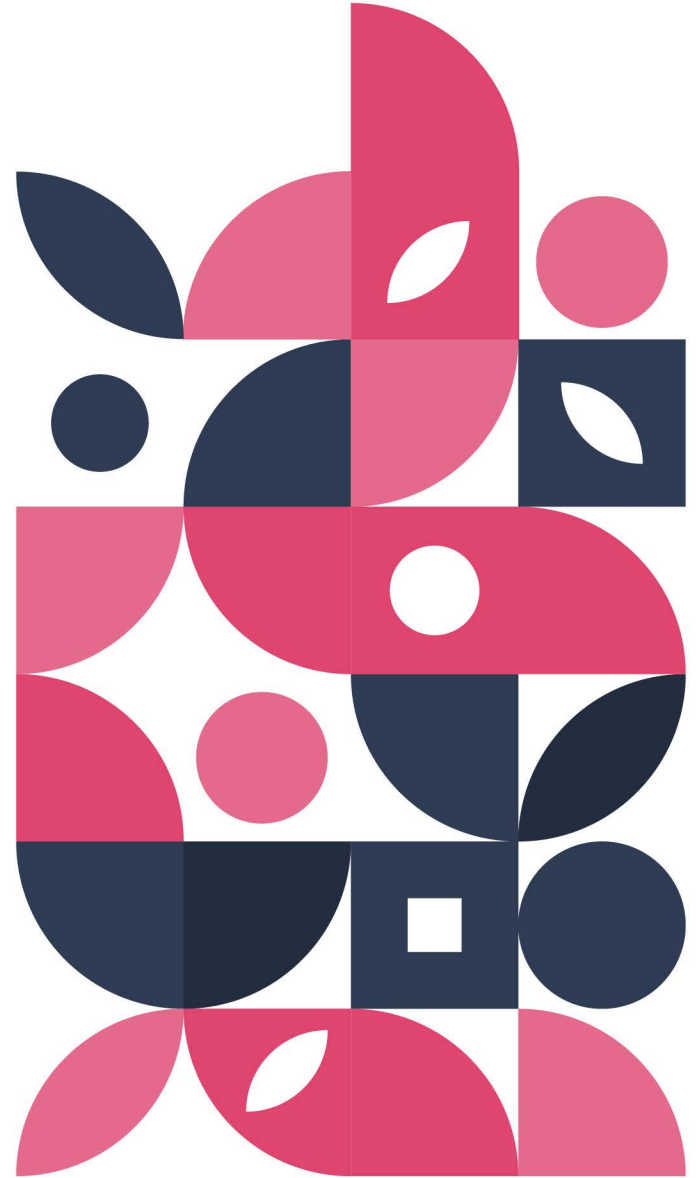
The Cagayan de Oro public librarians collaboration with the Department of Education to promote reading among the City's students was envisioned to go a long way in helping their teachers inculcate a life-long love of learning which will ultimately benefit the communities in which they live in.







Carigara Municipal Library



Covid-19 Book Mobile Drive



“
**If Mohammad
cannot go to
the mountain,
let the
mountain go to
Mohammad.**

Because the Covid-19 pandemic prevented clients from going to the library, the Library went to the clients by launching the Covid-19 Book Mobile Drive dubbed as “Learn as One Carigara”. The community quarantine did not prove to be a hindrance for the community continuing to learn and be informed in the safety of their homes through this Project.

The Library’s Covid-19 Book Mobile was a way to keep its constituents motivated to continue learning through readings which were continuously made available to them through the pandemic. This drive was also one way of diverting teenagers and young adults from their gadgets or cellphones to which many of them, unfortunately, have become addicted.

It was also a way to encourage them to use their cellphones and tablets in a positive and productive way. Last but not the least, it was also the library's small way of contributing to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which two of its Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs are Quality Education and Reduced Inequality.

Not only these youngsters but all members of the family, their parents and grandparents, all benefitted from this program. Their parents and grandparents benefitted as well. For these valued but often overlooked clientele, their favorite books were delivered right to their doorsteps by their very own librarian - Charlotelyn Miranda - using her three-wheeled motorcycle w/ side car, with the librarian herself as the motorbike driver.

Almost anyone who sent their requests - through Facebook, text messages, or messenger were attended to and served. All the barangays were accessed to fulfill their requests.

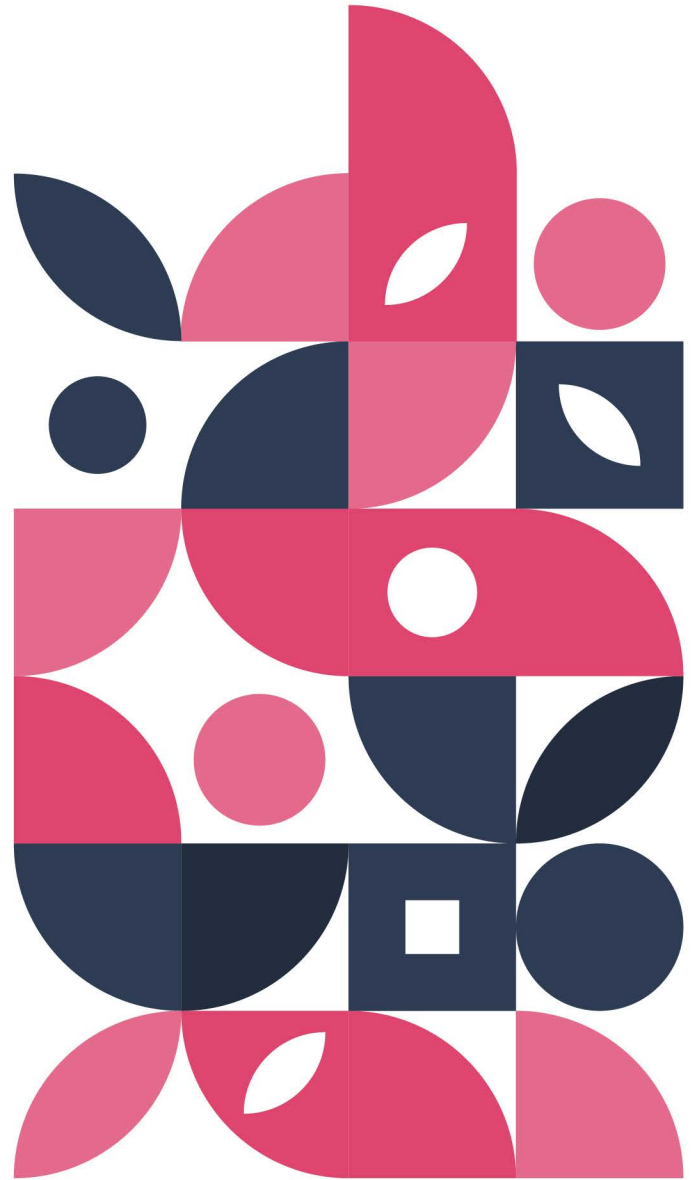
As far as the Carigara Municipal Library is concerned, if the readers cannot go to the library, the library will go to its readers.



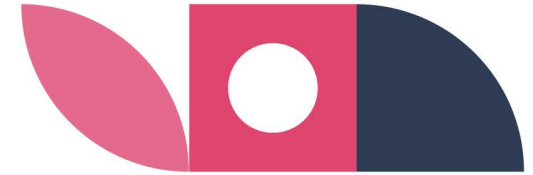
PROVINCIAL LIBRARY



Cavite Provincial Library



Providing Information for All



Why do we need a public library? Libraries have assumed a host of ever-changing social and symbolic functions. They have been expected to symbolize the eminence of a state, to integrally link “knowledge” and “power” and recently, to serve as “community centers,” “public squares” or “think tanks.”

The Cavite Provincial Library serves as the heart of learning in the Province of Cavite. It was frequently seen as an opportunity institution, which plays an important role in people’s lives as a source of accessing information, and a place for knowledge creation. Committed to fulfill these functions, it continuously endeavors to provide invaluable programs and services to all marginalized sector of the community. The goal is to facilitate education and develop outreach programs particularly for non-users, the underserved, and people with special needs to build and strengthen their presence within the community.



Among the notable innovations initiated by the Cavite Provincial Library is the provision of free digital literacy trainings to different sectors which have had a great impact on the community by the acquisition of relevant knowledge and improvements in their skills in navigating digital platforms. One of its most remarkable initiatives is its program to provide inmates with basic computer trainings. A move that undoubtedly gave many in this neglected and forgotten sector much needed hope and diversion.

Aside from offering digital literacy in the community, the Cavite Provincial Library has other things to offer, especially as regards lifelong learning through the efficient and effective provision of its basic core services that the province has come to rely on. In fact, through these services, the library uplifts every deserving individual who could exploit and showcase their skills. A case in point is the ALS learners. Ideally, all Filipinos get their basic education from teachers in a classroom setting. Unfortunately, not everyone is able to get this experience.

This is the reason why the Cavite Provincial Library continuously reaches out to them by providing services through online resources using ALS Modules. It is open to mostly primary and secondary school drop-outs, out-of-school youths, non-readers, working individuals and even senior citizens who are interested in brushing up and developing new skills. Many of them have benefited through these learnings and opportunities that they could only access through these programs.





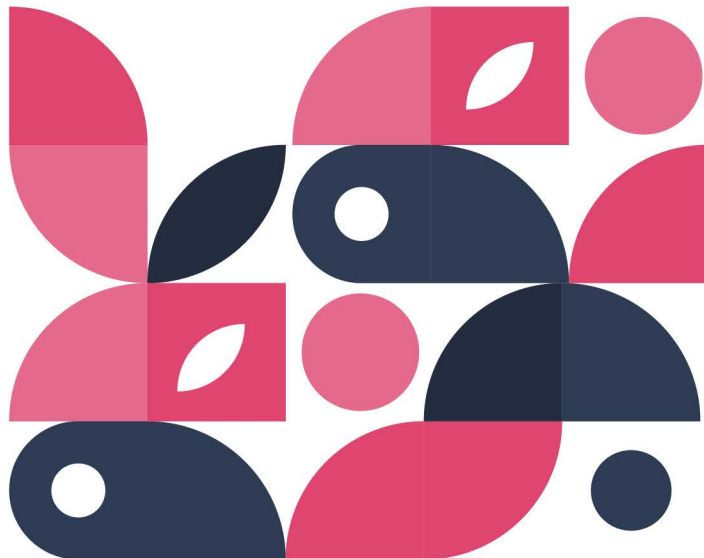
Another program conducted by the CPL was the Summer Library Program for kids which invariably made their summers more worthwhile and enjoyable during the long summer months. It includes comprehensive tutorials in reading and writing, arts & crafts, mathematics, music camp, and computer literacy. These programs engage kids to promote literacy skills and lifelong learning opportunities.

Many children in the province who get engaged in the program usually get hooked on it. Some of them are even willing to undergo hardships to participate in it. One such youngster is Mr. Mark Mendoza, who told us, *“I’m willing to walk 3 kilometers away from my home going to Cavite Provincial Library’s place to attend your program, to learn a lot of things and develop my skills”*. Indeed, this kind of initiative is a good measure in making connections between public libraries, the community and its clients.



During this time of the pandemic crisis, the library continues to work hard to ensure that most of the library resources are still available and accessible. However, their primary concern is still to ensure the health and safety of all their clients. Therefore, CPL is offering learning resources online through ebooks, ALS Modules and different platforms like BSP KRN, Phil. Elib, Tech4ed, egovernment services and workforce development. Through the use of eLearning platforms, clients can still easily access the library. Even through all these hardships, we are still able to disseminate to them a wide range of educational resources and learning materials with no need for face to face interaction.

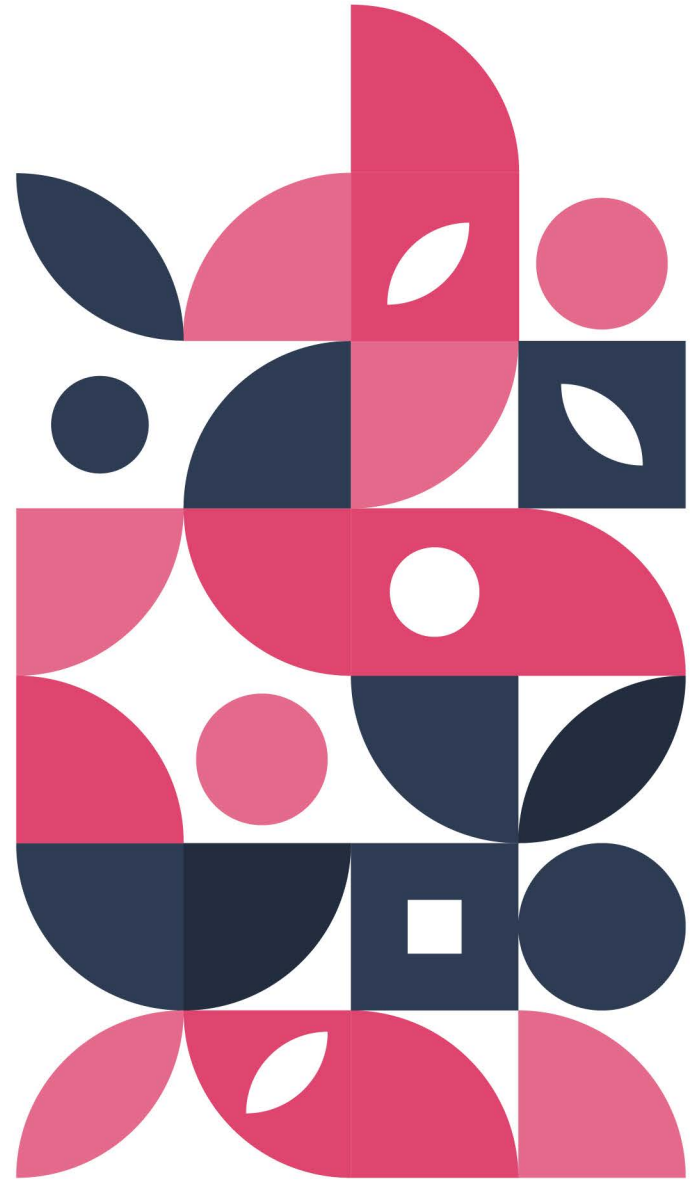
It is clear that the Cavite Provincial Library is, indeed, central to the day to day activities of a large number of people in the province. It is an important community space in which public culture is constructed and lived, and thus has a deep sense of place attachment for its users.





Republic of the Philippines
National Commission for Culture and the Arts
National Library of the Philippines
CRISPIN MAGOO'S WALDEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

**Crispina
Marcos
Memorial
Library and
Museum**



A SUMMER DANCE WORKSHOP



During the summer months, it was noticed that children around the neighborhood, who were the primary potential clients of the library, were spending most of their time and money inside internet shops playing computer games. If they are not there playing video games, they were often seen roaming the streets fooling around with each other.

Dismayed that they were wasting their precious time and fearing that they could easily get into trouble, the library came up with the idea of providing them something productive to do to lure them away from their shenanigans. Instead of luring them directly into the library, they came up with the brilliant idea of a Summer Dance Workshop for Children.





This idea turned into a plan and eventually into a project with the sponsorship of Mrs. Angela Valdez Timtiman, a philanthropist whose passion is helping children in their educational and overall development needs. The dance workshop that emerged from this idea was offered free so that the parents of the children in the neighborhood would be encouraged to enlist their kids without having to spend anything.

It was held two days a week throughout the entire summer months. A dance instructor was tasked to teach modern and folk dances. At the end of summer before the start of classes in June, a culminating program was conducted in which the children presented the dances they had learned in their respective groups.

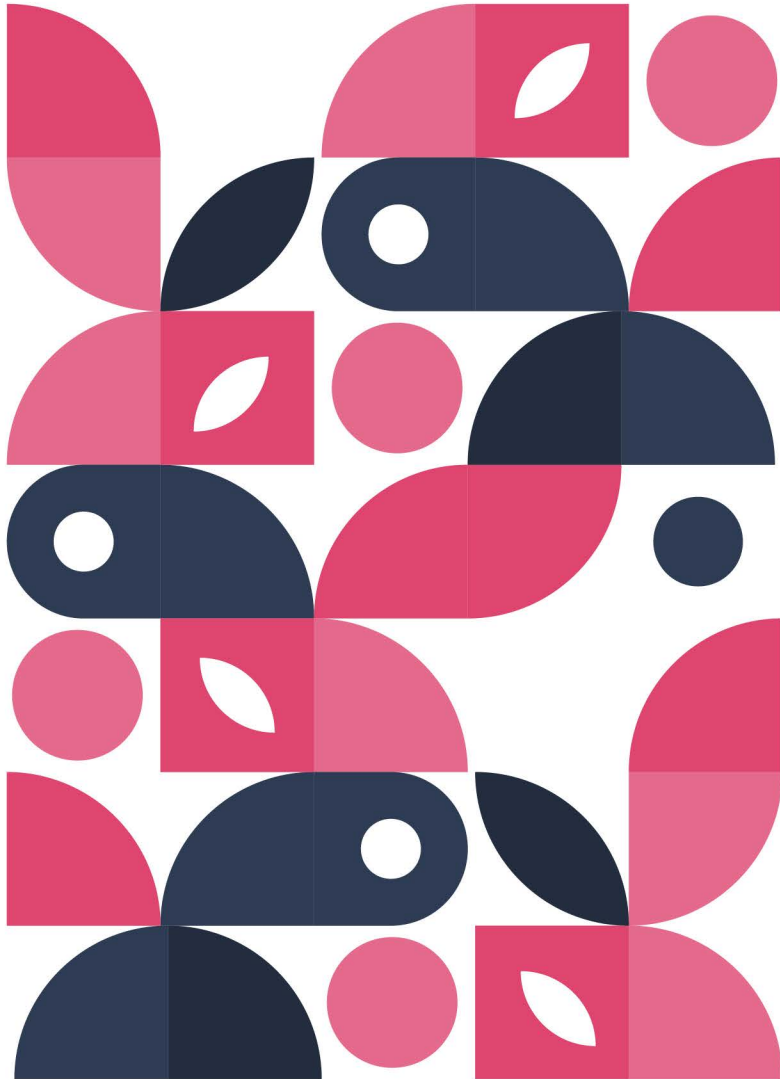
At the end of the program, it was noted that the most timid and shy children who were unwilling to dance at the start of the workshop were now more confident to show their talents. Moreover, those who had other talents such as singing were given the chance to perform and showcase them during the culminating program.

With this activity, the library was able to promote cooperation among friends and even erstwhile strangers. Existing friendships were strengthened and as well as new ones formed. Since most of the children went to the same school, their friendships flourished because of the new environment outside of the school setting in the dance workshop in which it was shared.

Where once they would just ignore and pass each other by in the school halls because they were not in the same class or neighborhood, they now know each other by name. As far as the library staff were concerned, however, the greatest by-product of this program, of course, was that now they would routinely invite each other to the library.

There was a group of girls who, after the summer program, began to frequent the library during school days. They would drop by after class in the afternoon, make use of the internet service and do their assignments. During school holidays, they would also usually come to the library where arts and craft activities were made available for them.





During these visits the library staff would ask them how they are doing in school. There is always a great sense of satisfaction when they respond that they have now become more active in school with the confidence they acquired during the summer workshops.

One of them in particular is now maintaining her place in the top ten of her class. With the Summer Dance Workshop she was able to know the importance of team work and camaraderie with other children, thus, overcoming her timidity. Now, with this self-confidence, she is striving to show her potential and develop her skills.

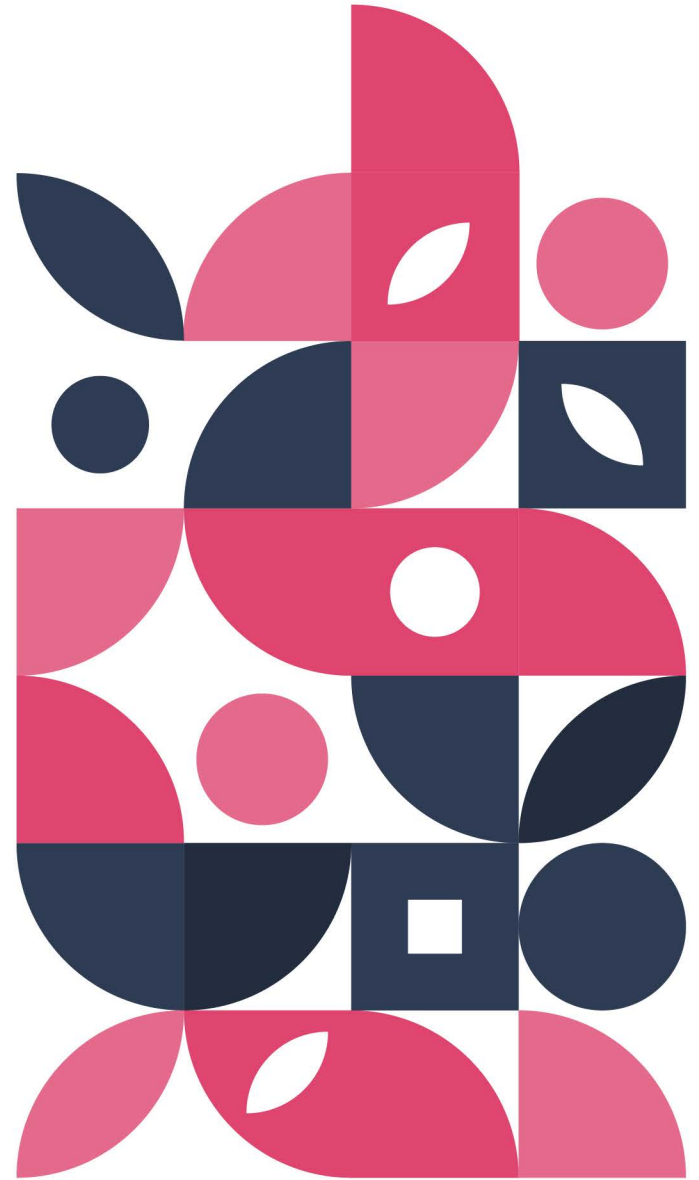
A Dance Workshop conducted by a public library? This would surely tend to raise eyebrows. But sometimes, an indirect approach to achieve an objective could turn out to be the best approach after all.







Digos City Library



Storytelling Outside the Library



“If you want your children to be smart, tell them stories. If you want them to be brilliant, tell them more stories”. – Albert Einstein

The early stage of child development is the best time to introduce storytelling to children, stories that teach them about life, their surroundings, about themselves and others. It is a unique way for kids to develop imagination, understanding, respect, appreciation and a positive attitude about life. In celebration of 61st Public Library Day, the Digos City Library stepped outside to do some storytelling and storybook gift-giving at the Barangay Zone 1 Day-Care Center of Digos City.

This was in furtherance of its mission to extend community services, especially in the barangay starting with the children. On a grander scale, this is also in furtherance of the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically two of its SDGs or Sustainable Development Goals, namely Quality Education and Clean Water and Sanitation.

In the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the library’s task was cut out for it to design an activity that is relevant to and appropriate to the crisis we all are facing right now. The stories presented were about the importance of sanitation and self-hygiene that is so important particularly for these innocent children at this dangerous point in the nation’s history.

It was very challenging for the staff because of the lack of budget and the circumstances surrounding the Covid-19 Pandemic. They sought the help of the city counselors or councilors and through their kindness, they were able to secure donated goods and financial assistance to push through with the activity. The storytelling was eventually conducted last March 12, 2020 at the Barangay Zone 1 Day Care Center.

Supervising the affair was the Head Librarian III, Esther G. Tabanao, RL, with Ms Perla May P. Tabanao as the lead storyteller. They were helped along by the rest of the library staff. Coloring storybooks and snacks were distributed to the excited children and their grateful parents.

In this activity, the library strived to inculcate in the children and their parents the importance of reading and storytelling. It was stressed to them how these simple activities improve their imagination, memory, listening skills, understanding and comprehension. Skills that are important not only in their learning years as children, but all throughout their lives.

The feedback from Ms. Violy Libre, the day-care teacher in the post activity interview, was that the children loved the interactive storytelling and clamored for even more stories to listen to. The activity also taught the parents how to effectively read stories to their own children. She related that the children enjoyed the stories, had fun, and were attentive in listening and answering the questions concerning their experience.

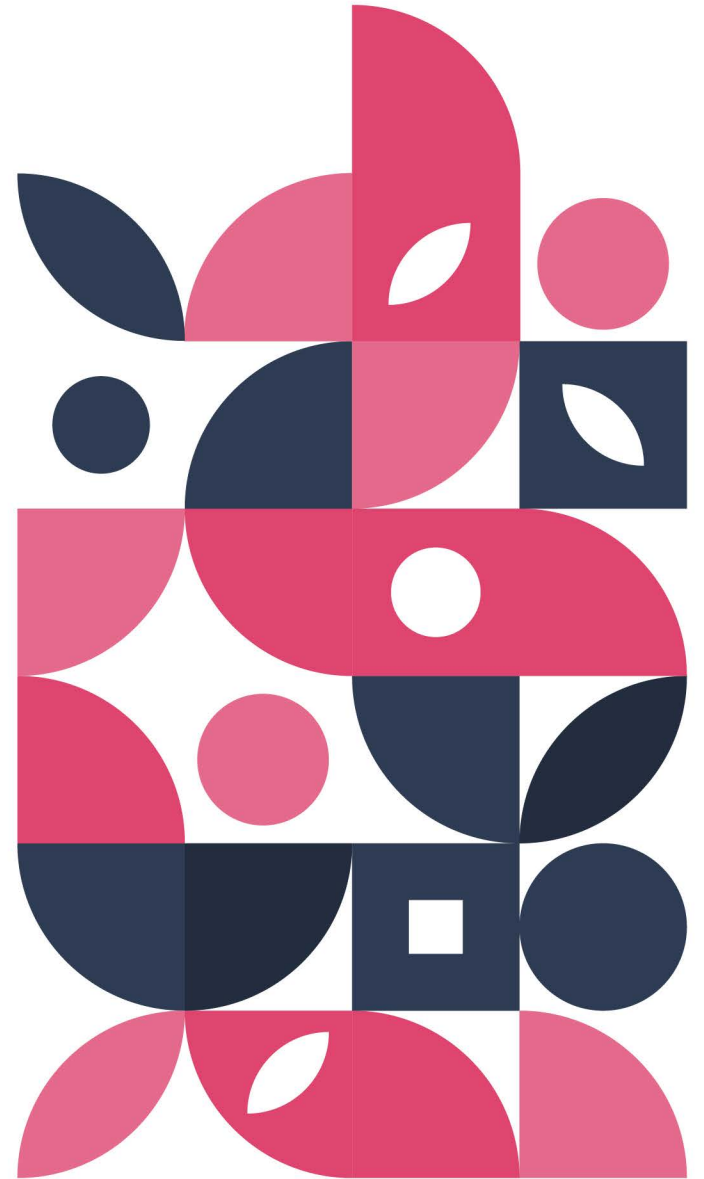
It is noteworthy that the children enjoyed and learned the message of the stories. The staff were able to inspire the parents and encourage them to tell stories to their kids and to encourage them to read more. By telling them stories, they teach them about life – and how to better cope with it.



The logo features a stylized blue open book with white pages, positioned to the left of the text.

**Himamaylan City
Public Library**

**Himamaylan
City Public
Library**



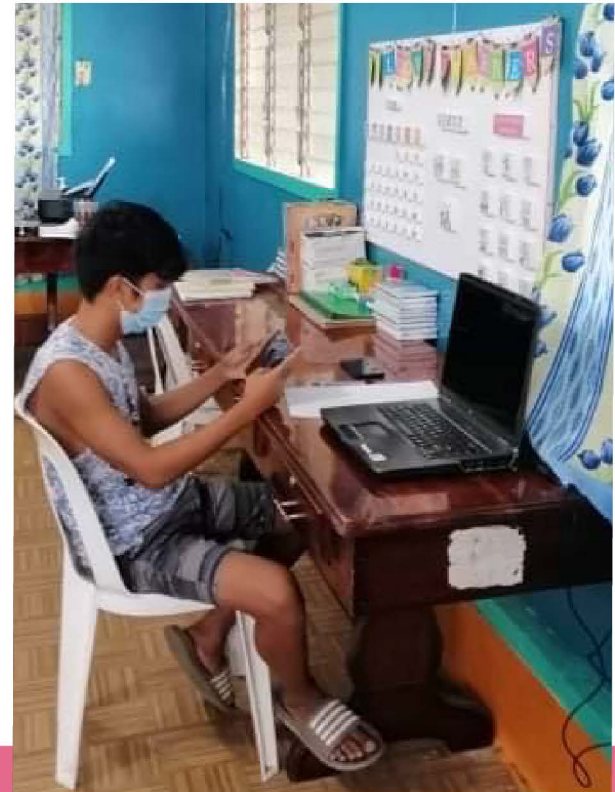
Bridging the Technological Divide Himamaylan



Himamaylan is 3rd class city in the province of Negros Occidental, Philippines. According to the 2015 census, it has a population of 106,880. It is situated in the Southern part of Negros Occidental which, unfortunately, is not that advanced when it comes to technology. It therefore behooved the Himamaylan City Public Library to help it catch up with the rest of the country, and the world for that matter, in furtherance of the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In order to help the city in this much needed boost in modernization, the library embarked on a mission to connect its constituents not only to other parts of the country but to the rest of the world as befits a responsible member of the community of nations and no less than a charter member of the UN at that.

In the pursuit of this objective, the library embarked on a program to offer the free use of its computers and internet services to provide the highest quality public library services to fulfill the informational, educational, recreational and cultural needs of the citizens of the city.



The rapidly changing community of Himamaylan, which is comprised of people of many ethnic and economic backgrounds are in dire need of these services particularly in this information age where not only economic but intellectual, social and cultural progress depends very much on an interconnection and exchange with a similarly rapidly changing world where information can usually only be obtained through electronic means.

The provision of this free computer and internet services by the library was particularly intended for students who are in the most need of these facilities to complete their projects, work sheets and their general research in their academic pursuits. Moreover, the library's services were also made available to all of it's other regular clients in the city who may need these services in their livelihoods or economic advancement or even just to assuage their thirst for information and entertainment.

In this way, it is the library's objective to become a hub for the cultural, educational and informational needs of the city towards a future where paper and pens and maybe even the very books that are presently stock in its shelves inevitably become like the stone age relics we display in our museums.



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCIAL EDUCATION OFFICE
LADANG CITY
PROVINCIAL EDUCATION OFFICE
and
PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

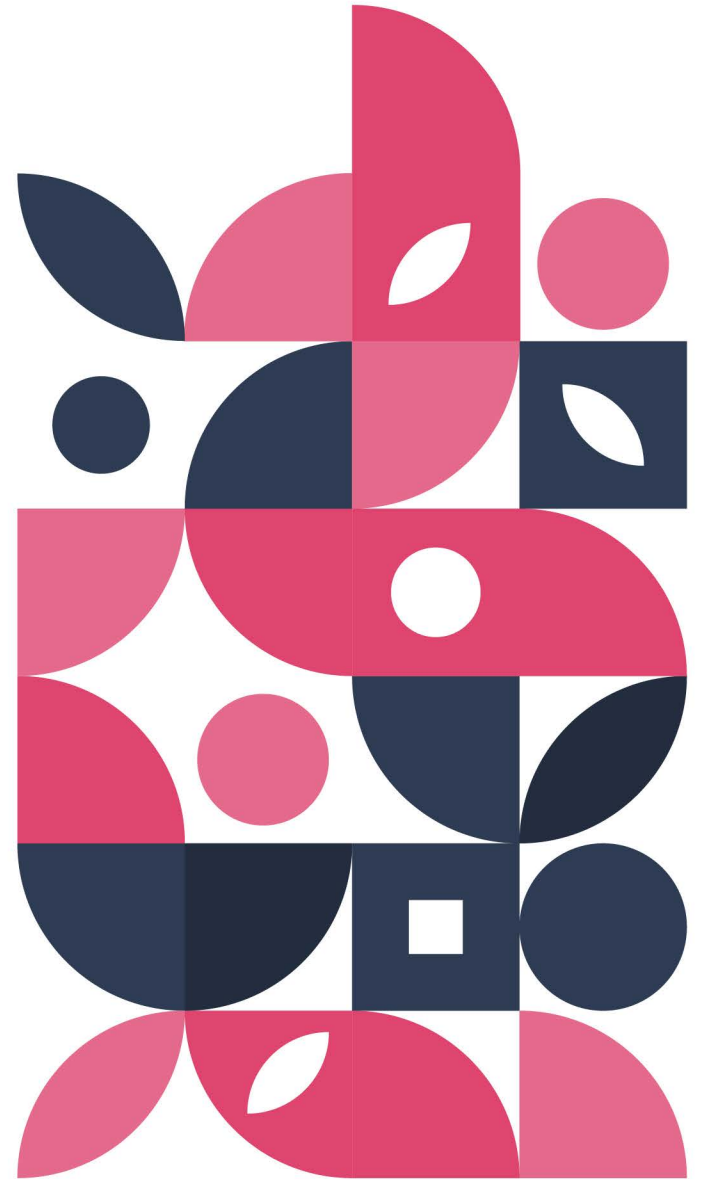


Local Office
provincial library
O P E N
H O U S E





Ilocos Norte Provincial Library



An Open House for Children



Throughout its entire existence, the Ilocos Norte Provincial Library (INPL) had always been faced with the question of why children seldom come to the library. Its regular clients were usually comprised of mostly high school and college students. This saddened the INPL library staff considering that it had much to offer, not only to the young adults that usually visited its premises, but also the very much younger ones they knew would benefit from and more importantly, greatly enjoy its facilities and resources. It was truly a challenge to encourage young children to visit the INPL premises.

The INP staff resolved to address this issue and so when the 2019 Library and Information Service Month came around the corner last November, they embarked on a program to draw elementary school children into the library so the children could see for themselves all the good things the library could offer them. The library called this program “The INPL Library Open House”.

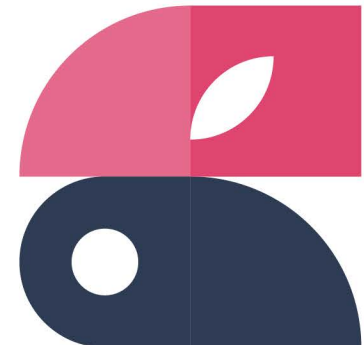


Conducted for three days from November 27 - 29, 2019, the INPL invited children from all over the community to visit the library. Its main objective was to showcase the INPL to children and awaken their interest in libraries and encourage more reading. Initially, children from the immediate vicinity of the library, including Grade 6 pupils from three elementary schools nearby were the main participants in this program.

Acutely aware of the economic situation of these elementary school students, who are mostly from poor families - and to spare their school officials from administrative and financial worries, the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, through the prodding of the INPL, agreed to provide a bus to ferry these kids from their schools to the library and back in comfortable air conditioned buses.

During the open house, the INPL was transformed into an inviting garden library, where the children were oriented on INPL services and its general role in the community and were acquainted with the various library tools and facilities. A film viewing was also conducted. All in all, more than 300 school children benefited from this program.

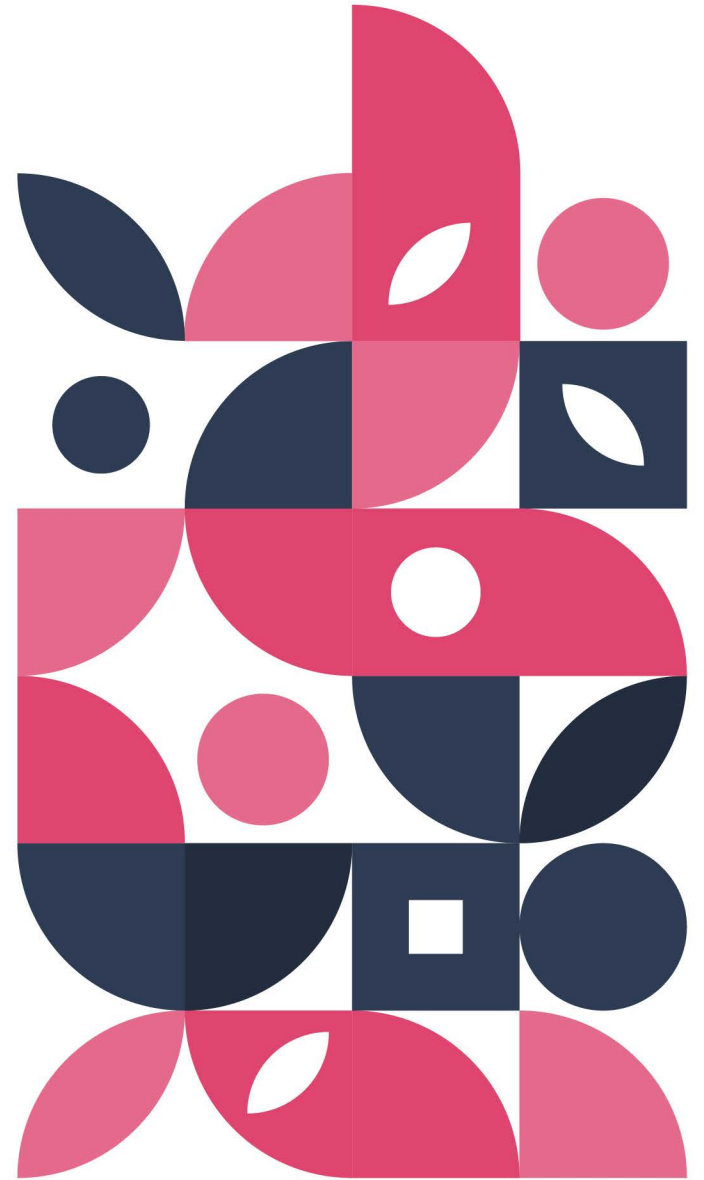
It is the hope of the library that if a fraction of the participants were inspired to persevere and keep on learning through the use of our facilities and move on to succeed in their lives, then the program would not have been in vain. So far, from the feedback heard from their teachers, the library is convinced that it has succeeded.







Imus City Library



Changing Lives with Digital Literacy



With the advent of the Computer Age, knowledge, technology, and information has now become just a click away. That may be true for most technologically savvy young adults and even children of this generation but unfortunately not so for most of our older brethren. The needs of the former group had always been addressed by the Imus Public Library, not just for information but even for leisure and entertainment. Sadly, it has not been so for the latter group of our more “mature” clients due to the lack or even absence of sufficient computer literacy among them.

This lack of computer literacy has handicapped not only the older group of the library’s potential clientele but also other disadvantaged sectors such as out of school youth (OSY), rural women, farmers, day care workers and even Civil Security officers and other personnel of the City. To address this pressing need, the Imus City Public Library introduced the Digital Literacy Training Program to these particular disadvantaged sectors.





It goes without saying that senior citizens and these other disadvantaged sectors are considered some of society's most important partners for development.

Some of the Imus Library's most outstanding success stories came out of its initial groups of participants, the senior citizens of the locality. As older adults, our *lolos* and *lolas* are usually resistant in engaging in social media and online ventures as they don't see themselves being able to learn as fast as their *apos* would be willing to teach them the tricks of the trade. Others would even feel like their hands were already too shaky for clicking on the computer keys while a few were afraid that their clumsy efforts would wreck the fragile computers.



The City Mayor was delighted to see our *lolos* and *lolas* not only able to connect with their loved ones but also to various community pages, especially when they made significant comments and feedback on the pet programs and projects of the Local Government.

Another sector that was the micro entrepreneurs in the locality who have been beset with setbacks in marketing and advertising as the city grew in terms of modernization and industrialization. These microentrepreneurs were introduced to various basic applications in enhancing their marketing strategies in the computer age – applications such as logo making, labeling, and promotions thru social media and other online platforms.

Participants such as Mr. Jephon Botor of Beyond Access Philippines and Ms. Maryfe Panes who made it through this training happily told everyone that they were able to learn how to make and design their own labels to their exact specifications without having to pay anyone to do it for them.





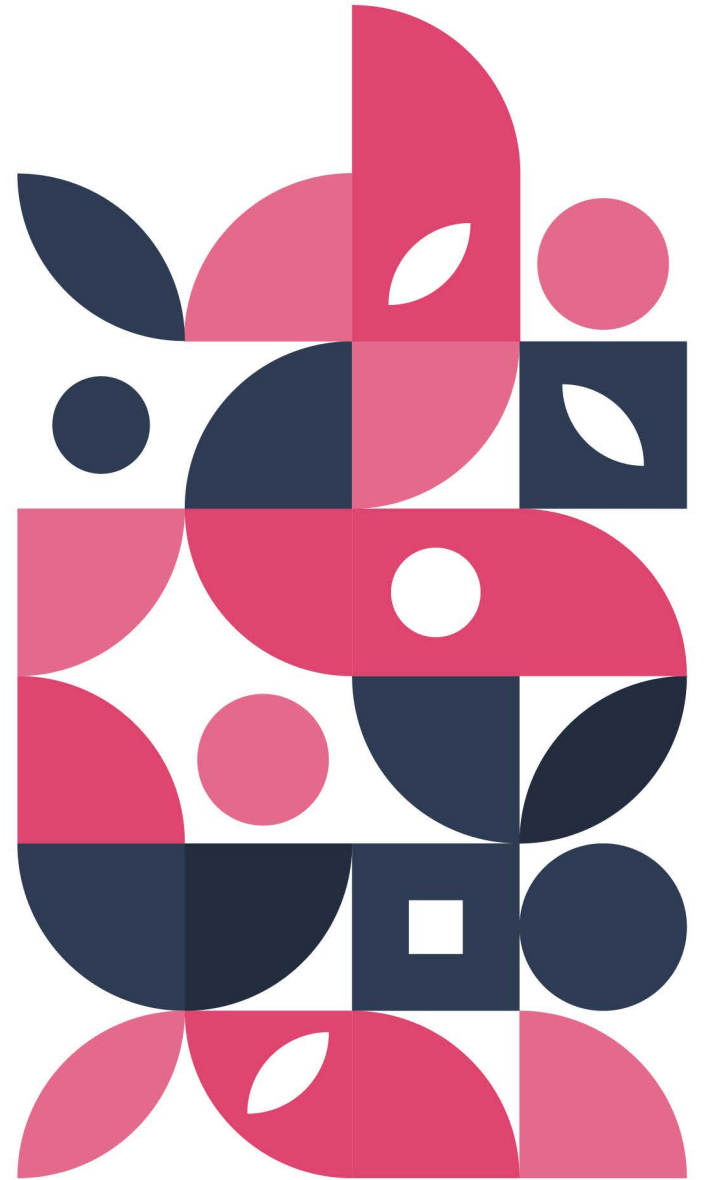
Another sector that was successfully trained was the barangay secretaries. A case in point was Ms. Lennie Capoy, a barangay secretary at Poblacion 4-A, also a senior citizen at 65, who eagerly shared that after the training, doing reports for the barangay and making certificates has now become faster and easier for her. She no longer needed the assistance of others when making reports as she previously had to do.

As the Imus City Public library continues to commit to providing access to knowledge and its innovations, it is very heartening to assist and provide services that support the community's growth, business, education as well as entertainment, specially to its most disadvantaged sectors. To paraphrase one of our greatest presidents, "Those who have less in life should have more in government services and technology".

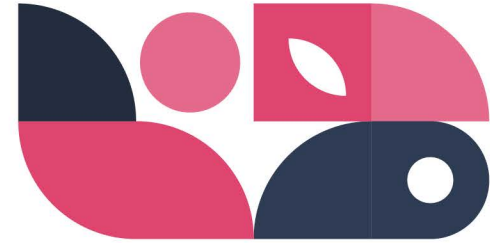




Kalibo Municipal Library



Bringing Services Closer to Every Child



Books in the hands of children have a meaningful impact on improving literacy. The more books a child can see in school or at home, the more likely a child will be encouraged to pick up books to read. One way of cultivating a love of reading is by providing a variety of educational books in a preschool mini-library corner. This will help enhance early literacy skills. Excellent reading habits begin in the early years, and exposure to books and to reading is an integral part of the Child Development Center activities. The public library is probably one of the best providers of resources for developing and enriching such programs.

To promote love of reading and library services to the community, the Office of the Sangguniang Bayan thru the Kalibo Municipal Library in coordination with Barangay Council of Poblacion Kalibo came up with the project, “A Mini-Library Corner in all Child Development Centers in Poblacion, Kalibo. The goal is to motivate children to read while they are young, and for them to be able to have access to reading materials so they will become lifelong readers.

The idea of the project was inspired by the Little Free Library, a non-profit organization advocating book sharing and exchanges around the world. Coincidentally, it also coincides with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development among which one of its 17 identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is Quality Education.



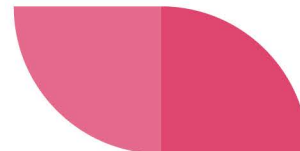
During the scheduled visit that happened between July to December of 2018, the Kalibo Municipal Library held activities such as storytelling and short empowerment activities. Talks were given by some of its officials to increase awareness among parents on the importance of education in the life of a person, the cultivation of the habit of reading good books, and the importance and advantages of regular visits to our library. During the storytelling session, they made use of the stories from Let's Read Application of the Asia Foundation to further encourage its use.

The project benefited seven (7) Child Development Centers, with an estimated number of more than 300 children participating with their parents and teachers. The library also provided the center with one small cabinet for a mini library, with materials including children's story books, coloring books, crayons, and moulding clay for the children to enjoy and work with.



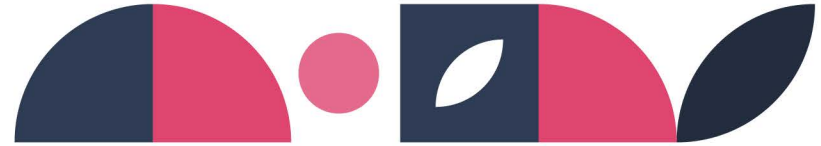
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It takes a village to raise a child, as an old adage says, that's why the Kalibo Municipal Library in its little way, does its share to create a better future for these young boys and girls for a more vibrant community.





This project also gained positive responses from the people in the community encouraging everyone to extend the project down to the barangays. The library staff helped install the mini-library corner at Barangay Caano Day Care Center last March 2019. Through this project, they were given an opportunity to meet barangay officials and campaign to put-up a Barangay Reading Center in their respective barangays. This is also their way of introducing and creating awareness about the projects and programs of the National Library of the Philippines extended to barangays. This may be a small project to some, but to the KML, this was a way of starting a much bigger project for the community to benefit from in the future.





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CITY OF MANILA

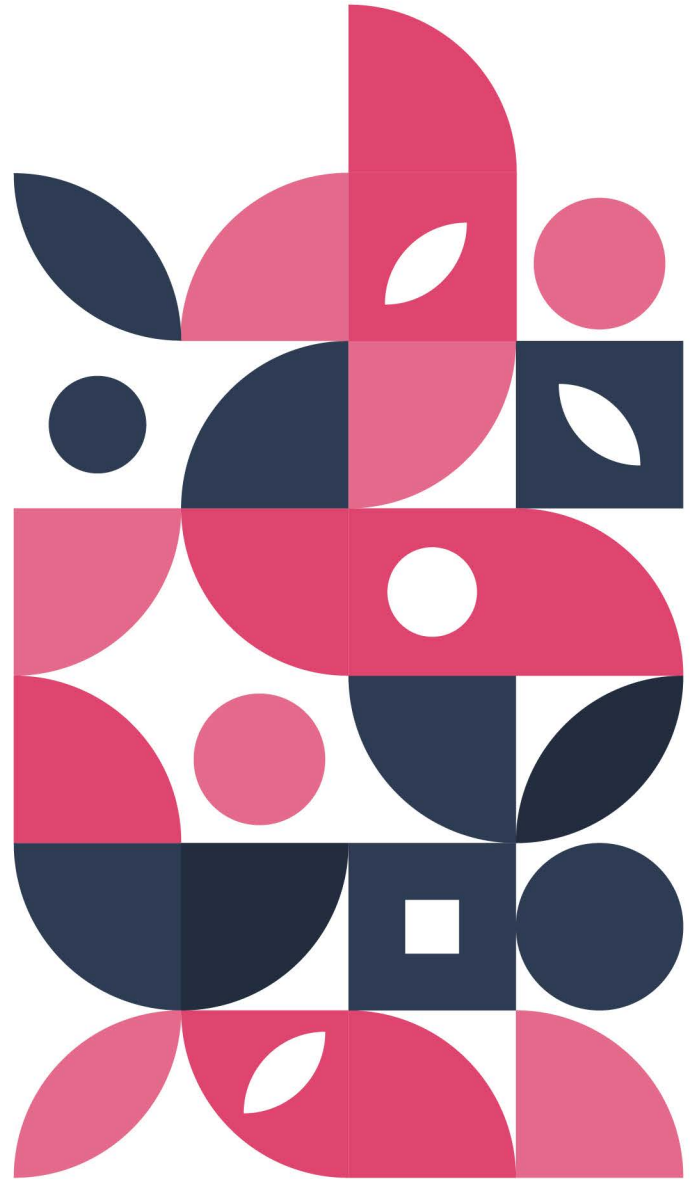
MANILA CITY LIBRARY



ATTENTION!
NO I.D.
NO FACE MASK
NO FACE SHIELD
NO ENTRY!



Manila City Library



Dreams Turned into Reality



The Manila City Library clients consist of people from all walks of life. Various services are offered by the library to support these clients' needs for research, information/education and leisure. As events would later reveal, an unorthodox part of its services would turn out to be to provide a space for reviewees who are challenged not only to pass their exams but to seek excellence and success in their chosen fields of study.

This is a story of three (3) graduates of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE) from a nearby university namely: Alfonso P. Corpus, Marian Faith Cruz and Ronald Victoria who defied the odds and decided to review in one of the branch libraries, the Valeriano E. Fugoso Library (VEFL) in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

According to Engr. Alfonso, when he was studying for his board exam, he needed a place to study apart from his home. He heard from his mother, who is also an employee of the library, that there were new books related to their field of study that were available in our library and not so easily available anywhere else, so he decided to review at the library, which he found to be an ideal place to study.





They stayed at the second floor of the library for one year and six months, and they became part of the library's regular users. One could see that these three reviewees were more than willing to sacrifice and persevere in their studies, and to go through a lot more sacrifices in order to turn their dreams into reality.

In November 2019, all their efforts and hardships paid off when they all passed the licensure examination. What was more meaningful and memorable was that the library contributed so much to their success not only because of its resources and services, but also because of its conduciveness to study. In their recent visit to the VEFL, they expressed their gratitude to all the library staff who exerted every effort to assist them during their stay. They appreciated the kind of service that the library offered, and in return they promised to help promote the library to all their school friends, and relatives.

It is the guiding principle of the library to extend support and assistance to its clients in terms of providing free access to information, materials, resources, and excellent services. It also helps in meeting the development needs of the City in terms of the programs initiated by the Honorable Mayor Francisco "Isko" Moreno Domagoso to uplift the lives of the people in the City of Manila.

They are living proof that our libraries matter, and that they have consistently played their part in the development and progress of our country – and of the citizens/individuals that comprise it.

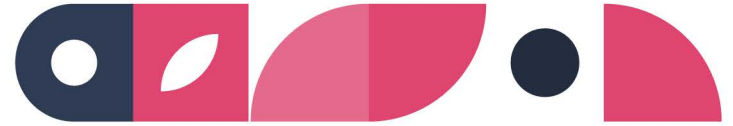




Pangasinan Provincial Library



We Care, We Share



Public Libraries usually serve as a center of interaction in the community, it stands to reason that the larger the community, the larger and more responsive to the needs of the community the library has to be. Pangasinan is a case in point. With a constituency of four cities and 44 municipalities, the Pangasinan Public Library (PPL) is hard pressed to satisfactorily serve the needs of these clients due to the limited resources at its disposal.

This is particularly true with its traditional way of offering its services, ie: through its physical facilities and loaning of books. Space and resource limitations have made it difficult for the library to manage the boxes of books and other reading materials that have been sent to it by institutional friends and other well-meaning donors. At the same time, there is also a steady demand from schools, colleges and other libraries for these books and other information materials that come to the library for them to offer their own respective clientele.

This dilemma gave rise to the program “Information Materials Sharing” that, so to speak, hit two birds with one stone. Through this program, the PPL was able to match the requests it got from schools and other learning institutions as well as other libraries for specific materials that they need to help meet the standards of the DepEd and CHED that it might have available in storage or otherwise.



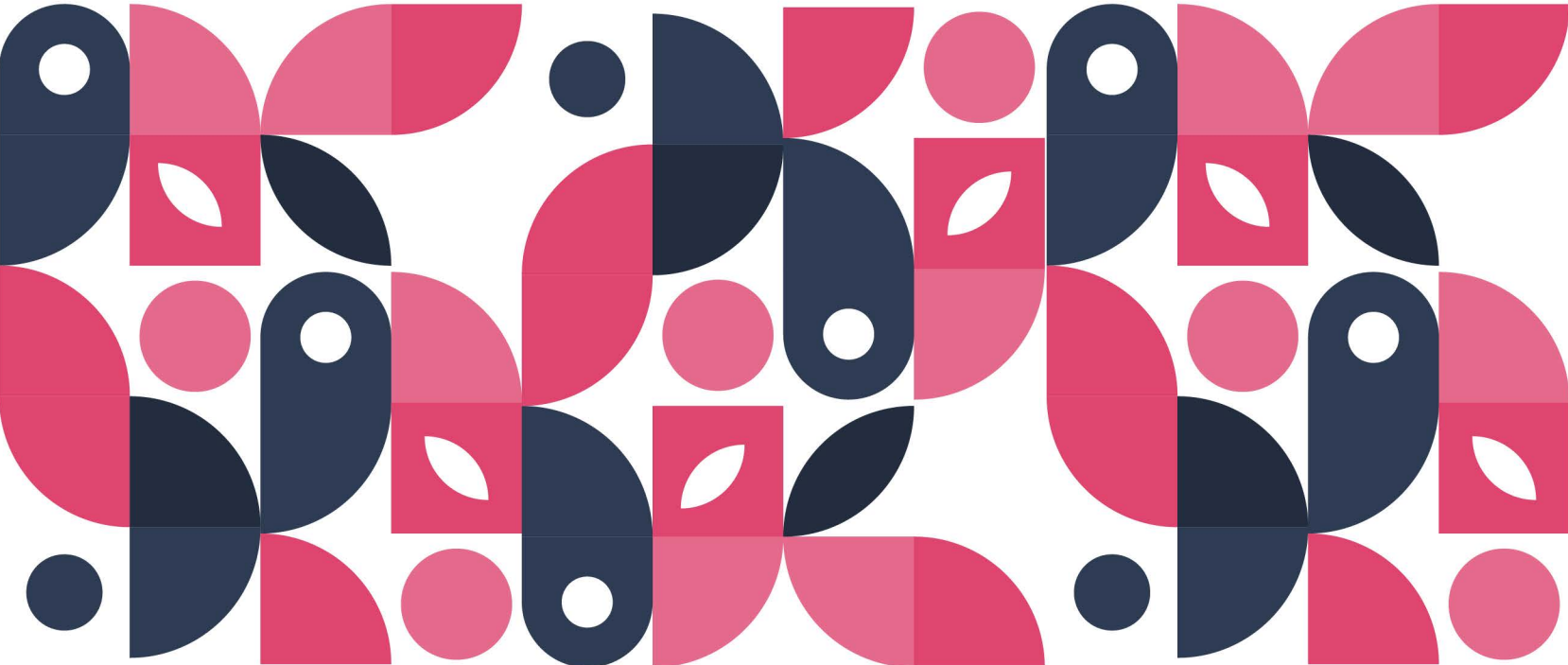


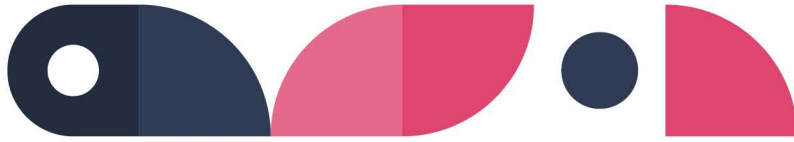
Request are made both officially through traditional channels and online through social media posts on Facebook or emails. So far recipients have been sending favorable feedback on how helpful those materials that they've received have been to their operations. Some have even gotten awards and promotion from their institution for having had the initiative to improve their libraries through the library's services via this program.

The PPL is also heartened to have gotten feedback that many of their students and regular clients are going in more often and staying longer in their own libraries because of the fresh reading and informational materials that we steadily provide through this program. Just like any other business enterprise or entertainment program, libraries have to be current and constantly up to date in order to satisfy and retain their clientele.



This program has also helped the library bring its services to the unreached communities and far-flung areas that seldom have new and current reading materials available. In many cases, other services and activities like book reading and other presentations are conducted by our library staff in addition to the book distribution especially when our recipients are public schools. It is also standard practice to assist the library-in-charge of the requesting library or institution on any problems that they have in which we may be of help.





To help sustain this program, the PPL reaches out to generous partners and friends to share their collections and books, and ask their circle of friends and families to donate their books and other information materials that they may no longer need or are willing to part with to spread their own love for books and knowledge. Often, materials come in bulk in shipments that come not only from national but also international donors and sources for which the PPL is very thankful. It is also very thankful to the Provincial Government and its various departments as well as the National Library of the Philippines and the Department of Information and Communication Technology for their assistance in helping it improve its services to its beloved constituents.







Quezon Provincial Library



STARBOOKS: Digitized Resources in a Box



One of the most frustrating aspects of this digital age is the unreliable and slow internet services that we often have to endure particularly in the more remote areas of the country, that is, if it is even available. This is no less true in many of our public libraries, especially in public libraries in the provinces.

This of course brings difficulties, but it also brings opportunities for the public libraries to be innovative and resourceful in their efforts to deliver free and easy access to information to its constituents despite these daunting challenges. It is in this spirit that the Department of Science and Technology's STARBOOKS was launched in coordination with the Quezon Provincial Library.

STARBOOKS stands for "Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk", a stand-alone digital library that does not require internet connection to access its thousands of digitized journals, serial publications, reference materials, annual reports, theses, investigatory projects, disaster risk reduction and management resources and K-12 materials. It also includes interactive educational and livelihood videos. This system can also be networked to other computers so that more users can access it at the E-Library or even on their cellphones, tablets or laptops.



Nearby elementary school pupils frequent the library to try its interactive Science and Technology videos while employees of the Provincial Government of Quezon come to watch livelihood videos during their free time. College student researchers find it useful for their theses and demo teaching. Through this digital library in a box, these users get the chance to access free resources even without any internet connection to improve their intellectual, social, cultural, and personal growth.

The Quezon Provincial Library partnered with Lucena Librarians Association of Quezon Province and Quezon DOST to bring the STARBOOKS system to Quezon Province. It was first launched in April 2015 and since then has become one of the primary resources of the library in serving students, out-of-school youths and public and private employees. During the launching, Quezon Provincial Library librarians and other librarians and staff from different public and private libraries in the province undertook a two-day Orientation and Training on how to maximize the use of the DOST-STARBOOKS system conducted by DOST-STII.

As a measure of its success, at the First STARBOOKS National Convention for South Luzon organized by DOST-STII held at Bayview Park Hotel, Manila, the Quezon Provincial Library was one of the Awardees of Institution with the Most Submitted Report for regularly submitting the Monthly Report since 2015. We are unabashedly proud of this success considering the constraints in which we have operated compared to our better strategically located and urbanized counterparts.





Play, Learn

UNDERWATER
WORLD

SKILLS

Be the
Reason

Someone



Sentro ng Karunungan Library



Mainstreaming Children's Section to Children with Special Needs

Children's library services in a typical public library are usually geared towards the normal developing child. More often than not, they have little or nothing to offer children with special needs (CSN). This is unfortunate, considering that libraries have many of the resources and facilities to serve and be of use to this often overlooked sector of our youth. These are also inconsistent with the UN 2030 Agenda that identify Quality Education, Gender Equality and Reduced Inequality as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Although the special needs of CSNs are usually attended to and provided for in specialized schools, this is not often the case as far as public libraries are concerned. This is understandable. Considering the potential difficulties in the light of the different behavioral conditions of these children, many public librarians / library-in-charge are hesitant to take on the challenge of accommodating these CSNs. The need is undeniable, however, and increasing due to the growing number of children with disabilities that is but a symptom of these increasingly stressful times.



The Sentro ng Karunungan Library (SKL), however, has boldly decided to step up to this challenge. In keeping with this challenge, it has decided to transform its library into a more inclusive environment for the sake of these children. Relative to this, the SKL would like to introduce the integration of children with special needs in the public library system through the project “Mainstreaming of Children’s Library Services for the Children with Special Needs”.

This project will create an inclusive library services, particularly in the Children’s Section of SKL that will eventually be part of the regular library program which will be called “Special Library Day”. This is to inculcate in the CSNs, together with their families, the habit of reading as well as to maximize the services of the library on a regular basis and thereby optimizing the use of the facilities of the library to a broader group of clientele.

The objectives of this project are to: 1) create a mainstream children’s library services and inclusive library environment for CSNs; 2) promote an inclusive society for CSNs through reading; and, 3) increase awareness on CSNs as regular and accepted members of the community in providing them appropriate library programs.

Hopefully, the integration of these CSNs and their families into the public library system will be taken as a small but important step in their integration into society as a whole as the presently and potentially productive and significant members of the community that they truly are.





TECH4ED
BRIDGE TO EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

DECI

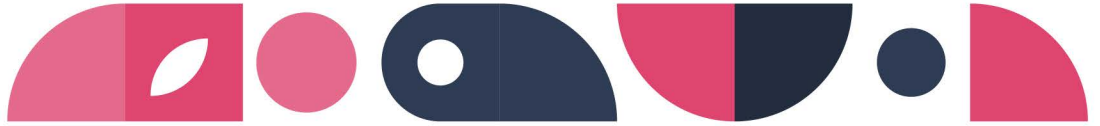
TURN OVER
Technology for E



Umingan Municipal Library



One-Stop Shop



The rise of information and communication technology is a worldwide phenomenon. Mobile phones, personal computers and the internet have drastically changed our daily activities. Consequently, the Government has recognized the importance of e-government as a new global trend. In conjunction with these developments, e-governance has led to a transformation in work processes and service delivery, lowered transaction costs, and promoted transparency and accountability in governance. E-government services have enabled the government to streamline its processes and transactions making it more accessible to the public.

The Department of Information Communication Technology (DICT) flagship projects the Technology empowerment for Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Tech4ED Project to provide access points for individuals and communities to bridge the digital and education divide.

The DICT in partnership with National Library of the Philippines, the Province of Pangasinan and the Association of Pangasinan Public Librarians launched province wide Tech4ed Centers in Pangasinan last July 28, 2016 making it the first in the Philippines to do so.





The launching of Tech4Ed centers in Pangasinan opened numerous opportunities and ways to serve the communities through the facilities of the library. In fact, one of the Tech4ed platforms, e-govserv became one of the most popular services of the Umingan Municipal Library. With the help of the Local government Unit this service was promoted through Barangay consultation and Community service, LED billboards, the posting of tarpaulins in barangay halls, as well as posting in social media like Facebook.

At first the library only offered services to help jobseekers obtain the needed requirement for their employment, such as required membership to government agencies like the SSS, Philhealth and Pag-ibig as well as online appointments for the NBI Clearances and DFA passporting. Eventually the library added other government services to serve professionals like online appointments to PRC Examinations, initial registration and ID renewal.



Aspiring OFWs who needed e-register forms, pre-employment orientation seminars and overseas employment certificates were also assisted. The latest and most sought library e-gov service is the PSA online order. It was introduced due to the rising need for the PSA Birth certificate as a requirement in schools and when obtaining an LTO driver's license. All these e-government services are free of charge.

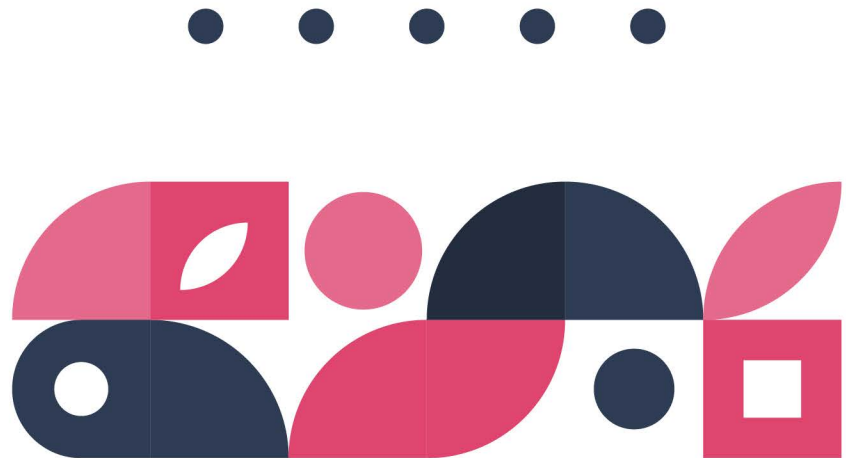
In December 2016, a few months after launching the Tech4Ed in Pangasinan, the Umingan Municipal Library was awarded Most Outstanding Library Tech4ed center in Luzon Cluster 2 for having registered the most number of users.

In July 2017, during the 2nd Knowledge Exchange Conference held at the Sison Auditorium, the Umingan Municipal Library was recognized as one of the Top 4 Performing Tech4ed Center in Luzon Cluster 2. Another award was given during 12th Knowledge Exchange Conference held at the Heritage Hotel in Manila on September 15, 2017. This time, the library was chosen as the 2017 Top Performing Tech4ed Center Nationwide with the second highest number of platform users in the Library Category. The Umingan Municipal Library also rewarded with a computer package consisting of 3 PCs, 1 printer and a router from the DICT Luzon cluster 2.



In 2016, the library served 452 clients. This has increased in 2017 with 1591 clients served. By 2018, this had climbed to 2400 clients. By the end of 2019 the library had served 2808 clients. As of June 2020, the library had already catered to the needs of no less than an astonishing 8000 Egovservices clients.

Through its e-gov services, the library has indeed fulfilled its mission to serve the needs of the community particularly in this digitized Information Age that we now live in.







Urdaneta City Library



Home Visitation Program



The city library's Person with Disability Visitation was first implemented in 2014 when it was first noticed that members of the PWD community seldom availed the services of the library. This was truly disappointing, considering that reading and library activities not requiring much mobility and physical exertion were some of the few activities that persons with disabilities could enjoy and even profit much from.

This was also not in line with one of the UN's 17 identified Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), namely Goal No. 10: Reduced Inequality. Guided by this, and in line with the country's responsibilities particularly as a Charter Member of this prestigious international body, the library decided to design a program exclusively for these disadvantaged group of potential clients.

In pursuit of this objective, the library created a PWD Section designed exclusively for the needs of this sector. In coordination with the CSWD, the Barangay Council, and the Association of PWDs in Urdaneta as well as consultants from the newly created PWD Section, the library staff brainstormed to come up with ways and means to find the best and most efficient ways to serve this sector, considering that even within the PWD sector itself, there may be varying needs and concerns depending on the specific disabilities of each individual comprising these groups.



The library also consulted teachers of special needs and handicapped children and physical therapists when necessary. With these efforts, the staff came up with a scheme to encourage socialization of the PWDs both among themselves and the library staff as well as the current special needs therapists they were currently involved with.

Since most of PWDs cannot physically go to the library itself, these are done through home visitations by the library staff and other related personnel. In these home visitations, the library staff offer a sympathetic ear for them to share their day to day experiences that are unique to their circumstances. They are provided books and reading materials of their choice and given suggestions on others that may enhance their experience and help them cope with their peculiar and specialized needs that they may not even know are available at the library.

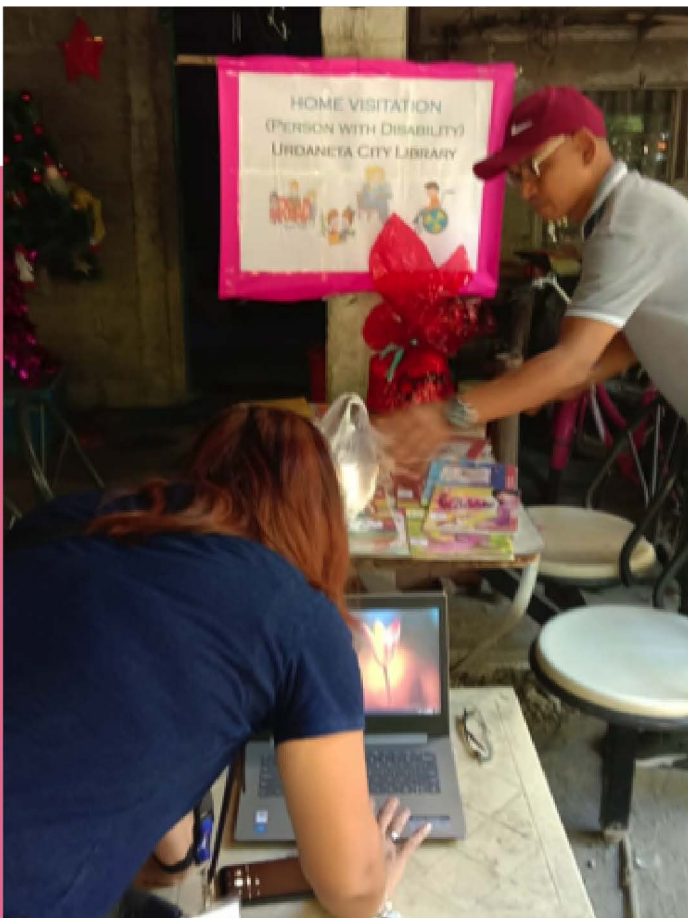




In addition to these activities, the PWDs are given basic tutorials on computer literacy, introduction to the online world for those not familiar with it and the accompanying ABC's of internet surfing and browsing.

For these special people, these activities also become an introduction to an entirely new and wonderful world for them, greatly expanding their horizons and points of view. In these interactions, the PWDs are given every chance to share their opinions and are encouraged to give feedback on their expectations from our PWD staff as well as what they hope to gain from their future visits.





The staff culminates the visit with the mandatory snacks that always serves as the high point of the social interaction that is sometimes accentuated with the giving of gifts when resources are available. This never fails to brighten up the spirits of the PWDs and cement the city library's relationship with them.

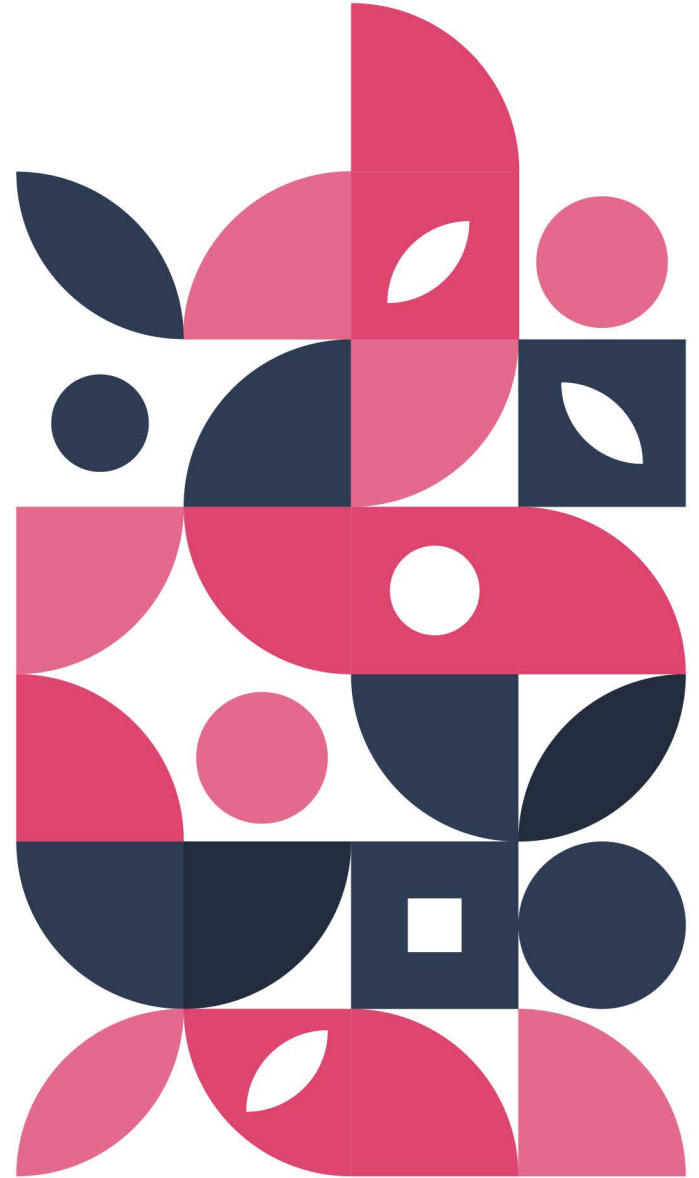
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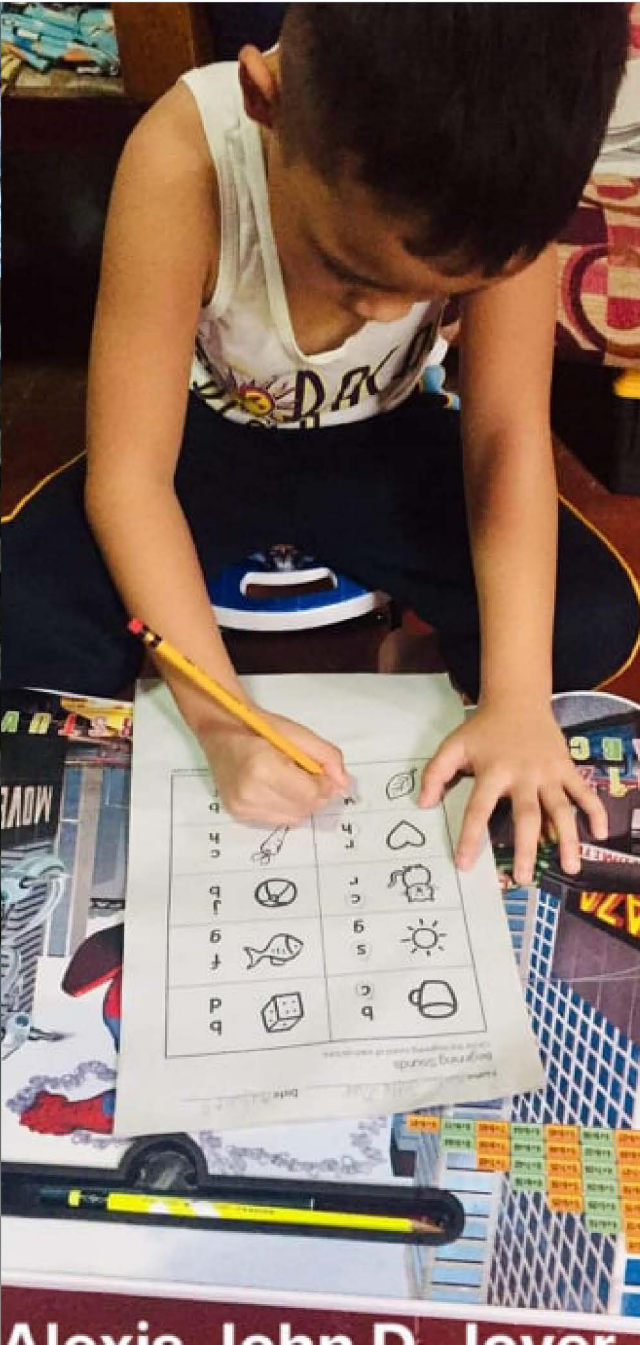
The interaction then ends with a prayer for divine guidance and assistance for both the visitor and the visited. After these visitations, in which commitments to get in touch again through the return of borrowed books and loaning of their replacements are made, one can never be sure of who leaves with the more uplifted spirit, the ones who are for the moment leaving – or the ones who are left behind.

Notice for PWDs

The Library is always open for you!

Stories of Resiliency







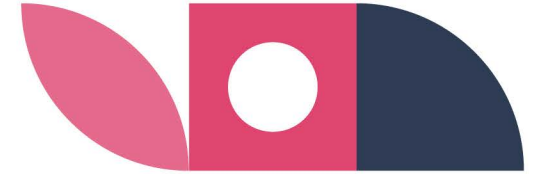
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN
ERECTED CAPITOL BUILDING AD MCMXXIII
BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF A CIVIL STATE
PROMOTING LIFE LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS



Pangasinan Provincial Library



Adjusting to EEEECQ



All the Pangasinan Provincial Library's services were unfortunately suspended for the duration of the pandemic due to the fact that like many other places in the country, the entire province was placed under an Enhanced Extreme Extended Community Quarantine regime (EEECQ) - the maximum classification. Notwithstanding the Stay-at-Home orders issued by the IATF, and at considerable risk to their health and safety, many PPL employees still opted to do voluntary work to help relieve the pressure on the overworked LGUs and frontline workers assigned to the pandemic response.

Most of these were in the form of the PPL employees' assistance in packing (and in some instances, directly helping to provide) much needed relief goods for the overwhelming number of their province mates who lost their sources of livelihood due to the pandemic.





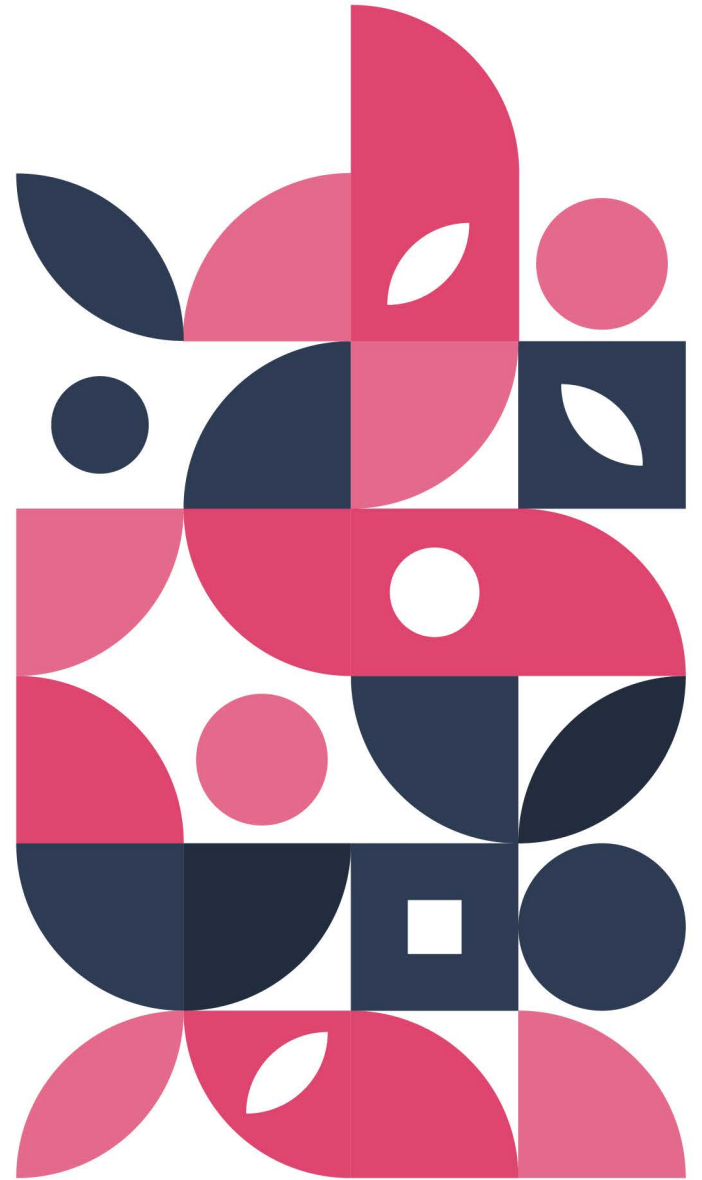
It's just too bad that due to the present situation, the library's regular clients are unable to visit the library and make use of its facilities as they used to.

Nonetheless, the library is still able to be of service to them through their Facebook account and other social media accounts, particularly on important updates on COVID-19 and the government's response to it. Through these outlets, the library is able to share useful links and other information and thereby continues with its mandates, particularly in these times when communication and the dissemination of information are of critical importance.

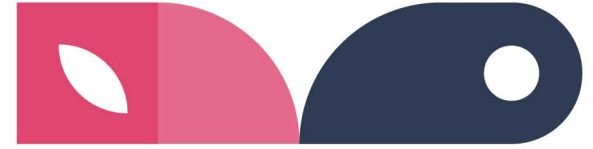
In this manner, the Pangasinan Provincial Library soldiers on in the face of the pandemic and the restricting EEECCQ.



Iloilo City Public Library

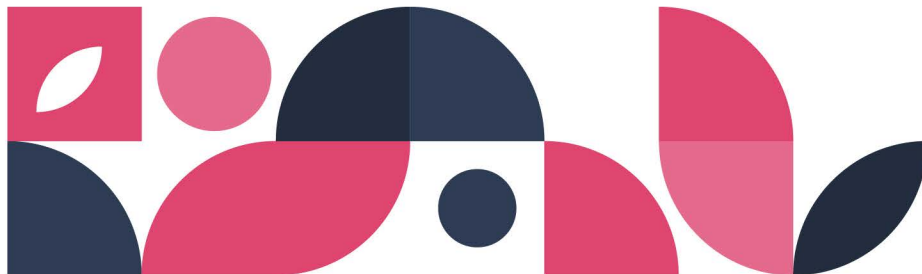
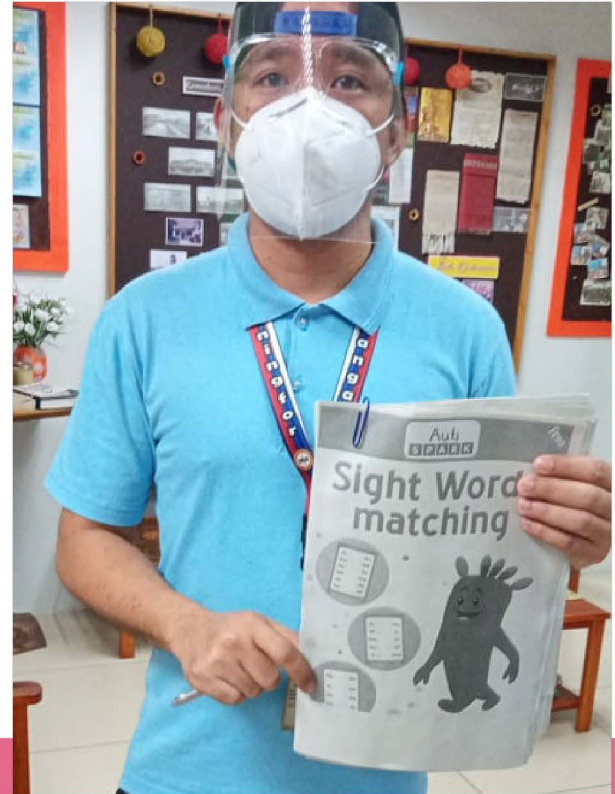


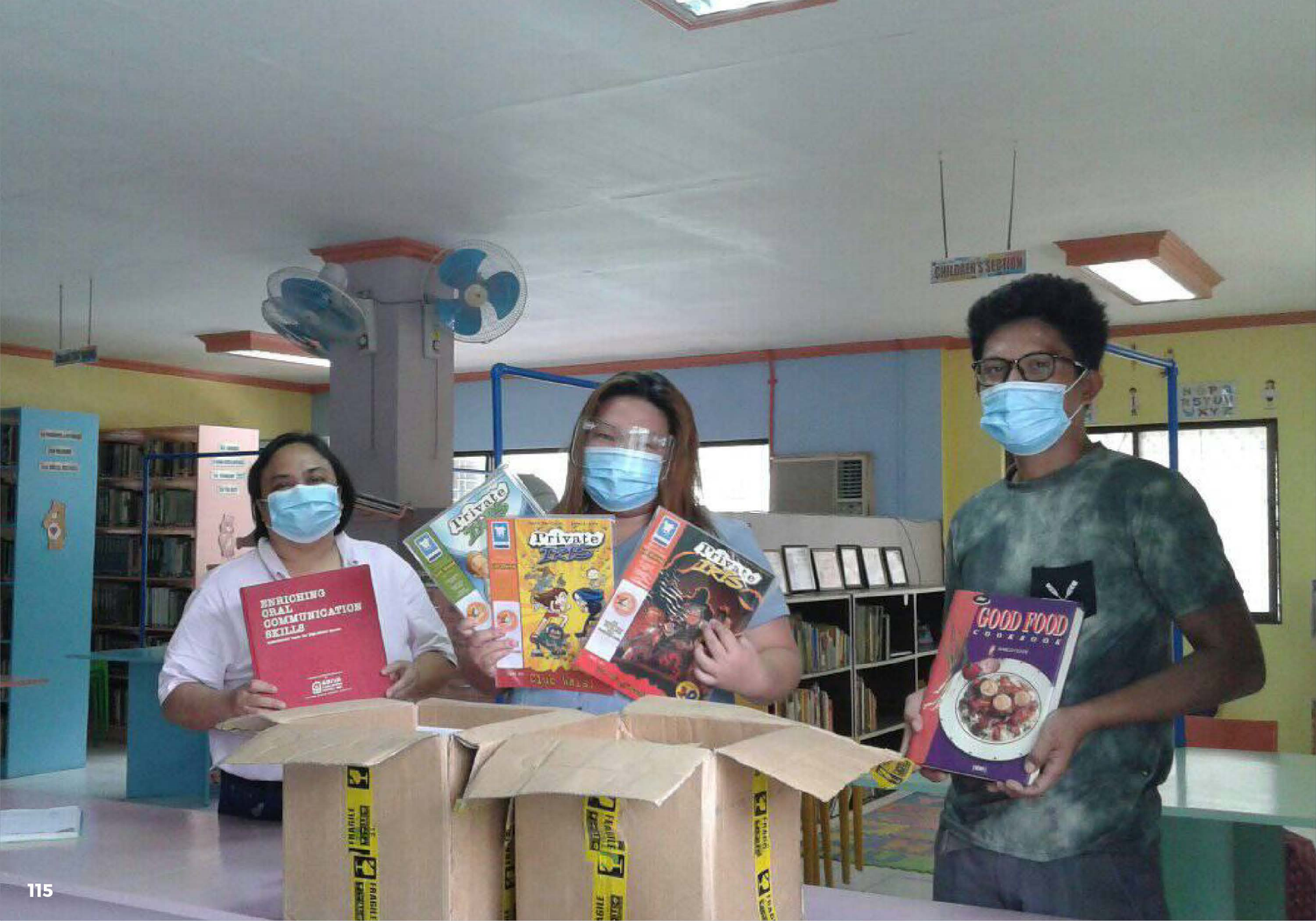
Community Storytelling and DIY: Ways to Cope with the Pandemic



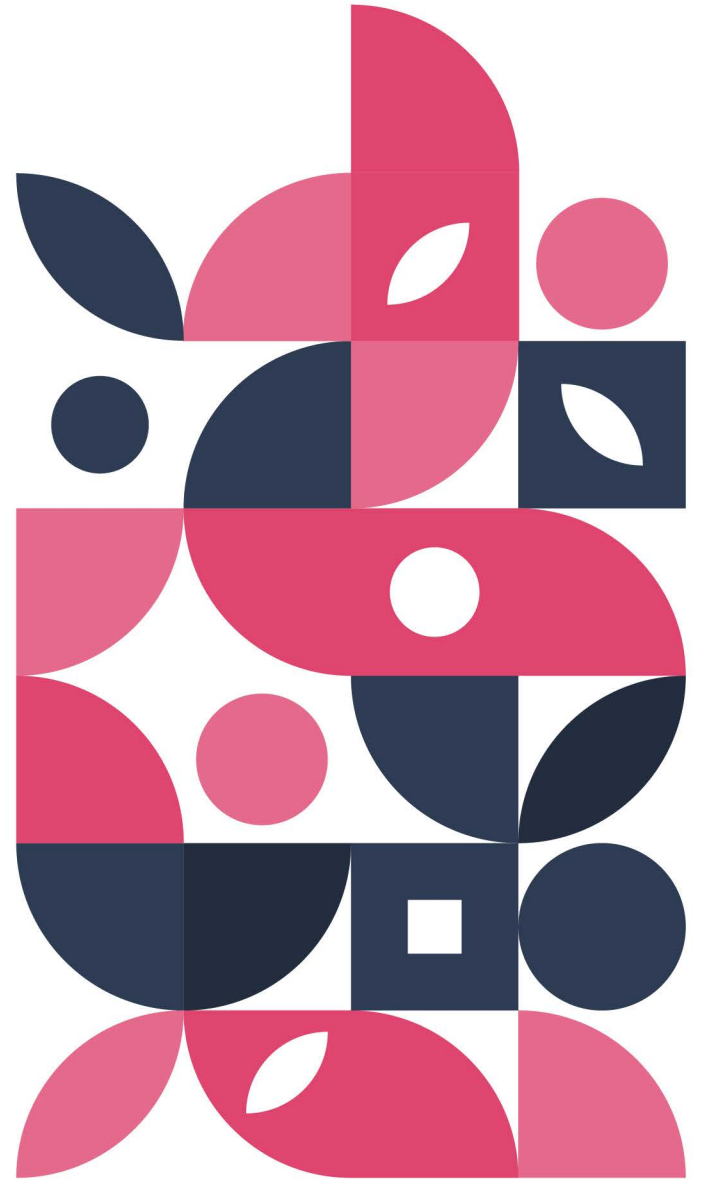
Throughout the pandemic, the Iloilo City Public Library continued its Community Storytelling activity to children online through its Facebook page. The library's target audience also extended to their parents and anyone else in their families who have access to wifi and are able to share the experience to other children.

The library encouraged parents because they are in the best position to give guidance to their own children particularly in the ideas and suggestions the staff provide to make their ECQ experience less stressful and even entertaining. The library also posts Do-It-Yourself activities to make their homebound experience more productive and hopefully even profitable and income-generating.

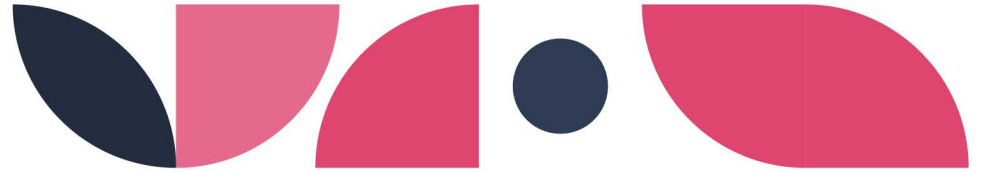




Atimonan Municipal Library



Making Do in the Time of Covid



In Atimonan, Quezon, the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) that was imposed in the municipality (just as it had been in every other municipality in the country) has forced the library to make do with a skeleton work force to perform its job. But even with that skeleton force that it was forced to adopt for its own and its clientele's safety, they were able to do more than their routine functions in the time of the pandemic.

In the case of the library assistant, in addition to her regular functions, she was assigned to assist the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) Secretary in preparing email communications and other documents needed for the Sangguniang Bayan sessions which were held every Tuesday.

She managed to maintain and keep open the Facebook page of the Municipal Library to update and share to its numerous followers in the municipality on the status of their beloved town and cascade it to the Barangays thru their own respective FB accounts.





At the same time, she was able to repost all the stories and other relevant information that she monitored from content in the main National Library of the Philippines Facebook Page that the constituents needed to know, especially those pertaining to the present emergency.

In addition to these duties, she also served as the assistant of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) branch in the municipality, during which she conducted surveys on-line and assisted DTI clients on their inquiries and requests for assistance.

All in all, even as rank and file employees, the library staff have proven to ourselves that they have not dropped the ball in carrying out their duties and responding to their clients' needs and making do in this time of Covid.

