



NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Apolinario Mabini 1864-1903

A lawyer and strategist, Apolinario Mabini was crucial in the legal and constitutional framing of Emilio Aguinaldo's revolutionary government. Mabini had first allied with José Rizal, whose La Liga Filipina (Filipino League) promoted gradual reform and non-violence. However, by 1892, Mabini came to support the Philippine Revolution, and in 1898, he became one of Aguinaldo's closest advisors. Mabini believed that only a strong, centralized national government backed by a robust army could secure independence, and he refused to negotiate with the United States. After he died in the chaos following the 1901, Mabini was commemorated as a leader of Filipino nationalism, and his funeral was one of the largest Filipinos had ever seen. The posthumous portrait, by Fabián de la Rosa y Cueto, was most likely made to honor a generation of Filipino nationalists during the first years of the U.S. colonial era. The portrait served as a tool in this effort.

Mabini de la Rosa y Cueto (1864-1903)
Oil on Canvas, 1903
National Library of the Philippines

Apolinario Mabini 1864-1903

El abogado y estratega Apolinario Mabini fue crucial en la estructuración legal y constitucional del go. Su alianza inicial con José Rizal, cuyo Liga Filipina promovía la reforma gradual y pacífica. Sin embargo, para 1892 había dejado su apoyo a la Revolución Filipina y en 1898 se convirtió en uno de los asesores más cercanos de Aguinaldo. Mabini creía que la independencia solo podía asegurarse con un gobierno nacional fuerte y centralizado, respaldado por un ejército robusto, y se negó a negociar con EE. UU. Tras su muerte durante la epidemia de cólera de 1901, se le conmemoró como un líder del nacionalismo filipino y su funeral fue uno de los más concurridos en la historia filipina. Este retrato postumum, por Fabián de la Rosa y Cueto, fue encargado posiblemente para crear un símbolo de nacionalismo filipino en los primeros años de la era colonial estadounidense. Este retrato sirvió como una herramienta en este esfuerzo.

Mabini de la Rosa y Cueto (1864-1903)
Óleo sobre lienzo, 1903
Biblioteca Nacional de Filipinas



Photo Above: "The Portrait of Apolinario Mabini" by Fabián de la Rosa (from the National Library of the Philippines Collection) is one of the two Filipino artworks that was displayed at the Smithsonian Institution's newest exhibition titled "1898: US Imperial Visions & Revisions," on 28 April 2023 to 25 February 2024. (Photo courtesy of the National Museum of the Philippines)

On the cover: The Philippine Presidential Library housing more than 40,000 collection of books and other published materials loaned to the National Library of the Philippines from the Presidential Museum and Library for easy access of the public.

**Annual Report
of the National Library
of the Philippines
2023**

La Republica Filipina
Constitucion
Politica.

Presidencia del Gobierno Revolucionario de Filipinas.

Don Emilio Aguinaldo y Famy
Presidente del Gobierno Revolucionario de
Filipinas, y Capitan General y Comandante en Jefe
de su Ejercito

Sean todos los ciudadanos filipinos. Que la asamblea de representantes de la Nacion, en uso de su soberania, ha decretado y yo he sancionado la Constitucion politica del Estado.

Por tanto

Mando a todas las autoridades tanto civiles como militares, de cualquier clase y dignidad, que las guarden y hagan guardar, cumplir y ejecutar, en todas sus partes, por que es la voluntad soberana del pueblo filipino.

Dado en Malolos a veintuno de Enero

Batch 11 Retrieved on Feb. 2, 1994

Constitution politica : Presidencia del
Gobierno Revolucionario de Filipinas
Malolos, Jan. 21, 1899

28 leaves
Spanish text

Control No. 11-814

Mandate

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) is the repository of the printed and recorded cultural heritage of the country and other intellectual, literary resources and information sources.

Vision

By 2027, the National Library of the Philippines shall be the premier library in the country, with an extensive collection of library resources available in different forms and media, providing excellent customer service experience through automated library facilities and online services, driving the intellectual, social, and cultural progress of the Filipino society.

Mission

The National Library of the Philippines is an ISO certified national repository of printed and recorded cultural heritage in the country that acquires, organizes, conserves, and preserves Filipiniana resources and provides equitable access to information resources on various platforms, and delivers world-class customer service for Filipinos.

Quality Policy

We, at the NLP, as a repository of cultural heritage, commit to acquire, conserve and preserve all printed and recorded Filipiniana resources, ensure equitable access and provide inclusive and resilient services to support, intellectual, cultural and national development in accordance with the applicable requirements while continually improving our quality management system.

To uphold this commitment, we shall:

Espouse human resource welfare and development and values formation programs to harness the fullest potential of our people;

Implement responsive policies, programs, and initiatives;

Acquire and generate the best-available library resources; and,

Integrate risk and quality management systems into the processes across the organization, particularly in policy formulation, decision-making, planning, service provision, performance evaluation, and improvement processes.

It further commits to complying with statutory and legal requirements and continuously improving our quality management system.



RAMBANSANG AKLATAN
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES

APOLINARIO MABINI

APOLINARIO MABINI
1864-1907
A BORN AND BRED LIBRARIAN, MABINI WAS ONE OF THE GREAT MINDS OF THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION. HE WAS A SKILLFUL STRATEGIST AND A FEARLESS LEADER. HE WAS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE REVOLUTION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. HE WAS THE ARCHITECT OF THE PHILIPPINE LIBRARY AND THE PHILIPPINE ARCHIVE. HE WAS THE FATHER OF THE PHILIPPINE LIBRARY AND THE PHILIPPINE ARCHIVE. HE WAS THE FATHER OF THE PHILIPPINE LIBRARY AND THE PHILIPPINE ARCHIVE.

The facade of the six storey building of the National Library of the Philippines built in 1962
The facade of the six storey building of the National Library of the Philippines built in 1962

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NLP Director's Message




CESAR GILBERT Q. ADRIANO
Director IV
National Library of the Philippines

With immense pride, the National Library of the Philippines presents its 2023 Annual Report, showcasing the agency's successful pursuit of goals outlined in the NLP Strategic Plan 2022-2027.

Notable achievements include the nationwide implementation of Project LARA and series of seminars to empower the public libraries. NLP is committed in bringing library services closer to the people through the public libraries, that contributes to significant aspects of our social development. We ventured into major collaborations with international and national entities, leading to transformative initiatives such as establishment of prison libraries, a project spearheaded by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in partnership with the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and, democratizing the Filipiniana historical resources through the National Historical Commission of the Philippines' National Memory Project.

Strategic partnerships with organizations like the National Book Development Board expanded our reach by participating in the first Philippine Book Festival. The global stage also witnessed one of NLP's prized collection at the exhibit of Smithsonian Institution's "1898: US Imperial Visions & Revisions." The portrait of Apolinario Mabini by Fabián de la Rosa, a Filipino artists who played a pivotal role in the development of modern Filipino art in the early 20th century and heir to the artistic traditions of Simon Flores, Juan Luna and Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo, was displayed in the exhibit.

Our commitment to providing equitable access to information materialized through open library spaces and collaborations with various groups. Transforming NLP into a cultural and educational hub for exhibits, book launches, and accessible book corners.

In response to the growing demand of our library patrons and clients, acquisition of Filipiniana materials increased to 760,623 volumes serving a total of 676,738 library users and stakeholders this year. We anticipate further growth with the near completion of the Children's Library and Permanent Gallery, bringing us closer to NLP's vision of becoming the premier library in the country by 2027.

As an advocate of cultural, social and human development, NLP will continue to provide free and accessible learning opportunity and contribute to the development of the society.



NLP 2023 IN NUMBERS

Budget Utilization Report

Project/Activity Programs	Allotment	Obligation	Unobligated Allotment
Regular Appropriation			
NLP	223,285,000.00	222,965,459.72	319,540.28
Tondo Congressional Library	2,320,000.00	2,319,945.13	54.87
Bohol Congressional Library	618,000.00	602,029.21	15,970.79
Batanes Congressional Library	1,099,000.00	1,074,833.89	24,166.11
Retrofitting Project			-
Retirement and Life insurance Premium (RLIP)	6,876,190.00	6,876,190.00	-
Special Purpose Fund	4,575,218.00	4,575,217.17	0.83
Total	238,773,408.00	238,413,675.12	359,732.88
Continuing Appropriations (CA)			-
NLP	2,947,082.22	2,813,726.00	133,356.22
Tondo Congressional Library	1,120,598.30	1,120,598.00	0.30
Bohol Congressional Library	7,871.02	7,871.00	0.02
Batanes Congressional Library	113,660.45	113,660.00	0.45
Total CA	4,189,211.99	4,055,855.00	133,356.99
Supplemented Appropriation			-
E-gov Fund (NLP)			-
Total NLP Budget for 2023	242,962,619.99	242,469,530.12	493,089.87

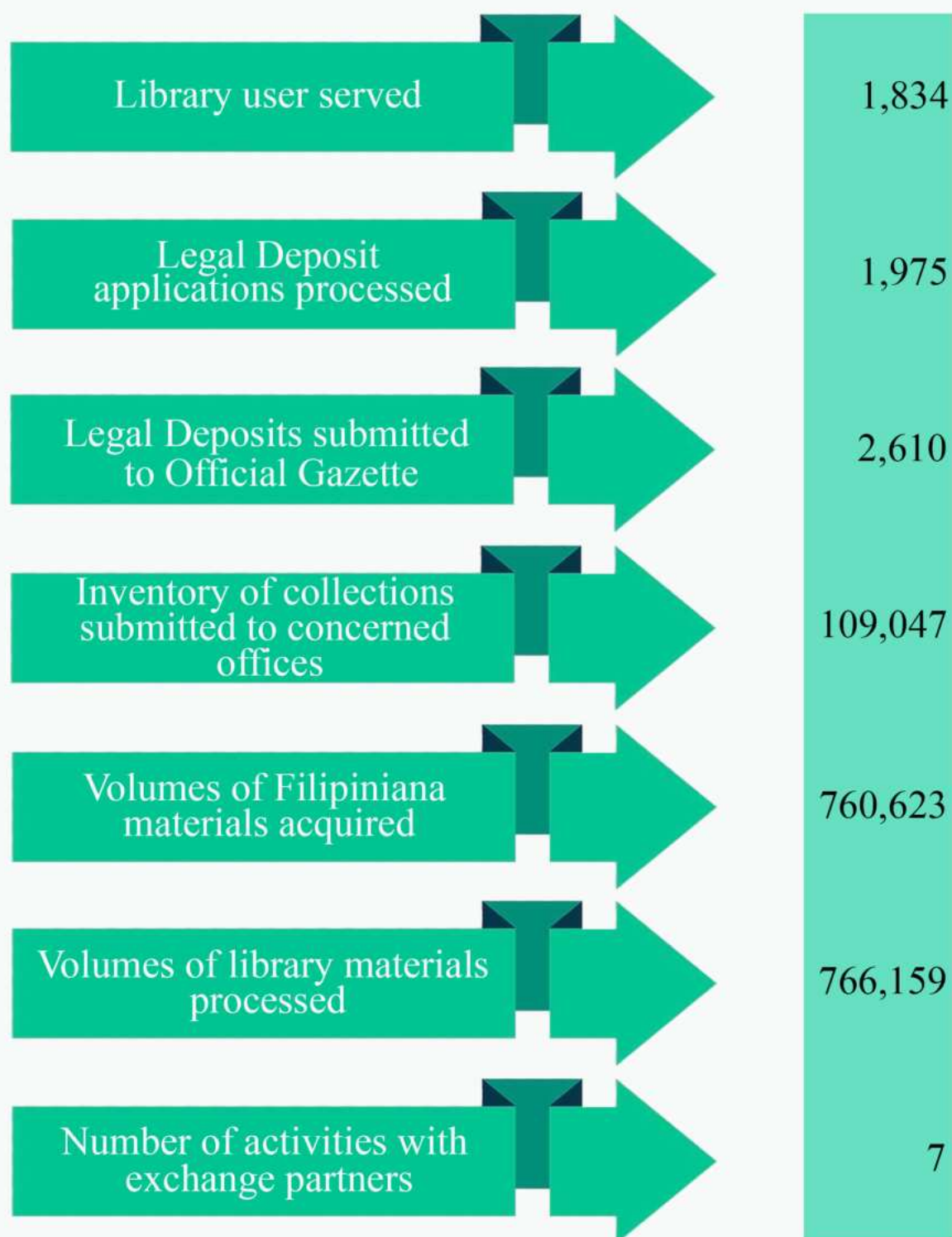
Bibliographic Services Division

Library user served	9,079
Applications Processed	10,865
Entries added in KOHA for Philippines Indexing Thesaurus	19,412
Indexed library collections	8,312
Entries edited for PNB	5,531
Bibliographic Entries registered to International Center (IC)	1,144

Catalog Division

Library user served	3,075
Processed applications for Cataloging-in-Publication (CIP)	319
Volumes of library materials processed	13,770
Processed selected entries for PNB	3,634
Public Libraries supported through training	128
Volumes of cataloged library materials delivered	10,280

Collection Development Division



Copyright Division

Library user served

13,488

Copyright Application processed

9,488

Encoded copyright entries
in KOHA

5,262

Number of deposit delivered
for processing

2,520

Filipiniana Division

Library user served	—	62,400
Processed requested library materials	—	225,711 - Books 932,375 E - Resources
Inventory of collections submitted to concerned offices	—	114,755
Pages of Filipiniana materials preserved and conserved	—	144,832,465
Volumes of Multimedia organized	—	7,488
Volumes of library materials managed	—	114,755
Registration of NLP collection in Philippine Registry of Cultural Property	—	3

Finance and Administrative Division

Client Served	2,551
Processed FOI request	93
Regulatory documents for financial management submitted	5,138
Requested financial management transactions processed	29,314
HRM planned activities undertaken	300
PRAISE related activities conducted	11
Training Plan	23
Required regulatory and legal administrative documents submitted	544
Administrative document transactions acted upon	4,401
Procurement activities conducted	7,567
Supply and Property management activities undertaken	4,625
Records management activities accomplished	3,215

Information Technology Division

Library user served	50,688
ID Registrations	26,699
Public libraries supported (through KOHA installation)	78
Information System Maintained	34
Information System Developed	7
Number of pages of Filipiniana collections digitized	274, 175

Public Libraries Division

Library user served	41,060
Number of extension libraries supported	4,470
Number of public libraries established	28
Library Users of extension/affiliated Public Libraries	23,046,202
Number of training conducted in affiliated public libraries and reading center	23
Affiliated public libraries and reading center supported through training	2,130
Affiliated public libraries and reading center supported through monitoring	2,001
Affiliated public libraries and reading center supported through resource allocation	379
Locally Funded Programs administered	4

Reference Division

Library user served

160,701

Number of volumes utilized

701,523
(books, e-resources)

Promotional, educational
and cultural activities

108

Number of reproduced library material
into alternative formats

33

Research and Publications Division





HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023



Operational Planning Set Course for 2023 and 2024

Breaking down the major goals included in the National Library of the Philippines' 2022-2027 Strategic Planning, two Operational Planning activities were conducted in 2023 spearheaded by the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee chaired by Jennifer B. Dimasaca, Chief of the Bibliographic Services Division.

For 2023-2024, NLP top management headed by Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros with the division chiefs and sections heads participated in the cross-functional planning activity on January 30- February 2, 2023 at Burnham Suites, Baguio City.

Discussed during the four-day planning includes allocation on the new developments in NLP including the construction of the Filipiniana Gallery, Re-development of the Children's Library, opening of the Presidential Library, supporting the Prison Library and acquiring the tool for Climate Control and Air Quality Monitoring equipment. Due to the increase in the allocated budget amounting 66.2 Million, there were also an adjustment on the said budget. The Collection Development Division was given 16.5 Million pesos for allocation of 50,000 volumes of library materials, while Public Libraries Division was given additional 26.2 million pesos for support of public libraries.

The planning participants also assessed the performance and the current status of NLP personnel. The Human Resource Management Office Head and Administrative Officer V, Michelle A. Flor, presented the current number of NLP personnel as of February 1, 2023. According to her, the HR office is handling the selection process of the 15 of the 26 unfilled position as of February 2023. The review of the agency staffing pattern was mentioned to assess if there will be a need for hiring permanent position and to avoid redundancy of task from the Job Order personnel.

All division representatives interact and had a productive discussion of the target, accomplishments and concerns through the planning sessions. Divided into three groups: Reader Services, Technical Services and Public Libraries-- the groups exchanged ideas on the perennial issues of NLP process and services such as streamlining, acquiring Filipiniana collections, feedback mechanism, procurement process, utilization of the databases, conduct of training and agency backlogs. Action plans were drafted gearing towards the attainment of all the programs and activities of NLP for its stakeholders.

Also happened on the same year, September 6-8, 2023 in Subic, Zambales, NLP prepared for the Operational Planning for 2024-2025 where they meticulously reviewed data, financial projections, and past performances of the agency. Director Adriano identified the six thrusts of NLP for 2024-2025: (1) Conservation and Preservation program; (2) Reorganization Plan; (3) ICT enhancement; (4) Continuous improvement of building and library spaces; (5) Compliance to regulatory and statutory requirements; and, (6) Promotion of NLP services. The event conducted extensive deliberations, strategy sessions, and visionary directives gearing up for the challenges and opportunities of the coming fiscal year and serve as a launchpad for the library's next fiscal year's endeavors.

Relative to these thrusts are the specified projects and activities for implementation on 2024-2025. Both directors instructed all divisions to attain these activities:

Conservation and Preservation Programs

1. Constructions of permanent gallery with conservation laboratory
2. Installation of last phase of the Gas-based fire suppression system and cistern tank
3. Inclusion of NLP collection to UNESCO Memory of the World
4. Training for Conservation of rare collection

Reorganization Plan

1. Submission to congress and senate
2. For implementation and discussion with the Management Committee

ICT Development

1. Enhancement of existing IT infrastructure and in-house system
2. Digitization Project
3. Accessibility of the collection
4. E-Library Project
5. Endorsement of ISSP to Department of Budget and Management

Building and Spaces Improvement

1. Opening of the Permanent Gallery and Children's Library
2. Construction of International Corners
3. Relocation of Reading areas and office areas

Improving Procurement Process

1. Enhance communication and team work

Promotion of NLP services

1. Encourage all NLP employees to promote NLP social media pages

Director Adriano encouraged everyone to contribute to the attainment of the NLP goals. **“Let us ensure that the plans we develop will not only end up as new ideas, but must have a positive impact in changing the conditions of our people for the better,”** said Director Adriano as he challenged all the employees to exert more efforts in attaining the NLP set targets for 2023-2027.

As the event concluded, NLP charted a sustainable path that would not only secure necessary funding but also ensure that NLP will fully realize its mandate as a cultural agency and a national library serving the evolving needs of the community.



Operational Planning for 2023-2024: January 30- February 2, 2023 at Burnham Suites, Baguio City



Operational Planning for 2024-2025: September 6-8, 2023 in Subic, Zambales

NLP joins 48th Meeting of Directors of ISSN National Centres

Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Jennifer B. Dimasaca attended and took part in the 48th Meeting of the Directors of ISSN National Centres in Brussels, Belgium from October 23–26, 2023, thanks to the kind invitation of Koninklijke Bibliotheek/Bibliothèque royale (KBR) and the International Standard Serial Number International Centre (ISSN IC).

Sophie Vandepontseele, the Director of Contemporary Collections of KBR and Gaelle Bequet, the Director of the ISSN International Center, gave opening messages to officially kick off the gathering.

Everyone was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and learn about the food / cuisine of each participating nation by offering a discussion on traditional dish or culinary tradition as a warm-up exercise.

Reports from Belgium, Tunisia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nepal, and Ukraine were presented after one from the ISSN IC Director, Gaelle Bequet. 37 member countries were present for the Directors Meeting to discuss critical ISSN system-related concerns.

The majority of the days after that were devoted to ISSN+ workshops, which were then followed by a discussion of the database's new features. It is made up of bibliographic records in MARC21 format that use a subset of this format's fields and sub-fields. Additionally, the MARC21 fields 023, 856, and 857 were discussed. Automated ISSN-L administration or linking ISSN+ allows for the federation of paper/print and electronic versions of the same resource as well as the creation of other record groups.

A few of the features include the ability to search bibliographic records, an assignment form, title and publisher browsing, a list of title word abbreviations (LTWA), the ability to extract data in a variety of formats, help pages, dashboards, and announcements.

A visit to the Koninklijke Bibliotheek/Bibliothèque royale (KBR) reading room and legal deposit and Musee Magritte Museum marked the end of the four-day 48th Meeting of Directors of ISSN National Centres.

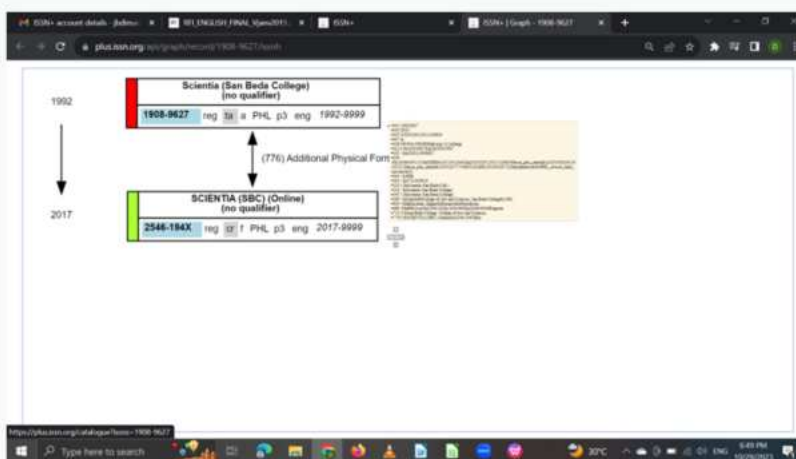


Fig. ISSN-L and ISSN-H family graphs

During the meeting, the directors discussed the importance of the ISSN system in ensuring the accuracy and reliability of serial publications. They also talked about the need to promote the use of ISSN for all types of publications, including electronic journals and online serials.

The directors also exchanged information on the latest trends and best practices related to ISSN, including the use of ISSN linked data, the implementation of ISSN in library systems, and the role of ISSN in scholarly communication. They also discussed ways to enhance the visibility and accessibility of ISSN data.

The directors are confident that the insights and recommendations shared during the meeting will help to further improve the ISSN system and its services to publishers, libraries, and other stakeholders.



ISSN Directors Meeting. (R-L) Director Cesar Gilbert Adriano with Sophie Vandepontseele Operational Director Contemporary Collections at Royal Library of Belgium (KBR), Jennifer Dimasaca, Nadège Isbergue, Head of Periodicals of KBR and Gaëlle Bequet, Director of ISSN International Centre



During the conduct of ISSN+ workshops Jennifer Dimasaca, Chief of Bibliographic Services Division of NLP with Pierre Godefroy, Head of Information Systems Department of ISSN International Centre

Mabini Portrait displayed at Smithsonian Institution



The portrait of Apolinario Mabini by Fabián de la Rosa from the National Library of the Philippines Collection is one of the two Filipino artworks that were displayed at the Smithsonian Institution's latest exhibition titled "1898: US Imperial Visions & Revisions," which run from 28 April 2023 to 25 February 2024.

The "1898: US Imperial Vision and Revision" is the first major Smithsonian exhibition to examine the U.S. intervention in Cuba and U.S. Expansion into Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. This marked the 125th anniversary of the year the United States acquired overseas territories and emerged as a world power. The Filipino artworks and artifact displayed in the exhibit reflected the period of Philippine-American War (1899-1913), an important part of our history in claiming for our independence and sovereignty.

The goal of the exhibit is to 'examine the debates around US imperialism, alongside the experiences of peoples living in the Caribbean and the Pacific and the realities of their loss of self-determination

This exhibition, showcasing over ninety (90) objects, explores the perspectives of proponents and opponents of overseas expansion, along with those who sought agency in shaping their political

futures. It delves into the impact of the United States' influence as it brought Cuba, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines into its sphere of power through portraiture and visual culture.

Aside from Mabini portrait, the other Filipino artwork from the National Fine Arts Collection of the National Museum of the Philippines was the Portrait of Felipe Agoncillo by Félix Resurrección Hidalgo.

National Library's Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros attended the inauguration of the said exhibition on April 27, 2023 at the National Portrait Gallery USA in Washington, D.C. Also part of the delegation were Director-General Jeremy Barns, Deputy Director-General for Museums Jorell M. Legaspi, Research, Collections, and Conservation Management Division Chief Anne Rosette G. Crelencia, Museum Researcher for the Fine Arts Division Caroline Marie D. Duque of the National Museum; Assistant Secretary Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga of the Department of Foreign Affairs-Office of American Affairs; and, Consul General Iric C. Arribas of the Philippine Embassy in the USA .

Showcasing these artworks to the international community is a great opportunity for our country to highlight the important events in our history as we also celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Philippine Independence and Nationhood on June 12, 2023- March 23, 2026.



Photos from the National Museum of the Philippines.

Smithsonian Institution Exhibit. National Library's Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros attended the inauguration of the said exhibition on April 27, 2023 at the National Portrait Gallery USA in Washington, D.C. Also part of the delegation were Director-General Jeremy Barns, Deputy Director-General for Museums Jorell M. Legaspi, Research, Collections, and Conservation Management Division Chief Anne Rosette G. Crelencia, Museum Researcher for the Fine Arts Division Caroline Marie D. Duque of the National Museum; Assistant Secretary Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga of the Department of Foreign Affairs-Office of American Affairs; and, Consul General Iric C. Arribas of the Philippine Embassy in the USA.

29th Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano was represented by Reference Division Chief Dolores D. Carungui in the 29th Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania hosted by Qatar National Library held in Doha, Qatar on November 1-2, 2023.

CDNLAO is an annual meeting/conference of Directors of Asia and Oceania that aims to discuss library issues of common interest and to promote resource and information sharing within the Asia Pacific region. Specifically, the objectives include: 1) exchange of information and promote cooperation for the development of libraries in Asia and Oceania; 2) assist libraries in less developed countries through cooperation; 3) understand the state of the art of library development among libraries in Asia and Oceania.

The Conference is exclusive for directors and or representatives from member countries, and it is noteworthy to highlight that this year, there were 55 participants from the following countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Palestine, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

This year's theme "Collect and Engage: National Libraries and their Collections" with presentations on the following topics: collecting content representative of our communities (physical and digital); preserving and making the collections accessible; activating or engaging communities with the nation's collection, allowed the participants to have an understanding on the different approaches and practices relative to the above stated topics. It was also an opportunity to understand each national library in the region of their structure, functions, programs, services and initiatives, and the chance for NLP to share what we do and our own initiatives.

It was a fruitful conference that provides venue to strengthen existing partnerships and the development of new relationships for the enhancement of each country's programs and services. NLP looks forward for more collaborative programs and potential projects in the future as a result of discussions with the directors and representatives. NLP's support to the global works of the sector is evident on its attendance to every CDNLAO, in the interest of our library beneficiaries.



CDNLAO in Doha, Qatar. Dolores D. Carungui, Chief of the Reference Division in the 29th Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania hosted by Qatar National Library held in Doha, Qatar on November 1-2, 2023.

TRANSFORMING PRISON LIBRARIES: UNODC, BJMP, and NLP Collaborate to launch "Read Your Way Out" Project



Read Your Way Out (RYWO) Project. The official launch at Novotel, Quezon City, included the signing of a Declaration of Cooperation among the concerned agencies. Signatories to the declaration included Serafin P. Barreto Jr., Undersecretary for Public Safety of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); Jail Director Allan S. Iral, Chief of BJMP; Atty. Joyce Jazmin G. Dimaisip Cunanan, Supreme Court Senior Chief Staff Officer; Olivier Lernet, Senior Policy Advisor of UNODC; and Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director of NLP.

In a concerted effort to promote education, rehabilitation, and well-being among deprived of liberty (PDL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in partnership with the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and the National Library of the Philippines (NLP), officially inaugurated the Read Your Way Out (RYWO) Project.

This transformative initiative was launched on March 14, 2023, at Novotel, Quezon City, following a preliminary visit by UNODC officials to the NLP on March 23, 2023. The UNODC delegation, along with members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), visited the NLP on March 13, 2023. The delegation included Lisa Krolak, Chief Librarian of the UNESCO Institute of Lifelong Learning in Hamburg, Germany; Jane Garner, a lecturer in the School of Information Studies at Charles Sturt University in Australia; Kate Jones, a resource speaker on the role of education in reformation; Nathee Chitsawang, a resource speaker on best practices of the Living Library in Thailand; and Padma Bandaranayake, a resource speaker about how libraries support rehabilitation from Sri Lanka. The NLP is also a part of the TWG, providing technical expertise in terms of library management. During the visit, UNODC officials explored the services and facilities of the library, gaining insights into the valuable resources available. This exchange served as a precursor to the collaborative efforts that would unfold in the subsequent launch of the RYWO Project.

The genesis of the RYWO project lies in the Nelson Mandela Rule 64, advocating for the establishment of prison libraries, and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Guidelines for Library Services to Prisoners. These guidelines provide a framework for implementing and customizing library services within correctional facilities. The RYWO project, also known as "Magbasa Tungo sa Paglaya," aligns with these principles, aiming to create new jail libraries across the Philippines.



The project not only focuses on the physical setup of libraries but also emphasizes the provision of books and equipment. The overarching goal is to offer learning opportunities that facilitate personal development, well-being, and rehabilitation for individuals within the correctional system. A key aspect of the initiative is to encourage reading activities among PDLs, allowing them to earn Time Allowance for Study, Teaching, and Mentoring (TASTM). This incentivizes educational pursuits, leading to reduced sentences and aiding in decongestion through early release coupled with rehabilitative efforts grounded in improved education and vocational skills. The official launch at Novotel, Quezon City, included the signing of a Declaration of Cooperation among the concerned agencies. Signatories to the declaration included Serafin P. Barreto Jr., Undersecretary for Public Safety of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); Jail Director Allan S. Iral, Chief of BJMP; Atty. Joyce Jazmin G. Dimaisip Cunanan, Supreme Court Senior Chief Staff Officer; Olivier Lermet, Senior Policy Advisor of UNODC; and Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director of NLP.

A symbolic turnover of the newly established libraries to BJMP recipients marked a significant moment in the launch. This symbolic gesture underscored the commitment to enhancing educational resources within correctional facilities. Additionally, a simultaneous workshop and meeting took place, bringing together BJMP personnel, local and international subject matter experts, and the RYWO Technical Working Group. This collaborative effort is poised to shape the trajectory of prison libraries, emphasizing the transformative power of education and reading within the context of rehabilitation.

As the RYWO project takes root, it signifies a collective commitment to fostering positive change within the correctional system, ultimately contributing to the holistic development of individuals in custody.

NLP celebrates the 125th Year of Philippine Independence



Organized by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), the National Library of the Philippines joined the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and Nationhood celebration with theme, “Kalayaan. Kinabukasan. Kasaysayan.” at Quirino Grandstand and Rizal Park Luneta. The programs aimed to value the importance of historic events in our nation from the declaration of our independence on June 12, 1898 in Kawit, Cavite to the end of the First Republic on March 23, 1901 in Palanan, Isabela.

As a repository of important documents and published materials NLP showcased some of its priceless treasures that are valuable to our nation’s history. Aligned with the theme of Philippine Independence, NLP presented to the public some of its collection including the books, manuscripts and photos related to our independence. The original copy of the Philippine Declaration of Independence, document of the Treaty of Biak-na-Bato, letters of Emilio Aguinaldo, selected documents of the

Katipunan, copy of Malolos Constitution, original copy of the Philippine National Anthem and many other documents.

Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano led the opening and ribbon cutting on June 12 with Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros. It was also attended by other head of cultural agencies including the NHCP Chairman Dr. Emmanuel F. Calairo; Director-General of the National Museum, Jeremy Barns; Executive Director of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Oscar G. Casaysay; Chairman of the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino, Arthur P. Cassanova; and, the Public Historian Prof. Michael Charleston “Xiao” B. Chua.

The exhibit was open to the public from June 12-30 located at the 2nd floor lobby of the NLP building. The Filipiniana Division headed by Susan J. Fetalco



and Maricel M. Diaz prepared and facilitated the exhibit together with the staff of the Rare Books, Manuscript, and Special Collection Section.

On the other hand, the Research and Publications Division and the Children’s Section of the Reference Division also participated in the celebration on June 10-11, 2023 at Rizal Park Luneta. Together with the other government agencies, NLP set up a booth where services, collections and storytelling performances were being showcased to the public. This is part of the overall program of NHCP in extending the different government services to the people bearing its theme, “Mga Pampamahalaang Programa at Serbisyo.”

During the two-day camp at Rizal Park, NLP offered inquiry booth for its services for application on Copyright, Numbering System, Cataloging in Publication and Legal Deposit. The storytelling activities for all children and young at heart at the park was the highlight of the program offering a puppet show, book reading activity, coloring and arts activity and interactive storytelling sessions. Through this, NLP were able to impart the importance of celebrating independence days to the younger groups through its services and collections.

The independence day celebration was concluded with the Independence Parade at Quirino Grandstand which was attended by other government agencies and public sectors including the First Family with Honorable President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

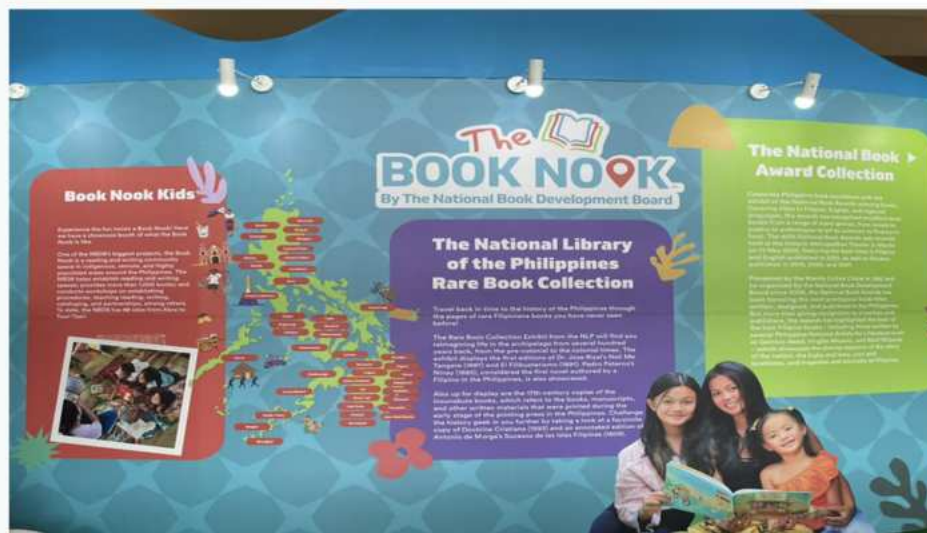


125th Philippine Independence @Rizal Park Luneta. NLP display during the 2-day set up of government agencies' booth with the theme: "Mga Pampamahalaang Programa at Serbisyo."

NLP Rare and Special Collections at the Philippine Book Festival

For the very first time, the National Library of the Philippines selected rare and special collections were taken outside the NLP building and brought closer to the public during the inauguration of the Philippine Book Festival (PBF), the nation's pioneering traveling book festival in the country which was first unfolded on June 2, 2023 at the World Trade Center in Pasay City and on August 17-21 at SMX Convention Center in Davao.

The spotlight was on the NLP's priceless collections that stirred public's interest and great appreciation seeing these materials for the first time. Thousands of visitors were astonished to the facsimile copies of Dr. Jose Rizal's masterpieces, namely "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo," in addition to the three Philippine Incunabula, a book published in the Philippines in 1500s. Enclosed in glass cases, numerous individuals showed their amazement of how these collections are still in the exhibit at the present time.



Also in the display are the following: first edition copy of the Noli Me Tangere; 3rd edition copy of El Filibusterismo; four of the most popular Komiks in the country; book of Mga Kuwento ni Lola Basyang; the copy of Pedro Paterno's book "Ninay" which is considered as the first novel in the Philippines; facsimile copy of Doctrina Cristiana, and other books with great cultural and social value to such as Dekada 70', Banaag at Sikat and Florante at Laura. This exhibition served as a captivating portal to the past, offering visitors a distinctive opportunity to delve into the Philippines' rich literary heritage. In Davao alone, a total of 1,658 visits the NLP exhibit.

NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, along with NLP Division Chiefs and staff, played a prominent role in the event by presenting carefully chosen rare books and Filipiniana collections curated by the NLP. Director Adriano with Maricel M. Diaz, Asst. Chief of the Filipiniana Division led the NLP delegates in PBF Davao, giving the Davaoëño a piece of NLP's preserved collections.



The PBF, orchestrated by The National Book Development Board (NBDB), stands as a tribute to Filipino literature and culture. Showcasing an extensive array of books by Filipino authors and publishers, this festival holds the distinction of being the country's pioneer event dedicated solely to Filipino content. It presents an excellent opportunity to delve into Filipino culture, unearth new literary gems, and connect with fellow book enthusiasts. This groundbreaking event not only celebrated the love for books but also played a pivotal role in strengthening the nation's literary fabric and showcasing the talents of Filipino writers and creators.

This event provided an avenue for public librarians and book enthusiasts to delve into the extensive collections showcased by various local and independent publishers. The occasion facilitated significant interactions, nurturing a heightened appreciation for the diverse literary panorama of the Philippines.

The NLP's active involvement in this milestone event further reinforces its commitment to promoting a culture of reading, preserving literary heritage, and supporting the flourishing local book industry.

NLP and NHCP Collaborate to Democratize Access to Historical Collections

In a groundbreaking move toward inclusivity and accessibility, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) has partnered with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) to make three significant special collections available to the public. The collections in focus— the **Philippine Revolutionary Records**, the **Historical Data Papers**, and the **Jose Rizal Collection**— will be accessible online for free through NHCP's National Memory Project (NMP).

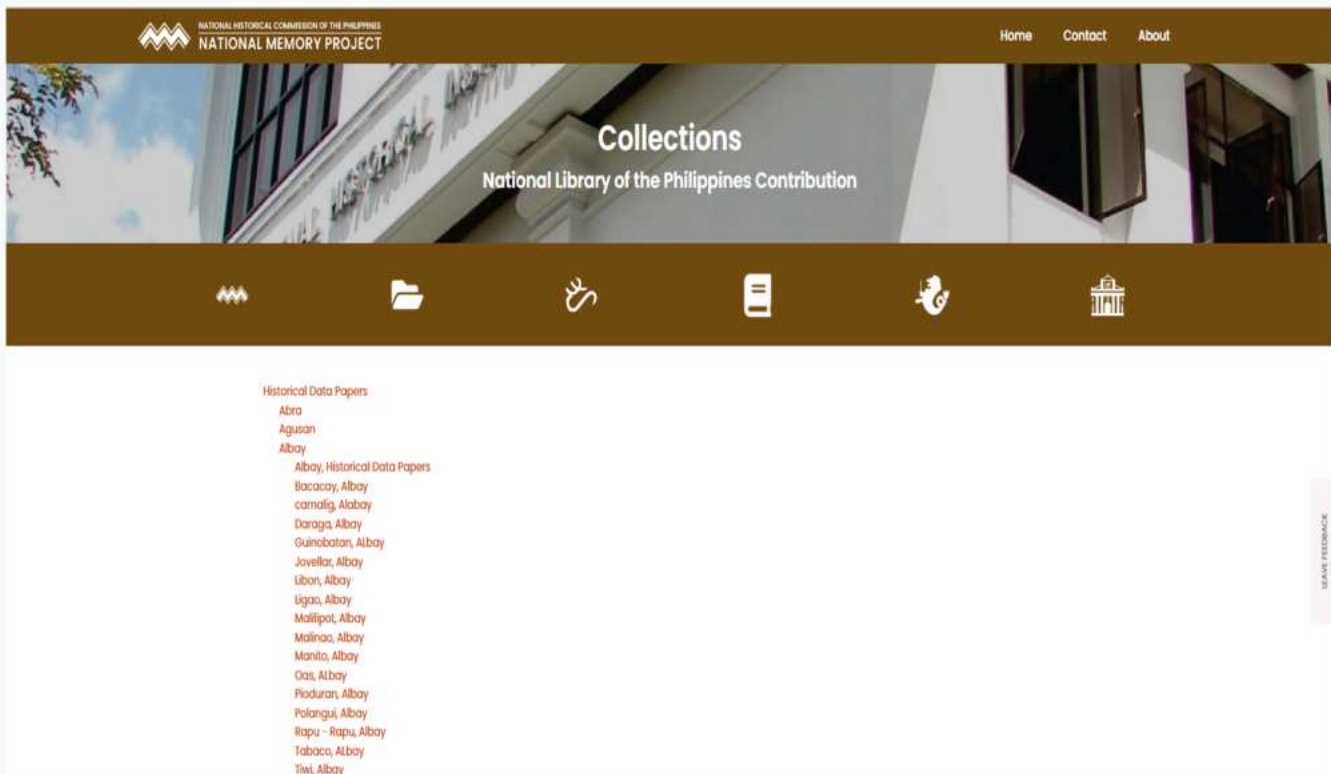
This initiative underscores a commitment to democratizing access to valuable historical resources. The NMP, accessible via the NHCP's website, is designed to provide free online access to a myriad of Philippine history materials housed in various libraries, archives, and museums nationwide, as well as in collaborating institutions.

The Philippine Revolutionary Records offer insights into the nation's struggle for independence, chronicling pivotal moments during the revolutionary period. While the Historical Data Papers provide a comprehensive view of significant events and individuals in Philippine history, and the Jose Rizal Collection presents materials related to the national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, and his contributions to the country.

The NLP and NHCP envision that this collaborative endeavor will empower researchers, students, and the general public to explore and delve into the rich tapestry of Philippine history. By embracing digital accessibility, these institutions hope to foster a deeper understanding of the nation's past, cultivating a sense of national identity and pride. As the NLP joins forces with the NHCP to democratize access to these invaluable collections, it marks a significant step forward in the preservation and dissemination of Philippine historical heritage. The collaboration between these two esteemed institutions reflects a shared dedication to making history a shared and accessible treasure for all.



Currently, NLP contributed a vast collection of Historical Data Papers consisting of twenty-two (22) provinces with forty-nine (49) towns/cities in the country. These records contains relevant information that are useful for our students, researchers, policymakers and to the general public.

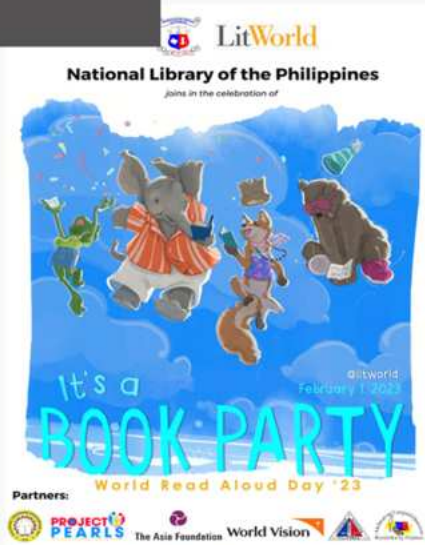


The National Memory Project website of NHCP is currently expanding contributions and data contributed by agencies and private individuals, and continuously developing their online platform with a mission to: host common online platform for public and private stakeholders of Philippine history where they can contribute their unique sources and items; simplify historical research in the Philippines; empower the public to be more critical of their shared past by bringing Philippine history sources closer to them; address the disparity of access to primary sources of the history scholars, students, and enthusiasts in the provinces and Filipinos abroad; and, contribute to the democratization of Philippine primary sources, which are made available online by great repositories here and abroad.

The NLP's participation in the NMP is in solidarity with the 125th anniversary of Philippine Independence and Nationhood 2023-2026. Both agencies hope that historical research will be enriched and made easy by democratizing these important sources about the Philippines.



EVENTS



NLP ANNUAL EVENTS

World Read Aloud Day

In a virtual celebration that transcended geographical boundaries, the NLP collaborated with LitWorld to commemorate World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) on February 1, 2023. The event, conducted via Zoom, provided a platform for libraries and schools to participate in the read-aloud session, fostering a passion for reading and storytelling.

The activity aimed to cultivate a love for literature among participants, encouraging them to engage in the age-old tradition of reading aloud. It received widespread support from various organizations, including the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc.-National Capital Region Librarian Council (PLAI-NCRLC), Project PEARLS, The Asia Foundation, World Vision, and Quezon City Public Library.



World Vision Advocate Ms. Ayn Bernos assumed the role of Celebrity Reading Ambassador for this year's WRAD celebration. Her presence elevated the event, attracting attention and inspiring even greater participation.

Participants actively embraced the spirit of WRAD by hosting their own read-aloud sessions and sharing the joy of reading on social media platforms. This collective effort amplified the impact of the celebration, reaching a broader audience and igniting a shared enthusiasm for literature.

The yearly celebration of World Read Aloud Day stands as a testament to the enduring power of literature to connect, inspire, and transform lives. In a world increasingly dominated by digital communication, this event reaffirmed the timeless significance of the spoken word and the shared experience of storytelling.



World Puppetry Day

In a mesmerizing display of creativity and artistry, the NLP Kuwentistas took center stage during the celebration of World Puppetry Day on March 21, 2023, at the Amphitheater of Parks and Wildlife in Quezon City. The event, organized in collaboration with the Samahan ng mga Papetir ng Pilipinas, Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center, Biodiversity Management Bureau, and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, brought together puppet enthusiasts from various corners of the Philippines.

The event featured a diverse lineup of puppeteers, each bringing a unique flavor to the celebration. Roppets Edutainment enchanted the crowd with their puppetry, while Tali Galaw Marionettes added a graceful touch to the performance. Carlo Magno showcased the ancient art of ventriloquism, and Nelson Pabelonia mesmerized onlookers with his skillful table puppetry. The NLP Kuwentistas contributed to the festivities by showcasing their puppetry skills.

The collaborative effort of these puppeteers created an immersive experience, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of puppetry in the Philippines. The event not only entertained but also served as a platform to promote the art form and its significance in cultural expression.

The annual celebration of World Puppetry Day serves as a reminder of the enduring appeal of this ancient art, transcending generations and captivating audiences of all ages. The event not only celebrated the art of puppetry but also highlighted the collaborative spirit that unites artists and enthusiasts in their shared passion for storytelling through this timeless and magical medium.

64th Public Library Day



In a tribute to the enduring importance of knowledge and community enrichment, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and affiliated public libraries nationwide celebrated the 64th Public Library Day on March 9th. This annual event, established by Proclamation No. 563, s. 1959, took place under the theme "Investing in Public Libraries is Investing in People's Lives."

Conceived by Mr. Vic Jayson Cruz of the Marikina City Public Library, this year's theme highlights the profound impact of enhanced library services, programs, and projects on the lives of individuals within the community. Advocating for increased support for public libraries and reading centers, the theme emphasizes their role in uplifting the lives of the Filipino people.

To amplify the celebration, participants actively shared their experiences on social media platforms using hashtags such as #64thPubLibDay, #PhilPubLib, #Investing, #People,



In alignment with the festivities, the NLP, in collaboration with the Public Libraries Division (PLD), conducted a four-day Orientation and Initial Allocation of Library Resources to Newly-Affiliated Public Libraries from March 21-24, 2023, at the NLP Epifanio Delos Santos Auditorium.

The inaugural day commenced with an opening program, during which NLP personnel provided insights into the library's services, collections, and programs. Noteworthy presentations included a comprehensive overview of NLP, its mandate, and mission, delivered by Ms. Michelle A. Flor of the Finance and Administrative Division (FAD). Ms. Lonlia R. Garcia of the Collection and Development Division (CDD) discussed the mechanical processing of library materials. Additionally, Ms. Susan A. Zamora of the Catalog Division (CD), shared valuable tips on the basic/simple arrangement of library collection, and Ms. Flordeliza T. Quinones of the Reference Division (RD) shed light on reference and special services at NLP. NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano expressed full support for the event in his opening message, with 94 participants from various public libraries nationwide in attendance.

In the afternoon, Ms. Blesila P. Velasco, Chief of PLD, introduced participants to the roles and responsibilities of the PLD, together with other PLD staff. Ms. Julie Ann Dominique San Esteban elucidated why affiliated public libraries undergo monitoring activities, addressing any ambiguities in the Online Monitoring Report Form. Mr. Chad Aren Diaz shared information on upcoming training sessions for affiliated public libraries, enhancing their competencies in library management and concluding with an introduction to customer relations and client handling.

The second day's learning sessions concluded with a presentation from Mr. Alvin Lim, Communications Officer of Mama Sita Foundation, and Mr. Reynald S. Ocampo, Program Officer of The Asia Foundation. The presentation focused on how public libraries can collaborate with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), private organizations, and other entities to enhance and develop their programs and services. Ms. Rhodora E. Valdez of PLD integrated and synthesized all the learning and activities from Days 1 and 2.

On March 23-24, participants attended an orientation on the different modules of KOHA, a free and open-source library system. Facilitated by Ms. Ana Fe V. Azuela and Mr. Charlie A. Garcia of the Information Technology Division (ITD), participants engaged in a hands-on workshop on key modules such as Patron Enrollment and Modification, Back-End Administration, and Networking the System into their IT infrastructure.

A workshop on the Cataloging Module was also conducted by Ms. Zamora. Utilizing her previous discussion on the arrangement of library collection, she provided a guide on how to identify necessary metadata to be uploaded in the Cataloging Module of KOHA. She also briefly discussed and provided an overview of MARC tags for participant appreciation.

The program concluded with an Awarding Ceremony, where participants and speakers were recognized for their contributions. Director Adriano, and Assistant Director Edgardo along with Ms. Velasco, were present. Asst. Dir. Quiros delivered the Closing Remarks, marking the successful conclusion of the comprehensive training program.

As the 64th Public Library Day celebrations wrap up, the commitment to fostering knowledge, collaboration, and community growth remains at the forefront of the NLP and its affiliated public libraries. The event has not only strengthened the foundation of these libraries but has also underscored their crucial role in shaping the lives of the Filipino people.



Outstanding Employees Recognized during the NLP 136th Founding Anniversary



It has been part of the National Library of the Philippines' tradition that outstanding employees and performing divisions and committees are recognized every August in time of the founding anniversary of the agency.

On August 11, 2023, a program was conducted with the theme: Hats Off to NLP's 136 Years of Excellence. Organized by NLP Anniversary Committee headed by Fe B. Basagre, Chief of the Finance and Administrative Division and Cherry V. Melquiades, TNLEA President, the program focused on highlighting the employees contribution to the achievements and developments of the agency.

As part of showing its support in one of the important celebration of NLP, one of its partners, the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) through their Chairman Undersecretary Joseph B. Encabo attended the program.



Outstanding employees and division were awarded by Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros and Ms. Michelle A. Flor, Administrative Officer V/HRMO Head.

These are the list of employees who were recognized in the following categories:

Loyalty Award

10 years in service
Ma. Leonisa Azucena B. Panaligan

20 years in service

Venus M. Ibanez

On the Spot Awards

Tagumpay Award

1. #BSM organized by the Bibliographic Services, Catalog Division and Copyright Division
2. CCT-IERT Committee
3. NEFLI-Cohort 2 organized by Public Libraries Division
4. Iisang Pasko: Pagdiriwang ng Pagkakaisa sa Sektor ng Sining at Kultura Team
5. 2022 Library and Information Services Month Committee

Shout Out Award (Group)

1. Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP) Team
2. Philippine Presidential Library Committee

Greatest Number of Positive Feedback

Bibliographic Services Division

Customer Satisfaction Award

Romnick Henric Henry M. Gayanillo

Best Administrative Support Staff

Roque P. Bismanos Jr.
James Rommel A. Mabborang
Hilarion A. Macalalag
Meljun P. Magarso

Perfect Attendance Award

Marcopolo J. Casarigo

Cleanliness Award

Anlhet C. Buenaventura

Shout Out Award (Individual)

Jeeffa U. Acmat
Marie Joy H. Bestoir
Gio Karlo J. Fuelles
Eruel A. Olvina

Extra Mile Award

Chad Aren E. Diaz
Maria Loreta M. Go
Cherry V. Melquiades
Roselle D. San Pedro
Xenia B. Romero
Jennifer B. Dimasaca

Best Organizational Unit

Bibliographic Services Division

Gawad ng Pangulo Award

Maricris L. Abancia
Marie Joy H. Bestoir
Romnick Henric Henry M. Gayanillo
Joel P. Lascano

Gawad ng Pangulo ng NLP Hall of Fame

Rica Jane S. Marcelo

NLP Achievement Award

Blesila P. Velasco

Loyalty Award**15 years in services**

Ginalene M. Magallano

20 years in services

Jimmy A. Acmat
Ms. Daisy Joy Bastero
Mabelin C. Cabiad
Maricel M. Diaz
Jennifer B. Dimasaca
Maria Loreta M. Go
Donnalou B. Hermosura
Marty P. Ico
Melody M. Madrid
Vida Dorea P. Mendoza
Joan D. Milañez
Rowena A. Sy
Maureen C. Terrenal
Edwin J. Timaan
Blesila P. Velasco

25 years in service

Irene S. Basilio
Danilo B. Fernandez
Narissa C. Young

40 years in service

Rosita C. Chiong
Rosemarie A. Jastiva

Aside from these awards, employees who will retire from their professional career were given a tribute for their valuable contribution to the agency. Employees of the Public Libraries Division who were recognized by the NLP officials are: Ms. Remelyn S. Agloco, Librarian II; Ms. Shirley P. Baligod, Administrative Aide III; and, Roger D. Battulayan, Administrative Aide I.



Gawad Pampublikong Aklatan



More than seventy (70) extraordinary librarians, library staff, public libraries and public servants were recognized on August 25, 2023 for the fifth year of the *Gawad Pampublikong Aklatan* formerly known as Gawad Parangal sa Natatanging Propesyunal na Tagapangasiwa at Tagapaglingkod ng Pampublikong Aklatan.

The awarding ceremony was led by the Directors of the National Library of the Philippines, Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros, organized and facilitated by the Public Libraries Division together with its partner, The Asia Foundation (TAF) headed by Sam Chittick, representative of the country in TAF and Reynald Ocampo, TAF Program Officer.



Awardees were accompanied by their Local Government Unit (LGU) officials who have consistently showed their support to the affiliated public libraries. As the keynote speaker and guest of honor, Hon. Jose A. Torres Jr., Director-General of the Philippines Information Agency attended the program at the Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium.

Other notable guests also witnessed the awarding ceremony including: Chairperson Arthur P. Casanova of the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino; Hon. Yolanda C. Granda, Chairperson of Professional Regulation Commission- Board for Librarians; Hon. Lourdes T. David, member of PRC Board for Librarians; Hon. Professor Salvacion M. Arlante, Head of NCCA-NCLIS; Hon. Lilia F. Echiverri, Executive Committee Member; Hon. Nora Fe Alajar, Vice Head and 2023 GPA Judge from the National Committee on



Libraries and Information Services-National Commission for Culture and the Arts; Ms. Lucila R. Raquino, President of Association of Librarians in the Public Sector at Mr. Rene Manlangit, President of the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc.

Since 2019, the NLP in partnership with The Asia Foundation (TAF) have jointly ventured this project to:

- 1) Encourage all affiliated public libraries with NLP to continue their exemplary contributions in their community;
- 2) Recognize public librarians or individuals who have gone above and beyond their work in the community through their dedication, commitment, and hard work as a manifestation of their outstanding public service contributions; and, 3) Create stronger partnerships between the NLP, and other stakeholders for the development of the public libraries in the country.

The Gawad Pampublikong Aklatan is the highest and most prestigious award given to all library professionals, library staff and public libraries who have significant contributions in the development and service to their community.

2022 Top Performing Public Libraries in the Philippines Award

- Congressional Library- Alyanna Kriza S. Centeno, Sentro ng Karunungan Library
- City Library- Madelyn F. Candido, Zamboanga City Library
- Municipal Library- Joyce Kimberly B. Cruz, Aklatang Bayan ng Bustos
- Barangay/Branch Library- Rose Marie G. Olan, QCPL-Escopa 3 Branch

Leadership Award

Claire P. Benter, City Public Library of Calapan

Leadership Award (Professional Category)

- Unang Gantimpala- Easter Wahayna-Pablo, Baguio City Public Library
- Ikalawang Gantimpala - Eric G. Coloma, Ilocos Norte Provincial Library
- Ikatlong Gantimpala- Marilyn M. Benedicto, Tabaco City Library and Information Center
- Ikaapat na Gantimpala- Justina P. Garcia, Laguna Provincial Library

Leadership Award

Leslie A. Oreta, Sagay City Public Library

2022 Public Library of the Year Award

Salome M. Enoc, Davao City Library and Information Center

Most Innovative Public Library (Building/Physical Set-Up)

Michael A. Pinto, Cagayan Provincial Learning and Resources Center

Library Programs and Activities Conducted (Innovative and Inclusive)
Rochelle S. Silverio, Valenzuela City Library

Hall of Fame Award- Loyalty Award
Michael C. Nagas, City Library of San Fernando, La Union

Leadership Award (Non-Librarian Category)
Unang Gantimpala- Cynthia F. Anday, Alabat Municipal Library
Ikalawang Gantimpala - Mercedes M. Capanang, Kaban ng Hiyas Congressional Library
Ikatlong Gantimpala- Mylene C. Villanueva, Manila City Library

2022 Most Diligent Public Library in the Philippines Award/Hall of Fame Award/Loyalty Award
Rosena V. Roman, Imus City Public Library

Gawad ng Country Representative ng TAF Award
Maria Vida C. Aparicio, Bohol Provincial Library and Information Center

Gawad ng NLP Director Award
Federico J. Vinluan, Raul S. Roco Library

Special Awards

Best PPA for Digital Literacy
Mylene Villanueva, Manila City Library

Best PPA for Livelihood and Employment
Michael Pinto, Cagayan Provincial Library and Resource Center

Best Social Inclusion Activity for Gender and Development
Justina Garcia, Laguna Provincial Library

Best Inclusion Activity for Children and the Youth
Loren M. Miem, Barangay Nabag-O Reading Center, Valencia City Bukidnon

Best Social Inclusion Activity for Indigenous People
Grace M. Maguillado, Antique Provincial Library and Local Archives

Best Social Inclusion Activity for Persons Deprived of Liberty
Marissa Acosta, La Unio Provincial Library

Best Social Inclusion Activity for Local Cultural and Historical Preservation and Conservation,
Jesusa Villanueva, Baliwag City Library

Best Local Public Library Association
Johayli Millare, Association of Pangasinan Public Libraries (AAPLI)

Best Local Chief Executive
Hon. Rolando C. Sacdalan, Midsayap, North Cotabato

Career and Self-Development

Mylene C. Villanueva, Manila City Library
Ma. Christina B. Santos, Rizal Provincial Library
Eric V. Dunga, Angeles City Library
Luis B. Navarro, Olongapo City Public Library
Ricka Mae Baclea-an, Olongapo City Public Library
Mary Gene P. Fernandez, Umingan Municipal Library
Kima N. Sirot, Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani Municipal Library
Custer C. Santos, City of Sta. Rosa Library
Czarina Mae L. Ulibas, Vigan City Library
Maria Teresa T. Jimenez, Vigan City Library
Rechelda E. Patrimonio, Zamboanga City Library
May Joyce M. Dulnuan, Baguio City Public Library
Alyssa Marie Paral-Ranas, Lucena City Library

Loyalty Award

10 Years of Service

Sarah B. Aguimba, Malasiqui Municipal Library
Judie Ann D. Cayetano, Dagupan City Pubic Library and Information Center
Marilyn P. Caguioa, Dagupan City Pubic Library and Information Center
Marlyn I. Bautista, Quezon City Public Library
Lyvia A. Villapando, Lucena City Library
Ria S. Salubayba, Lucena City Library

15 Years of Service

Maria Daisy E. De Rama, Quezon Provincial Library
Ysobel C. Escudero, Quezon Provincial Library
Jenalyn P. Nacar, Quezon Provincial Library
Maria Rosarion P. Tucay, Dagupan City Pubic Library and Information Center

20 Years of Service

Maretas C. Millena, Polangui Municipal Library and information Center
Rosemaries R. Olidana, Polangui Municipal Library and information Center
Bernadine M. Gravela, Urdaneta City Public Library
Michael C. Nagas, City Library of San Fernando, La Union

30 Years of Service

Elisa A. Zapanta, Zamboanga City Library
Analiza C. Martinez, Quezon City Public Library
Irene Camua, Quezon City Public Library
Jennifer R. Leoncio, Quezon City Public Library
Rosena V. Roman, Imus City Public Library

35 Years of Service

Rosita V. Masangkay, Batangas Provincial Library
Ms. Cynthia Encarnita Flor Vila, Pangasinan Provincial Library

40 Years of Service

Lucila R. Raquino, Quezon City Public Library

11th Conference on Children and Young Adults Librarianship



The National Library of the Philippines and the Provincial Government of Laguna (PGL) through the Laguna Provincial Library (LPL) in partnership with the Association of Librarians in the Public Sector (ALPS) conducted a three-day conference for the 11th Conference on Children and Young Adults Librarianship with the theme “Dunong ng Kabataan sa Tulong ng Aklatan, Puhunan sa Maunlad na Kinabukasan,” at Los Banos, Laguna.

Participants were welcomed by the message of the Governor of the Province of Laguna, Hon. Ramil L. Hernandez, represented by Ms. Justina P. Garcia, Librarian IV of Laguna Provincial Library. This was followed by the inspirational message of Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano of National Library of the Philippines. The conference ended with the keynote message delivered by Congresswoman of 2nd District of Laguna, Hon. Ruth M. Hernandez.

The first day of the conference provided a stimulating platform for learning, networking, and knowledge exchange with the presentations from a pool of experts in the field in the different sessions prepared by the organizing committee.

The 11th CYAL brought together professionals, educators, and enthusiasts from the library and education sectors to explore the latest trends, challenges, and best practices in serving the needs of children and young adults through library services. Plenary Sessions explore innovative ways to encourage reading habits among children and young adults, such as storytelling, book clubs, and digital resources.



There were six plenary sessions: Plenary Session 1: Effective Library Programs for Children and Young Adult in Partnership with Laguna Provincial Library and Institutions in Laguna presented by Justina P. Garcia, Librarian IV, Laguna Provincial Library; Plenary Session 2: Ang Aklatan Ko'y Kanlungan: Library Safe Space for Children and Young Adult presented by Brian Aljer B. Coballes, Education Media Coordinator of Ateneo de Manila Junior High School Library; Plenary Session 3: Family Time Matters: The Ripples of a Family-Based Program in the Public Library shared by Rochelle S. Silverio, Librarian III, Valenzuela City Public Library; Plenary Session 4: Unlocking Imagination: Oral Storytelling for Young Adult told by Djalma M. Menes, Founder, Storyhouse Philippines; Plenary Session 5: Previous' Exemplary Children's Library Service Awardee Talk shared by Rosena V. Roman, Imus City Public Library, Recipient of 2022 Exemplary Children's Library Service Award; and lastly Plenary Session 6: Sama-Samang Basahan ang mga Bata presented by Alistair Troy B. Lacsamana. The conference provided favorable opportunities for networking and interactions of attendees who shared their experiences and best practices, fostering collaborations and partnerships to enhance their libraries' services for young users.

An eagerly anticipated event, the Fellowship Night with the theme K-POP was also conducted with the purpose of gathering and fostering a sense of community and camaraderie among participants, encouraging meaningful interactions and the strengthening of bonds.

On the last day of conference there was also the ceremonial turn-over to Pangasinan Provincial Library as the next co-host of the 8th CCYAL in 2024.

Another highlight of the conference was the awarding of the outstanding children's and young adult librarian of the year and exemplary children's library service. These awards were to recognize and honor exemplary work by a librarian whose contributions made a positive impact; created innovative approaches; and provided unparalleled programs/or services to children's or youth services librarianship.

Composed of two (2) categories, award and recognition were given to the Public Library and School Library (Private/Public).

Winners for School Librarian category:

1. Ms. Kathlyn G. Tangcay- 1st Place from Philippine Science High School Zamboanga Peninsula Region Campus Library
2. Ms. Mae Fate Alibangbang- 2nd Place from Sergio Osmena Sr High School, SDO-Quezon City
3. Ms. Analiza Aviles- 3rd place from Governor Ferrer Memorial Integrated National High School Learning Resource Center

A Special Citation Award for Children's Librarian was also given to Ms. Michelle Mae M. Cacho.

Winners for Public Librarian category:

1. Ms. Rosena V. Roman- 1st Place from Imus City Public Library
2. Ms. Richel Pajara -2nd Place from Misamis Oriental Public Library
3. Ms. Maria Lea Griettel Cortez- 3rd Place from Bago City Library

And for the Special Citation Award for Children's Librarians, the following were recognized:

1. Ms. Nerissa T. Cabuay of San Carlos City Public Library
2. Ms. Philline C. Cadungog of Midsayap Municipal Library and Information Center
3. Ms. Marilyn P. Caguioa of Dagupan City Public Library
4. Judie Amm D. Cayetano of Dagupan City Public Library
5. Catherine Ruiz P. Talaro of Lingayen Municipal Library
6. Maria Rosario P. Tucay of Dagupan City Public Library

The organizing committee also awarded the Special Citation Award 2022 - Certificate of Public Service Award to Ms. Melanic A. Ramirez, for her exceptional and tireless efforts in enriching the lives of children through engaging and educational activities and her unwavering commitment and passion to foster a supportive and engaging environment for young minds that has left an indelible mark on our community.



Exemplary Children's Library Service Award in School Category and other Libraries:

1. De Lasalle Santiago Zobel Learning Resource Center in "DLSZ Virtual Libraries - Minecraft Library" -1st Place winner
2. Maltana National High School Library in "Project LIBRO & AKLAT" - 2nd Place winner
3. MS Community Library in "Project LETRA+ (Lifting Education Through Reading Advocacy)"- 3rd Place winner

Exemplary Children's Library Service Award in the Public Libraries:

1. San Carlos City Public Library and Tech4Ed Center in "Learning Materials Provision for 76 Child Development Centers' Students of San Carlos City, Pangasinan"- 1st Place winner
2. Midsayap Municipal Library and Information Center in "Aklatan Para sa Kabataan Program"- 2nd Place winner
3. Bulacan Provincial Library in "BPL Flavor of the Month"- 3rd Place winner

Special Citation Award for the School and Other Libraries:

1. Bulacan State University e-Library; Feliz Academy Inc. Library
2. Philippine Science High School Zamboanga Peninsula Region Campus Library
3. Tanggew: Community Library, Eco-cultural Learning and Resource Center



33rd Library and Information Services Month



A nationwide program and activities were launched in celebration of the Library and Information Services Month in November 2023. The month-long activities created an extensive community of library supporters and patrons promoting the important role of libraries in our community. Through the theme: **LETS Libraries: Learning, Empowering and Transforming Society through Libraries**, the National Library of the Philippines as the lead agency in fostering knowledge and information sources, spearheaded the different libraries in the country for this celebration.



The activities were designed to promote sustainability, which is becoming increasingly prevalent in libraries in terms of research and information dissemination, and also emphasize the continuing role of libraries and librarians in the evolution of technology. The theme "**LETS Libraries**" embodies the core principles and transformative impact of libraries on individuals and society as a whole. It

highlights the multifaceted role of libraries in promoting lifelong learning, empowering communities, and catalyzing positive change.

Though the heightened promotions during the virtual launching and press conferences organized by NLP and The Philippine Information Agency (PIA) on September 18 and October 27, 2023 respectively, many new set of participants joined the various activities.

LISM Opening Program



The celebration started with the ribbon cutting and launching of the exhibit featuring the Filipino literary collections and award-winning Children's Book of the country with NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, LISM Honorary Vice Chairperson Maricel M. Urena and Overall Chairperson of LISM 2023 Ms. Melanie A. Ramirez. This is in partnership with the Vibal Publishing Group represented by the Vibal Marketing Head, Ms. Rio B. Lim. The celebration started with the ribbon cutting and launching of the exhibit featuring the Filipino literary collections and award-winning Children's Book of the country with NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, LISM Honorary Vice Chairperson Maricel M. Urena and Overall Chairperson of LISM 2023 Ms. Melanie A. Ramirez. This is in partnership with the Vibal Publishing Group represented by the Vibal Marketing Head, Ms. Rio B. Lim.

Honorable President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. stated in his written message during the Opening Ceremonies on November 6 at the Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium that the public must “offer a resounding tribute to our libraries and their commitment to the relentless pursuit of preserving our shared knowledge and culture.” Indeed, with the expanded participation and support of the public and special libraries in the country, library organizations and education sector, all the activities were successfully initiated to the targeted audience and stakeholders of libraries.

Ms. Vicky McDonald, IFLA President served as the keynote speaker who delivered an inspiring message sharing how libraries in their community promote learning and empower society. She also shared some of the best practices of IFLA in terms of empowering and strengthening libraries participation in community development. As one of the objectives of the LISM celebration many of what was presented by Ms. McDonald aroused the participants to create the same programs in their libraries.

On the other hand, the full participation of the selected public libraries in the Philippines was also evident during the simultaneous LISM Opening participated by the Butuan Public Library, Cebu City Public Library, Urdueta City Public Library and Parañaque City Public Library. These libraries were also the regular partners of NLP in its various activities including the LISM. The first ever simultaneous opening ceremony was made possible through the coordination and support of these local partners. Through this, LISM was highly promoted to the community and public.

According to NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, "the 33rd LISM theme calls forth to a more dynamic participation in propagating the invaluable contributions of libraries and information services in enriching our lives, promoting education, and contributing in the development of the community." The Director also asked to embrace the spirit of "LET'S Libraries," in championing learning, empowerment, and societal transformation through the invaluable institutions that are— our libraries.

Series of Seminars

The seminar series titled, **LET'S Talk: Discussion on Financial Literacy and Record Management** is an extensive discussion on applying different financial skills effectively presented by Ms. Lizette O. Antonio, Bank Officer IV of Economic and Financial Learning Office, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Head Office Manila. Aside from topic of managing finances, Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, Deputy University Librarian I and Head of the University Archives Division of the University Library of UP Diliman shared many vital information about Records Management.

To reach a broader group of audience, NLP partnered with the Vibal Foundation for the conduct of the first Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) on November 15-17, 2023 at the Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium and Function Rooms for series of lectures, workshops and exhibit. AFCC Circle Philippines is organized by Vibal Foundation, in partnership with the National Book Development Board, Singapore Book Council, National Library of the Philippines, International Board on Books for Young People-Philippines (IBBY-PH), and the Filipinas Heritage Library. This conference was made possible with the participation of delegates, and some of the region's best publishers, educators, and storytellers.

Outreach Program

In collaboration with the Department of Education - Schools Division of Aklan, through the Learning Resource Management Section (LRMS) of the District of Malay, in partnership with the Local Government of Malay, selected members of the National Library of the Philippines Library and Information Services Month Committee led the Lakbay-Kaalaman: LISM Outreach Program on November 23-24 at Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan.

NLP Staff headed by Maricel M. Urena, Chief of the Research and Publications Division and the Honorary Vice Chairperson of the LISM; Melanie A. Ramirez, LISM Overall Chairperson; Flordeliza Quinones, Librarian IV of the Reference Division and LISM Chairperson of the Secretariat; Rhodora E. Valdez, Librarian IV of Public Libraries and Outreach Program Chairperson with the other members of the committee made a courtesy call at Malay Local Government Official with the designated official Mr. Eduardo Sancho, Executive Assistant V, Municipal Administrator of Malay upon their arrival on November 22, 2023.

The Outreach Program aimed to conduct a general orientation about the LISM activities and present the programs and services of the National Library of the Philippines. With this information sharing, the participants who are composed of the District Coordinators, librarian, designated librarian, supply officers (division wide), public school district supervisor and school heads of Malay District was provided with the essential information in preparing their learning resources to be utilized by students and their library patrons. The Lakbay-Kaalaman also targeted the Kindergarten students of the Balabag Elementary School who are beneficiaries of the Storytelling activity and Puppet Show organized by the NLP Kuwentistas with Jose Tomasito N. Fernando or “Kuya Tom” and Jeeffa U. Acmat or “Ate Jeeffa.” And finally, the main objective of the outreach program is to give support on the establishment of Public Libraries in Malay, Aklan who are currently working on the process of its cityhood. Through the members of the Public Libraries Division and Chairperson of the LISM Outreach Sub-Committee, Rhodora E. Valdez with Michael James Reyno presented the process and services of public library affiliation to NLP.

On November 23, 2023, LISM Committee had a short presentation at Hue Hotel, Boracay Island with the representatives and designated LRMS coordinators of the different district of Aklan. A short program kick-off the activity with the attendance and warm welcome of the Malay officials including LRMS Education Program Supervisor of Aklan, Mr. Mhanie Q. Tolentino; Public Schools District Supervisor, Mr. Jessie S. Flores; and Mr. Neil Flores Executive Assistant of LGU Malay representing the Municipal Mayor Honorable Floribar S. Bautista.

On the second day of the outreach November 24, 2023, the NLP Kuwentistas performed a Storytelling Activity and Puppet Show, showcasing some of the favorite Children’s stories to the Kindergarten students of Balabag Elementary School headed by their School Principal I, Dr. Aicelle P. Regalado. The children also watched the featured film from the Goethe Institut, one of the LISM partners of NLP teaching the students about the impact of consuming cow products in the environment and increasing the risk of Global Warming.

Overall, the two-day outreach activities at Malay Aklan is a huge success based on the reception and good feedback of many of the participants. Likewise, it was a fun and productive activity for the LISM Team who extended the activities even in the other parts of the country.

As what the LISM theme says, LETS Libraries! No distance or differences in the language would hinder the learning process, strengthen libraries and librarians and transform society through the LISM activities.



Courtesy call at Malay Local Government Official with the designated official Mr. Eduardo Sancho, Executive Assistant V, Municipal Administrator of Malay.



On November 23, 2023, LISM Committee had a short presentation at Hue Hotel, Boracay Island with the representatives and designated LRMS coordinators of the different district Aklan.



The NLP Kuwentistas performed a Storytelling Activity and Puppet Show, showcasing some of the favorite Children's stories to the Kindergarten students of Balabag Elementary School.

Joint Awarding and Closing Ceremonies of LISM and NBW

It was held on November 29, 2023 at the Epifanio Delos Santos Auditorium, National Library of the Philippines, the Joint Awarding and Closing Ceremonies the 33rd LISM and 89th NBW.

Executive Director of the National Book Development Board (NBDB) Ms. Charisse Aquino-Tugade was invited as the inspirational speaker who shared about the vital role and functions of NBDB in the book industry and emphasized the role of librarians in transformative learning. Combining the roles of these institutions, book and learning materials production in our own languages is essential in the knowledge production of the community as explained by Exec. Dir. Aquino- Tugade.

Members of the NLP-LISM Committee headed by Overall Chairperson Melanie A. Ramirez with the Overall Chairperson of the NBW Committee Roana Marie Flores led the presentation of the accomplished programs and activities and the recognition of the various contest winners.

Officials of the library and library association joined the ceremonies and introduced the programs that were successfully implemented in the whole month of November. They also acknowledged the efforts of the community who joined in the LISM and NBW activities, and recognized the different institutions who were involved in the planning and implementation of the programs.

The LISM Publications– Impact Stories: Librarian Edition, A publication for Library and Information Services Month featuring the inspiring stories of selected librarians was also launched during the program. The publication will be soon available in the LISM microsite.



National Heritage Month

Heritage: Change and Continuity.



With emphasis on the dynamic nature of both heritage and heritage preservation as fields that are constantly changing and innovating, this was the theme of the 20th year celebration of the National Heritage Month on May 2023. It also highlights the enduring legacies of Filipino traditions amidst rapidly changing national and global contexts.

The celebration aimed to: to highlight the potential of cultural heritage and cultural properties in enhancing social capital, boosting economic growth, and securing environmental sustainability; to showcase the benefits, impacts, and growth opportunities produced by heritage science research and innovation; to promote advocacies and encourage participation in programs that safeguard intangible cultural heritage and the conservation of urban heritage.

The National Library of the Philippines showed its support to the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)- Heritage Committee in leading the event based on Proclamation No. 439, s. 2003. In the whole month of May, NLP prepared various activities that highlights the dynamic nature of heritage as a field that continuously innovates so it can achieve its objective of preserving products of human creativity. Most of the activities were also aligned to two of the sub-themes of NHM 2023, such as:

1. Sustainable heritage management: the practice of managing change and risk in heritage and maximizing its social, cultural and economic benefits for the current and future generations; and,
2. Intangible cultural heritage-intergenerational transmission and the provision of a sense of identity across time, where transmission relies upon constant re-creation in the present context; and,

With the support and participation of the public libraries, school librarians, LIS students, teachers and young learners the goals of the activities were successfully achieved. These activities includes the opening program of the NHM and the general

Round-Table Discussion

On the second week of May, a Round-Table Discussion was conducted for all the librarians and students discussing the significant changes and risks that Philippine libraries are facing today. As part of taking initiative in promoting sustainable heritage management which is one of the sub-theme of this years NHM celebration, NLP conducted a Round-table Discussion about Managing Risks in the Library where the practices of managing change and risk in heritage and maximizing its social, cultural and economic benefits for the current and future generations were discussed with librarians and students on May 9, 2023 at the Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium and was streamed live at NLP Facebook page.

Experts on this field were invited to share their knowledge about the changes and problems that Philippine libraries are facing today especially in preserving the the written documents about Filipino culture and history. Assistant Director of the National Library of the Philippines Edgardo B. Quiros and the Deputy University Librarian and Head of the University Archives of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama gave the participants relevant information on how to assess and mitigate possible risk in the infrastructure and collection of the library. After the seminar, all participants were given an opportunity to be part of the demonstration of the different basic book preservation activities facilitated by the staff of the NLP Filipiniana Division, the responsible unit for the preservation and conservation of NLP collections.



E-Salin ang Kuwento (Online Kuwentuhan sa mga Pampublikong Aklatan)

And just like the previous year, due to its positive and overwhelming impact in the promotion of local heritage through public libraries, the E-Salin ang Kuwento: Online Kuwentuhan sa Pampublikong Aklatan were also facilitated by NLP. Four Public Libraries were partnered with NLP to showcase local Children's Stories which was originally written by the Librarian-Kuwentistas.

This online kuwentuhan reflect the third subsystem: intangible cultural heritage-intergenerational transmission and the provision of a sense of identity across time, where transmission relies upon constant re-creation in the present context. Using the online platforms, children's stories in different languages will be transmitted to the contemporary generation that will provide a sense of identity across time.

These series of online kuwentuhan was conducted in collaboration with the Librarian-Kuwentistas from four of the invited public libraries representing the regions of the country. They shared various short stories for kids that feature the rich and vibrant cultures and heritages of their localities, with children as their main audience either on Zoom, on Facebook Live, or on their library building. Two of the children's stories are from the product of the previous project of the National Library with Public libraries in Mindanao and Visayas promoting the publication of local children stories using the Mother Tongue of the province. The other two stories were originally written by the librarian-kuwentista narrating the history and culture of their city.

It was an interactive storytelling activity where the librarian-kuwentista discussed the culture and heritage of their region based on the story they shared, thus “e-salin ang kuwento” is also a way of encouraging other libraries to share the culture of their region to the present generation.

The online kuwentuhan was conducted on May 3, 17, 24 and 29, 2023 via Zoom and was streamed live at NLP Facebook Page. The Davao Library and Information Center, Iloilo City Public Library, Baguio City Public Library and Paranaque City Public Library collaborated with NLP to perform a storytelling activity with their invited students from the city.

Aside from these, a small display at the lobby of the building were also prepared showcasing some of the Filipino tangible culture with the information about the selected collections of the library.



SDGs ResiliArt Exhibit at NLP



Following an extensive renovation, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) Building is once again emerging as a popular venue for a diverse range of events. The renewed NLP Lobby and Epifanio Delos Santos Auditorium have recently hosted significant gatherings, including a book launch and a unique exhibition promoting peace, climate justice, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

March 15, 2023, witnessed the launch of the SDGs ResiliArt Exhibit by the Philippine Center of International Theatre Institute (ITI), Earthsavers DREAMS Ensemble - UNESCO Artist for Peace, and ITI Social Change Network, in partnership with the NLP and in collaboration with the Department of Education, DFA-UNACOM, Philippine Commission on Women, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Association of Local Colleges and Universities, Universidad de Manila, and Asia TV Studios. The exhibit, located at the 2nd Floor Lobby of the NLP Building, featured artistic creations promoting peace and climate justice. It also included heritage-based book launches, aligning with UNESCO concerns for early childhood education.





The event is a conjoined celebration of UN designated annual observances for the month of March, namely the International Days for Women, Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness, Water, Forests, and Poetry, and the ITI World Theatre Week. It was an opportunity to salute outstanding women leaders of the Philippines. The exhibit showcased the works of notable artists, such as the Angono-based acclaimed veteran visual artist Nemi Miranda, considered the “Father of Imaginative Figurism” and founder of the Angono Ateliers Association, and Zimbabwean artist- musician Xander Pratt, a CNN Africa’s top 10 Avant Garde awardee. They presented their featured art collections that resonate with the message of peace, women empowerment, and other SDGs.

Notable book launches included visiting Fil-Am author Rey de la Cruz’s “Cecil Guidote Alvarez, The Philippine is a Stage,” with illustrator Beth Parocha, and the award-winning, climate change-themed children’s book, “Ballesteros On My Mind,” illustrated by Tenni Magcase. The program was made more exciting by the performances of the Pinoy pop girl group, 4th Impact, a long-time member of the Earthsavers DREAMS Ensemble, and the theatrical presentations of the Tanghalang



World Theater Week and World Poetry Day Celebration

On March 27, 2023, the NLP joined the Philippine Center of International Theater Institute and the ITI Social Change Network in celebrating World Theater Week and World Poetry Day at the 2nd Floor Lobby of the NLP Building.

Ms. Cecile Guidote-Alvarez, founder of the Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA), spearheaded the program, featuring various theatrical performances and poetry presentations. Government officials, including Sen. Cynthia Villar, Sen. Sherwin Gatchalian, Sen. Loren Legarda, and Sen. Pia Cayetano, showed their support through recorded messages. The event also included messages from NLP Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros and NCCA Executive Director Oscar G. Casaysay

The celebration highlighted the importance of theater and poetry in cultural expression. Performances by Earth-savers DREAMS Ensemble - UNESCO Artist for Peace, Tanghalang Bagong Sibol, and the Shirley Halili Dance Company added a touch of artistry to the occasion.

The success of these activities marks a significant moment in the ongoing development of the NLP. The institution's dedication to promoting literature and historical awareness echoes its role as a guardian of the nation's cultural heritage. The NLP Building, with its revitalized spaces, continues to be a beacon for cultural enrichment and educational endeavors, embodying its role as a hub for the arts and literature in the Philippines

CDA opens section at NLP to promote Cooperative Knowledge

In a significant step towards fostering cooperative awareness and knowledge dissemination, the NLP and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) joined hands through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on June 15, 2023. The historic event unfolded at the Common Service Area of the NLP, drawing the participation of high-ranking officials from both entities.

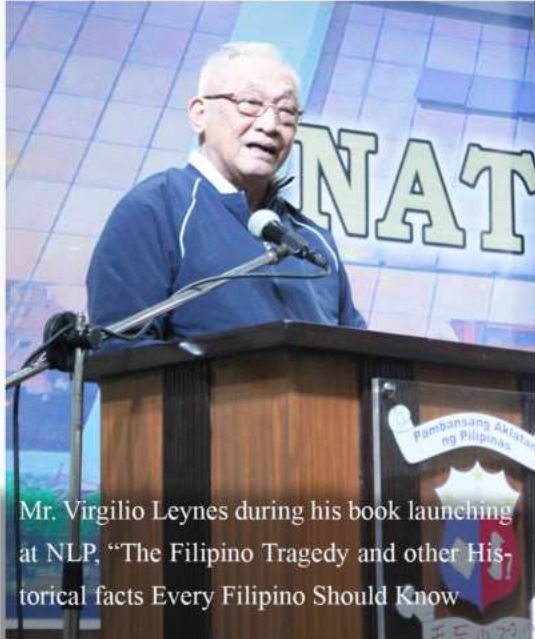
The distinguished attendees included Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director of the NLP, along with Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros. Representing the CDA were Undersecretary Joseph B. Encabo, Chairman; Assistant Secretary Abdusalam A. Guinomla, Board Member III and Education, Advocacy and Union Cooperatives Cluster Head; and Mr. Ray R. Elevazo, Institutional Development Services Deputy Administrator. The event also saw the presence of Hon. Roberto “Obet” Pagdanganan, alongside other CDA officials and NLP employees. The primary objective of the MOA is to inaugurate a dedicated cooperative section within the NLP. This initiative envisions establishing a knowledge hub, showcasing an array of books, research papers, and other valuable resources. The curated collection aims to empower individuals by providing insights into the opportunities, benefits, and transformative power of cooperatives. For the time being, the Cooperative Section will be housed at the Common Service Area, located on the ground floor of the NLP Building. This temporary arrangement is expected to evolve into a dynamic and comprehensive resource center, fostering a culture of cooperation and collaboration within the society.

With this collaboration, the NLP and the CDA strive to create a lasting impact by promoting cooperative education and encouraging a well informed and engaged society. This strategic partnership is poised to contribute significantly to the nation's journey towards a more cooperative and empowered future.



Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director of the NLP, along with Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros. Representing the CDA were Undersecretary Joseph B. Encabo, Chairman; Assistant Secretary Abdusalam A. Guinomla, Board Member III and Education

Book Launching at NLP



Mr. Virgilio Leynes during his book launching at NLP, “The Filipino Tragedy and other Historical facts Every Filipino Should Know

“The Filipino Tragedy and Other Historical Facts Every Filipino Should Know,” by Mr. Virgilio C. Leynes

In a celebration of literature and historical exploration, the NLP Epifanio Delos Santos Auditorium played host to a significant book launch event on December 27, 2022. Esteemed author Mr. Virgilio C. Leynes presented his latest work, “The Filipino Tragedy and Other Historical Facts Every Filipino Should Know,” captivating an audience eager to delve into the rich tapestry of Philippine history.

Mr. Leynes, a respected figure in the accountancy, business, and literary communities, shared insights into the inspiration behind his latest work. Published on August 28, 2022, the book spans 569 pages and is written in English, with translations into Filipino for key topics.

It serves as a compilation of the author's ideas, opinions, and arguments on personalities, events, and places during the tumultuous period of Philippine history (1896-1906). The book closely examines historical events that many consider controversial and some that are unknown to the general public.

“The Good Son” and “Seven Years of Darkness,” by Ms. Jeong Youjeong

A red and white event poster for a book talk. At the top, it says 'HOSTED BY: KCCS 한국문화원 KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER'. The main title is 'MEET THE MENTOR K-NOVELIST BOOK TALK'. The dates and times are: 'OCTOBER 10 TUESDAY 10:30AM - 12:00PM AT NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES' and 'OCTOBER 11 WEDNESDAY 4:00PM - 6:00PM AT FULLY BOOKED, BGC HIGH STREET'. It also mentions 'RIZAL LIBRARY - ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY'. At the bottom, it says 'HOSTED BY JESSICA ZAFRA' and 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: FULLY BOOKED'. A QR code is labeled 'SCAN TO REGISTER'. A small 'VISIT KOREA YEAR' logo is in the top right corner.



The much awaited book signing and ‘meet the author’ event was successfully conducted on October 10, 2023 at Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium. The “Meet the Mentor: K- Literature Event” was spearheaded by the Korean Cultural Center Center (KCC) in the Philippines under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the official cultural arm of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the country. KCC headed by Director Kim Myeongjin with Ms. Seonji Jang, Event and PR Officer from KCC Philippines organized the book talk in partnership with NLP as one of its venues.

As the highlight of the activity, participants had an engaging discussion with the exceptional author and the renowned mystery thriller novelist, Ms. Jeong Youjeong who wrote the book, “The Good Son” and “Seven Years of Darkness,” both international bestseller novels. Members of the KCC Book Club and Library and Information Science Students from Polytechnic University, and other guests had a chance to learn the writing process, inspiration and development of the character of Ms. Jeong Youjeong. Ms. Jessica Zafra, the award winning fiction, writer, editor and publisher hosted the program.

Opportunities for International Collaboration



Indian Embassy Book Donation

The Embassy of India in the Philippines, represented by Mr. Kannan Chockalingam, the First Secretary of the Press, Information, Culture and Education, extended a gesture of cultural exchange during a courtesy meeting NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano on March 31, 2023.

In a move to strengthen cultural ties between the two nations, the embassy donated a collection of 42 titles and 75 volumes of books encompassing diverse subjects such as culture, history, arts, business, and foreign relations of India. The meeting witnessed the participation of Ms. Melody M. Madrid, Chief Librarian, and Ms. Mabelin P. Callo, Librarian II, from the Collection Development Division.

The donated books will be distributed to selected affiliated public libraries of the NLP, aimed at enriching their library resources and will benefit various library users interested in gaining insights into the Indian heritage, history, and contemporary affairs.

Turkish Ambassador Explores Collaboration with NLP

His Excellency Turkish Ambassador to the Philippines Niyazi Evren Akyol, accompanied by Mr. Zeki Furkan Kucuk, Turkiye Embassy Third Secretary, embarked on a significant visit to the NLP on May 8, 2023.

The purpose of the visit was to explore potential avenues for partnership and collaboration between Turkey and the Philippines in the realms of culture and education. The distinguished guests were warmly received by NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros, underscoring the diplomatic importance of fostering ties between the two nations. During the courtesy visit, both parties engaged in constructive discussions on the possibilities of joint initiatives that could contribute to the enrichment of cultural and educational exchanges.



Expressing mutual interest in strengthening ties, the NLP directors conveyed their appreciation for the Turkish delegation's visit. The NLP, in its pursuit of knowledge and cultural enrichment, remains open to collaborative efforts that transcend borders and contribute to shared learning and appreciation.

Austrian Embassy and NLP Collaborate for Children's Reading Event

In a heartwarming collaboration, the Austrian Embassy in Manila, in partnership with the NLP, joined forces to celebrate National Children's Month and National Reading Month. The event, held at the NLP Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium, was made possible through the support of the Goethe-Institut Philippinen, Para Sa Sining, and McDonald's Philippines.

The interactive gathering aimed to promote and nurture children's love for reading, providing a fun, enjoyable, and educational environment for them to explore age-appropriate books. Children under the care of ECPAT Philippines, Voice of the Free - VF Foundation, Inc., and Childhope Philippines Foundation, Inc. had the opportunity to tour the library, engage in reading and story-telling activities, learn about Austria and basic German phrases, and delight in a puppet show presented by the NLP Kuwentistas. The event saw the presence of H.E. Ambassador Johann Brieger and Madame Roswitha Brieger, together with NLP Assistant Director Quiros, who delivered his message of support to the event.

This collaborative effort not only celebrated the joy of reading but also created a memorable experience for children from various organizations, fostering a love for literature in a supportive and engaging setting.



NLP Renews Collaboration with Iran

In a significant step towards fostering cultural relations, Cultural Counselor Abdolmajid Abolghasemi and Dr. Bahman Samadi of the Cultural Section of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran - Manila paid a courtesy visit to the NLP on August 14, 2023. During their visit, they engaged in a fruitful meeting with Director Adriano, Assistant Director Quiros, and Ms. Carungui, with the objective of continuing and strengthening the cultural relationship between the NLP and the Embassy.

Moreover, on December 6, 2023, both institutions took a significant step by renewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation between the NLP and the National Library and Archives of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The virtual signing ceremony, attended by Director Adriano and counterparts from Iran, particularly the Head of Iran's National Library, Mr. Alireza Mokhtarpour, Deputies Dr. Esmat Momeni and Dr. Seyed Hadi Mousavi, Deputy of Development and Resource Management Mohammad Abbasi, and Mithra Hajian from the Public Relations and Administration and International Affairs, marked a commitment to ongoing collaboration. The signing event witnessed the presence of Cultural Counselor Abolghasemi, Dr. Samadi, Ms. Carungui, and Mr. Wilbur Calo, OIC of Asia and Oceania Section of the Reference Division.



The renewal of the MoU opens new doors for expanding and enriching the cultural and diplomatic relationships between the Philippines and Iran. It is anticipated that these events will not only deepen the existing ties but also pave the way for future opportunities to expand cultural relationships with other stakeholders.

NLP and Confucius Institute Collaborate for Chinese Bookshelf Expansion



The NLP, in collaboration with the Confucius Institute at Angeles University Foundation, recently hosted the turn-over ceremony for additional library materials for the Chinese Bookshelf. This event, held at the 2nd floor lobby of the NLP Building on September 14, 2023, marked a momentous occasion in promoting cross-cultural exchange.

The NLP gratefully received a partial donation of Chinese books and publications from the Beijing Language and Culture University Press. The ceremony witnessed the presence of Mr. Zhao Shuai, Director of the Overseas Development Department; Engr. Jose Macapagal Jr., Vice President for Administration of Angeles University Foundation; and the Directors of the Confucius Institute.



NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano expressed his gratitude in a recorded message, emphasizing the significance of Filipino and Chinese collaboration in expanding knowledge and fostering mutual understanding. The unveiling of the Chinese Bookshelf was led by Ms. Dolores D. Carungui, Chief Librarian of the Reference Division, and attended by heads of other divisions, including Ms. Melody M. Madrid of the Collection Development Division, Ms. Maricel M. Urena of the Research and Publications Division, and Ms. Jennifer B. Dimasaca of the Bibliographic Services Division, along with other dedicated NLP staff.

According to Director Zhao Shuai, this generous donation opens avenues for Filipinos to delve into the rich realms of Chinese literature, science, art, and history, transcending boundaries and connecting people from diverse backgrounds. The ceremony culminated in a captivating Chinese Exhibition, showcasing the arts and writings of China.

This initiative builds upon China's commendable 2012 donation of a vast book collection to the NLP, forming the China Book Room. The objective remains the same: to promote Chinese culture and literature while fostering partnerships and cultural exchange between nations. With this year's addition of 200 volumes to the Chinese Bookshelf, the NLP, in collaboration with the Confucius Institute, continues to serve as a hub for cross-cultural interaction, making these valuable resources accessible to the public.

Government Synergy for Library Advancement

In a resounding testament to inter-agency collaboration, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) has orchestrated pioneering initiatives aimed at transforming library services across government sectors. NLP had a coordination meeting with IPOPHL regarding the copyright application process. There was also a landmark collaboration with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), and an exploratory meeting to improve library services in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). These collaborative endeavors underscore the NLP's commitment in propelling advancements in library services nationwide.

Coordination meeting with IPOPHL



Representatives of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines-Bureau of Copyright and Related Rights (IPOPHL-BCRR) visited the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) on 15 February 2023 and discussed a future partnership.

IPOPHL-BCRR Director IV Atty. Emerson G. Cuyo with Atty. Jeremy John C. Bayaras, Chief, Accreditation and Standards Division; Dr. Fernan R. Dizon, Chief, Copyright Services Division; Leonor "Beng" G. Reyes, Chief, Creative Sector Development Division; Edgard Allan C. Yorro, Assistant Chief, Copyright Services Division met with NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros and discussed the shared

role of IPOPHL-BCRR and NLP on Copyright Registration. Maricel M. Urena, Chief of the Research and Publications Division and Michelle A. Flor, Administrative Officer and Copyright Examiner of NLP also joined the meeting.

NLP and BIR Collaborate on KOHA Library Software Implementation

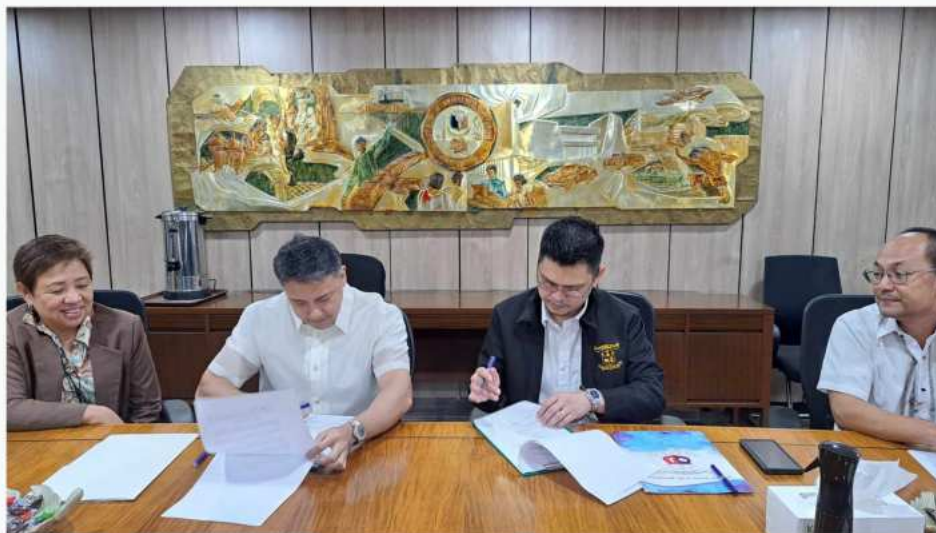
The NLP and BIR joined forces on August 7, 2023, signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the adoption and implementation of the KOHA Library Software in the BIR Library. This collaboration marks a pivotal moment in enhancing access to information and streamlining library operations within the BIR.

The KOHA Library Software, recognized for its fully featured and scalable capabilities, is a free and open-source system being utilized in the management of NLP's library resources. This strategic partnership between NLP and BIR reflects a shared commitment to harnessing innovative solutions for the betterment of library services.

The MOA signing ceremony took place at the Conference Room of the Office of the Commissioner in the BIR National Office Building and was attended by key figures from both organizations. Among the attendees were BIR Commissioner Romeo D. Lumagui Jr., Deputy Commissioner for Operations Maridur V. Rosario, Deputy Commissioner for Legal Marissa O. Cabreros, Deputy Commissioner for Information Systems Ma. Rosario Charo G. Enriquez-Curiba, and Deputy Commissioner for Resource Management Teresita M. Angeles, along with other BIR staff. The event also saw the presence of NLP's top management, including NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros, and Chief of the Information Technology Division, Mr. Leonardo P. Bernabe, Jr.

The primary objective of the agreement is to establish the general terms and conditions that will govern the successful implementation of KOHA in the BIR Library. Both parties are committed to ensuring a seamless process and have outlined orientations to familiarize stakeholders with the functionalities of the system

This collaborative initiative sets a precedent for other institutions looking to enhance their library management systems. By embracing the KOHA Library Software, the BIR is poised to benefit from a more efficient, user-friendly, and adaptable platform, ultimately contributing to the optimization of their library resources.



Exploratory Meeting Aims to Enhance Library Services in BARMM

In a move towards bolstering the literary landscape in BARMM, an exploratory meeting took place on November 15, 2023, at the Director's Office of the NLP Building. Director Adriano welcomed key figures committed to advancing library services in the region.

Among the distinguished attendees were Hon. Almarim C. Tillah, Presidential Adviser on Muslim Affairs; Princess Merriam Kiram, President of United World Foundation, Inc.; and Hamza E. Tillah, Executive Assistant III. The gathering aimed to foster collaborative initiatives geared towards fortifying the existing public libraries in BARMM and fostering the creation of additional libraries across the region.

The attendees deliberated on strategies to enhance the accessibility and quality of library services in BARMM, recognizing the pivotal role libraries play in education, research, and community development.



Hon. Almarim C. Tillah, Presidential Adviser on Muslim Affairs; Princess Merriam Kiram, President of United World Foundation, Inc.; and Hamza E. Tillah, Executive Assistant III.

Service Improvement: Online Payment through Linkbiz.portal in streamlining NLP transactions

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) is making its way towards a more efficient, convenient and secure process of service transaction for product and services of NLP through electronic payment system.

On October 13, 2023 the NLP through the Finance and Administrative Division- Cash and Accounting Section facilitate the orientation on Linkbiz.portal and Landbank Government Purchase Card (GPC) with the officials and employees of Landbank of the Philippines- Intramuros Branch.

The orientation was given by the officials of Landbank-Intramuros headed by their Vice President Mr. Renato R. Aquino, with other officials including Ms. Fararah Rosca M. Balog, Department Manager; Ms. Carla Jane P. Rotaiko, Senior Customer Associate; Mr. Dindo Libranda, Department Manager; Mr. Joseph Del Valle, SMA; and Ms. Joanne Ocampo, Senior Product Officer.

NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros together with the Division Chiefs and staff of the Cash Section headed by Elmerson Alberto, Administrative Officer V; Accounting Section headed by Geraldine Guisando, Accountant III; and Budget Section Head Marvin Vanguardia attended the orientation.

As the agency's response to the implementation of the national government's policy indicated in RA 11032 or Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Delivery Act of 2018 which aims to streamline the current systems and procedure of government services, NLP is upgrading its processes by offering an alternative and more practical way of service transactions. This orientation is part of the action taken by the Finance and Administrative Division with the set goal of initiating the digitalization of NLP services during the Operational Planning of NLP for fiscal year 2024-2025 last September 2023. Once established, the portal will be fully utilized in 2024 and will serve as an alternative process for onsite transaction of clients and stakeholders of NLP.

Ms. Joanne Ocampo, Senior Product Officer of Landbank gave a detailed presentation about Landbank Link.BizPortal. It is an alternative payment channel that allows clients to pay for products and services via the Internet from both the government and private institutions/sectors. According to Ms. Ocampo, Landbank Link.BizPortal will provide convenience, efficiency, safer and faster transaction. It can also decrease the direct and indirect cost associated with physical cash and to track the financial flows resulting in less corruption and theft. With this system it will also save on operation costs of the agency while maintaining the efficiency and quality of its services.

The presentation for Landbank Government Purchase Card (GPC) was also given by Mr. Joseph Del Valle, SMA of Landbank-Intramuros. GPC is a credit card that serves as an alternative payment solution for the procurement of eligible goods and services. In this presentation, he emphasized the features and benefits GPC. Mr. Del Valle pointed out that through the GPC, NLP could reduce administrative cost, enhanced control on expenditures and enhanced liquidity management. He also added that through GPC, NLP could reduce cash and check handling, eliminate procurement lead-time, shorten the time to liquidate government obligations and develop a database of financial information.

Other product of Landbank was also presented by Mr. Dindo Libranda, Department Manager who discussed the financial assistance that Landbank could provide for Housing Loan Applications.

The orientation was concluded with the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between NLP and Landbank officials for the implementation of the digitalization of the service transaction. NLP Directors with Mr. Renato R. Aquino and Ms. Joanne Ocampo sealed its partnership through the signed MOA.



Year-End Review of Division Accomplishments

The Performance Management Team (PMT) chaired by Dolores D. Carungui, Librarian V of the Reference Division with other PMT members and its secretariat, led the the five-day year-end assessment for 2023 on December 18-22 at the National Library of the Philippines.

Conducted every end of the year, this is part of the activity of the Performance Management System. The divisions assessed their accomplishments based on their set targets, while PMT members provided a refresher on the measurement and indicators for 2024 targets. Ms. Maricris Abancia, Information Technology Officer I of Information Technology Division presented the Online Accomplishment Report Form for 2024. This was the recent intervention of the PMT in preparation, submission and consolidation of the report of the division in terms of library material acquisition, utilization, library user served, materials and pages digitized, preserve and conserved and others. Through this latest monitoring tool of the agency, both the division and the PMT will easily recorded their monthly accomplishments.

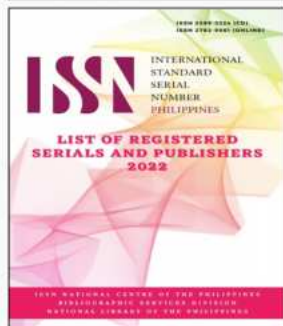
Nine division and the office of the directors participated in the activity, with each of them given an opportunity to discussed their concerns in their targets and accomplishments.

According to the PMT Chairperson, this is the perfect opportunity to cascade also to the division the activities initiated by the PMT including the review of policies and guidelines to enhance the performance management of NLP.



PMT members during the Year-End Assessment of Division Accomplishment Report for 2023.

NLP Publications



The NLP proudly presents the 2022 ISBN and ISSN Directories, along with a Filipino translated 'Manwal para sa mga ISBN User.' These resources, available on the NLP website, offer vital insights into the Philippine publishing landscape, empowering local publishers. Additionally, the NLP unveils its inaugural LIS Research Publication, enhancing library services and cultural resources in communities. NLP Releases 2022 ISBN and ISSN Directories, Filipino Translation of ISBN Manual The NLP is delighted to announce the release of the much-anticipated 2022 Directories for ISBN and ISSN, now available for free on the NLP website (<https://web.nlp.gov.ph/>). These directories serve as essential references for publishers, showcasing the latest additions to the publishing landscape in the Philippines from January to December 2022.

The ISBN Directory 2022 compiles an extensive list of newly registered book publishers in the Philippines, providing a comprehensive overview of the evolving literary scene. Similarly, the ISSN Directory 2022 offers insights into registered serials and publishers, offering a snapshot of the diverse serial publications in the country.

A significant addition to the available resources is the 'Manwal para sa mga ISBN User, Edisyong Internasyonal, Ikapitong Edisyon' (ISBN Users' Manual, International Edition, Seventh Edition), now translated into Filipino. This manual is a valuable tool for publishers and distributors, offering guidance on the use of ISBN for effective cataloging and identification.

Filipino publishers and distributors can now access and download the translated manual from both the NLP website and the International ISBN Agency website (<https://www.isbn-international.org/>). This initiative aims to broaden the reach of valuable resources and empower the Filipino publishing community. The translation of the manual was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the NLP Bibliographic Services Division and the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino. This generous endeavor ensures that more Filipino stakeholders in the publishing industry can benefit from the wealth of information provided in the manual. Inaugural LIS Research Publication Now Available on NLP Website The NLP proudly introduced its first Library and Information Services (LIS) Research Publication, accessible on the NLP website. This compilation features winning research from two categories: (a) BLIS undergraduate students and (b) professional librarians and MLIS graduate students.

The publication aims to enhance library services, programs, and initiatives, providing a valuable resource for identifying unique library development and cultural resources in communities. Initiated by the 32nd Library and Information Services Month (LISM) Committee, in collaboration with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCANCLIS) and the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), this publication is a result of the first LISM Research Conference The publication aims to enhance library services, programs, and initiatives,

providing a valuable resource for identifying unique library development and cultural resources in communities. Initiated by the 32nd Library and Information Services Month (LISM) Committee, in collaboration with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCANCLIS) and the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), this publication is a result of the first LISM Research Conference.





TRAINING



NLP Unveils Project L.A.R.A

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) is set to embark on a groundbreaking initiative, Project L.A.R.A. (Library Affiliation and Resource Allocation), aimed at elevating literacy and knowledge access in the Province of Aurora.



To kick off this transformative project, the Public Libraries Division (PLD) organized a pivotal online meeting on February 6, 2023, for selected Local Government Units (LGUs) identified as the target recipients of Project L.A.R.A. The succinct yet comprehensive meeting had two primary objectives: (1) To discuss and present the goals and rationale behind Project L.A.R.A.; and (2) To present to all identified beneficiaries of this project the requirements for the establishment and affiliation of public libraries, as well as the library resource allocation process to newly affiliated and established public libraries. The online session was attended by a dynamic group of stakeholders, including the

staff of PLD led by its chief, Ms. Blesila P. Velasco, Mr. Leonardo P. Bernabe, Chief of the NLP Information Technology Division (ITD), Atty. Aila Reopta from the Office of Congressman Rommel Rico T. Angara, Mr. Erwin Lozano from the Office of Senator Sonny M. Angara, and selected local government officials and employees from the Province of Aurora.

Additionally, the NLP Team, consisting of officials and staff from the PLD, ITD, and the Collection Development Division (CDD), conducted an on-site inspection in the municipalities of the Province of Aurora from February 21 to 24, 2023. This on-site visit aimed at presenting and assessing the specific requirements for establishing and affiliating public libraries, as well as explaining the library resource allocation process for those newly affiliated and established. Furthermore, the PLD, in collaboration with the CDD, ITD, and the Catalog Division (CD), conducted a two-day classroom orientation on Basic Library Administration and KOHA Training at Casiguran Municipal Library on June 14-15, 2023. Twenty-one library, IT, and LGU staff from different municipalities of the Province of Aurora joined the event. Topics discussed included accessioning and mechanical processing of materials, the basic arrangement of library collections, tips on administering their public libraries, and the different modules of the KOHA Integrated Library System, encompassing attendance monitoring, database repair, and backup. The speakers were Ms. Lonlia Garcia of CDD, Ms. Susan Zamora of CD, Mr. Chad Aren Diaz of PLD, and Mr. Israel Mendoza and Mr. Charlie Garcia of ITD.

Project L.A.R.A. signifies a strategic move by the NLP to enhance literacy and learning opportunities in local communities. As the project unfolds, it is expected to make a lasting impact on the cultural and educational landscape of the Province of Aurora, establishing a legacy of increased access to knowledge and information.



NLP Team for Project L.A.R.A. (Library Affiliation and Resource Allocation)

Preservation and Conservation Awareness Training-Workshops in Bookbinding and Preservation

In a concerted effort to enhance the skills of library professionals and advance the preservation of literary treasures, the NLP organized a comprehensive Training Workshop on Bookbinding through its Filipiniana Division (FD). The event, held on March 17, 2023, saw active participation from the Cavite Provincial Library, the City of Antipolo, as well as staff from the Filipiniana Division and On-the-Job Trainees from Adventist University of the Philippines.

The primary goal of the training program was to equip participants with a profound understanding of key concepts and theories behind bookbinding, fostering practical skills essential for the preservation of books, newspapers, and similar materials. The participants engaged enthusiastically in hands on sessions, mastering techniques such as dry-cleaning, enclosure, and soft-binding.

Highlighting the commitment to knowledge dissemination, the FD further conducted a Training-Workshop on Basic Preservation and Conservation of Paper-Based Collections for Selected Department of Education - National Capital Region (DepEd NCR) Librarians on May May 19, 2023. The overarching objective of this workshop was to empower participants with the knowledge and understanding necessary to identify and recognize the importance of managing and preserving library collections. The workshop also sought to develop participants' skills in preservation and conservation activities through immersive, hands-on training sessions.

Preservation Workshop with Senate Personnel

The Filipiniana Division of the NLP hosted a comprehensive "Training-Workshop on Basic Preservation and Conservation of Paper Based Collections" for the dedicated personnel of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Legislative Library Service, Legislative Records and Archives Service of the Senate of the Philippines.

The training-workshop, held on September 22, 2023, delved into the NLP's preventive conservation practices. Participants gained valuable insights into the significance of managing and preserving library collections, equipping them with essential skills for the preservation of paper-based materials.

The initiative aimed to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of safeguarding historical and cultural artifacts, reinforcing the Senate Library's commitment to preserving the nation's rich legislative heritage. The hands-on workshop enabled participants to identify and recognize potential preservation challenges while providing them with practical tools to enhance their preservation skills.

This initiative reflects the NLP's commitment to preserving the country's valuable cultural and historical resources. The NLP remains dedicated to empowering libraries and institutions with the necessary tools to safeguard our shared heritage for future generations.



The Filipiniana Division of the NLP hosted a comprehensive "Training-Workshop on Basic Preservation and Conservation of Paper Based Collections

PLD Extensive Training-Series

The NLP, through its Public Libraries Division (PLD), has successfully completed the first three parts of its comprehensive Training Series on Delivering the Basics of Quality Public Library Service. The program, spanning from May to July 2023, aims to fortify and re-calibrate the quality of public library services across the country.

The training-series was designed for all affiliated public libraries of the NLP. It comprised a five-part series, covering critical areas such as Public Libraries' Mission/Vision, Goals, and Objectives; Collection Development and Management; Services of Public Libraries; Physical Facilities and Public Library Administration; and Financial Resources, Partnerships, and Collaboration. On May 25, 2023, the PLD hosted the first part of the training-series at the NLP Function Room, attracting 61 participants from both within and outside the National Capital Region. Resource speakers, including Ms. Lucila Raquino of Quezon City Public Library and Ms. Rochelle Silverio of the Valenzuela City Public Library, led sessions on exploring the basic theories and concepts behind the current Standards for Public Libraries. NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and PLD Chief Blesila P. Velasco provided leadership and support.

The second part, held on June 6, 2023, at Purok Marcela Beach Resort in Lingayen, Pangasinan, was attended by 75 individuals, including NLP organizers, Pangasinan Provincial Library (PPL) and Provincial Government of Pangasinan staff. The training focused on community needs analysis and the development of a collection development plan, with resource speakers Ms. Kima Sirot of Asingan Municipal Library, Ms. Virgie Aquino of Alaminos City Library, and Ms. Bernadine Gravela of Urdaneta City Public Library.

On June 7-8, 2023, sub-groups visited various municipalities of Pangasinan to validate the existing 2015 Revised Standards for Philippine Public Libraries (RSPPL) and monitor inactive public libraries, joined by selected staff from PPL.

Series 3 unfolded on June 27, 2023, in Lucena City, Quezon, in partnership with the Provincial Government of Quezon through the Quezon Provincial Library. Public librarians, officers-in charge, and staff from Quezon Province and nearby areas participated in discussions about services based on the 2015 RSPPL. Invited speakers, including Ms. Joana Paola C. Tuazon of Camarines Norte Provincial Library, Ms. Amylen N. Bautista of Albay Provincial Library and Information Center, and Mr. Federico N. Vinluan of Raul S. Roco Library, shared expertise and experiences.

Series 4 and 5 are slated for July, marking the continuation of NLP's commitment to enhancing public library services nationwide.

Empowering PLs through NLP's product and services

NLP Conducts Training Series to Empower Public Libraries

The NLP recently concluded a comprehensive three-part training series aimed at empowering affiliated public libraries nationwide. Titled "Empowering Public Libraries through NLP's Products and Services," the training sessions featured NLP staff as resource speakers, sharing insights into the diverse functions of their respective divisions.

The objectives of the training series were threefold: first, to train affiliated public libraries on integrating NLP services within their facilities; second, to monitor newly established, inactive, and long-unvisited public libraries; and third, to advocate for the establishment and affiliation of public libraries in LGUs lacking such essential community resources.

Covering a range of crucial topics, the training sessions delved into various services of the NLP, including legal deposit and mechanical processing, cataloging and classification, numbering systems, social media engagement, reference services, electronic resources, preservation practices, inventory, digitization tips, library affiliation and monitoring, and book allocation program.

The first part of the series took place successfully in Ormoc City, Leyte, on August 29–30, 2023, followed by a second session in Zamboanga City on September 11–12, 2023. The concluding leg occurred in Legaspi City, Albay, on October 23–24, 2023.

The NLP's commitment goes beyond mere training; it aims to empower communities and foster individual growth and development through the dissemination of information. The NLP's dedication to this cause ensures that public libraries play a central role in shaping a brighter future for the Philippines.

First Batch at Ormoc City, Leyte August 29–30, 2023

Topics discussed were about Legal Deposit and Mechanical Processing of Library Materials by Ms. Narissa C. Young, Assistant Chief of Collection Development Division; Cataloging-in-Print and Understanding Classification of Library Materials by Ms. Joahna C. Dumagan, Section Head of Technical Section in Catalog Division; Numbering Systems by Mr. Romnick Henric Henry Gayanilo, Librarian II in Bibliographic Services Division; NLP's Social Media Engagement Practices by Ms. Melanie A. Ramirez, Assistant Chief of Research and Publications Division; Reference Services and NLP's eResources by Ms. Flordeliza T. Quinones, Assistant Chief of Reference Division; Safeguarding Library Resources: Preservation Practices by Ms. Jean S. Ico, Section Head of Rare Books and Manuscript Section and Special Collections Section in Filipiniana Division; Handling and Inventory of Library Resources and Equipment by Ms. Geraldine V. Guisando, Accountant III in Finance and Administrative Division; Digitization Tips, Koha Updates, and Training Requests by Mr. Leonardo P. Bernabe, Jr., Chief/ITO III in Information Technology Division; PLD OMMR and Monitoring Updates by Ms. Rhodora E. Valdez, Assistant Chief of Public Libraries Division; Library Establishment and Affiliation and the Book Allocation Program by Vida Dorea P. Mendoza, Librarian II of Public Library Division; and Mr. Chad Aren Diaz Section Head of the Training Section in Public Library Division.



Second Batch at Zamboanga City, September 11–12, 2023

Topics discussed were about Legal Deposit and Mechanical Processing of Library Materials by Ms. Lonlia Garcia, Librarian III in Collection Development Division; Cataloging-in-Print and Understanding Classification of Library Materials by Ms. Susan Zamora, OIC/Assistant Chief in Catalog Division; Numbering Systems by Mr. Joel Lascano, Librarian II in Bibliographic Services Division; NLP's Social Media Engagement Practices by Ms. Melanie Ramirez, Assistant Chief of Research and Publications Division; Reference Services and NLP's eResources by Ms. Xenia Romero, Librarian III in Reference Division; Safeguarding Library Resources: Preservation Practices by Ms. Jean Ico, Section Head of Rare Books and Manuscript Section and Special Collections Section in Filipiniana Division; Handling and Inventory of Library Resources and Equipment by Ms. Ginalene Magallano, Administrative Officer V in Finance and Administrative Division; Digitization Tips, Koha Updates, and Training Requests by Mr. Leonardo Bernabe, Jr., Chief/ITO III in Information Technology Division; PLD OMMR and Monitoring Updates by Ms. Rhodora E. Valdez, Assistant Chief of Public Libraries Division; Library Establishment and Affiliation and the Book Allocation Program by Vida Dorea P. Mendoza, Librarian II of Public Library Division; and Mr. Chad Aren Diaz Section Head of the Training Section in Public Library Division.



Third Batch at Legapi City, Albay October 23-24, 2023

Topics discussed were about Legal Deposit and Mechanical Processing of Library Materials by Ms. Lonlia R. Garcia, Librarian III in Collection Development Division; Cataloging-in-Print and Understanding Classification of Library Materials by Ms. Joahna C. Dumagan, Librarian III in Catalog Division; Numbering Systems by Ms. Mary Joy H. Bestoir, Librarian III in Bibliographic Services Division; NLP's Social Media Engagement Practices by Ms. Melanie A. Ramirez, Assistant Chief of Research and Publications Division; Reference Services and NLP's eResources by Mr. Gio Karlo J. Fuelos, Librarian I in Reference Division; Safeguarding Library Resources: Preservation Practices by Ms. Maricel M. Diaz, Assistant Chief of Filipiniana Division; Handling and Inventory of Library Resources and Equipment by Marvin S. Vanguardia, Administrative Officer V in Finance and Administrative Division; Digitization Tips, Koha Updates, and Training Requests by Leonardo Bernabe Jr., Chief/ITO III in Information Technology Division; PLD OMMR and Monitoring Updates by Rhodora E. Valdez, Assistant Chief of Public Libraries Division; Library Establishment and Affiliation and the Book Allocation Program by Miguel Paulo T. Legrama, Administrative Aide III of Public Library Division; and Chad Aren E. Diaz Section Head of the Training Section in Public Library Division.

The NLP is ultimately empowering communities and supporting individual growth and development via the power of information by providing libraries with the resources and knowledge they require. We may anticipate the emergence of increasingly active, neighborhood-focused public libraries across the Philippines as the third round of libraries sets out on this revolutionary path. By disseminating information and empowering people, the NLP's commitment to advancing literacy and knowledge access not only safeguards the future of libraries but also improves the lives of countless people and communities.

Senate President Edgardo J. Angara Community Library Affiliates with NLP

The Senate President Edgardo J. Angara Community Library in the Municipality of Tibiao, Antique, has been officially affiliated with the NLP on September 22, 2023. The momentous occasion was marked by the presence of Municipal Mayor Klemens "Weng Weng" G. Bandoja, who represented the municipality and its library during the affiliation ceremony.

During the event, the community library was proudly presented with the Certificate of Affiliation. As a gesture of support and commitment, it also received an initial allocation of over 300 books and various other educational materials. This allocation is also part of Project L.A.R.A., contributing to the expansion of their collection and enhancing educational opportunities for the community.



In a parallel effort, the delegation embarked on a comprehensive monitoring and affiliation activity across the Province of Antique. The primary objective of this initiative was to assess the current state of various municipal libraries and promote collaborative efforts among public libraries nationwide.

Distinguished visits were made to several notable libraries in the Province of Antique, including the Antique Provincial Library & Local Archives, the Evelio B. Javier Memorial Library of San Jose de Buenavista, the Leocadio Alonsagay Dioso Memorial Public Library of Pandan, and the Sibalom Municipal Library. These visits facilitated discussions, knowledge sharing, and the exchange of ideas to further strengthen the network of public libraries in the region.

NLP Expands Access to e-Resources through Project LARA

On September 28, 2023, the NLP organized the Orientation on Subscribed Electronic Resources which took place via Zoom online meeting and drew the participation of recipients under Project L.A.R.A. This initiative, facilitated by the Collection Development and Public Libraries Divisions, strives to strengthen the capabilities of affiliated libraries by providing them access to a wide array of electronic resources.

The event witnessed representatives from distinguished publishers, including LibTech Source, Inc. (for ProQuest Ebook Central), Britannica (for Britannica Library), and Thinc Office, Corp. (for MyLegalWHIZ). These reputable companies played a pivotal role in enlightening participants about the subscribed databases, emphasizing their potential impact on library services and knowledge dissemination.

During the virtual orientation, insightful presentations were delivered, offering in-depth insights into the functionalities and benefits of the electronic resources now available to the affiliated libraries. Attendees gained a comprehensive understanding of the tools at their disposal, enhancing their capacity to serve the community and disseminate knowledge effectively.

Turn-Over of Project L.A.R.A.

A historic moment unfolded on November 10, 2023 at the Baler Sports Complex as the Project L.A.R.A. Ceremonial Turn-Over of Library Resources took place, together with the signing of deeds of donation and property transfer reports. Led by Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, the ceremony brought together stakeholders, community members, and the Project L.A.R.A. team. Esteemed guests, including Honorable Rommel Rico T. Angara and Honorable Rhett Ronan T. Angara, joined local leaders, librarians, officers-in-charge, NLP employees, and other dignitaries in celebrating the successful affiliation with public libraries in Aurora, Tibiao (Antique), and Negros Occidental.

Director Adriano expressed deep gratitude to Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara for sponsoring the project, acknowledging the vital role played by supporters, including Congressman Rommel Rico T. Angara, Mayor Rhett Angara, and various partners.

The resources provided through Project L.A.R.A. were highlighted for their potential to enrich the lives of diverse audiences, from children to senior citizens. Comprehensive training programs for librarians focused on Mechanical Processing of Books, Accessing Library E-resources, and Cataloging.

Preserving local histories and culture emerged as a significant aspect of the project, with recipient libraries leading initiatives dedicated to this cultural preservation.

The signing of the Deed of Donations and Property Transfer Reports formalized a partnership beyond the transfer of physical resources, pledging collaborative efforts to empower communities through knowledge and education.

Director Adriano emphasized the responsibility that comes with knowledge abundance, urging the audience to nurture and protect these resources for future generations.

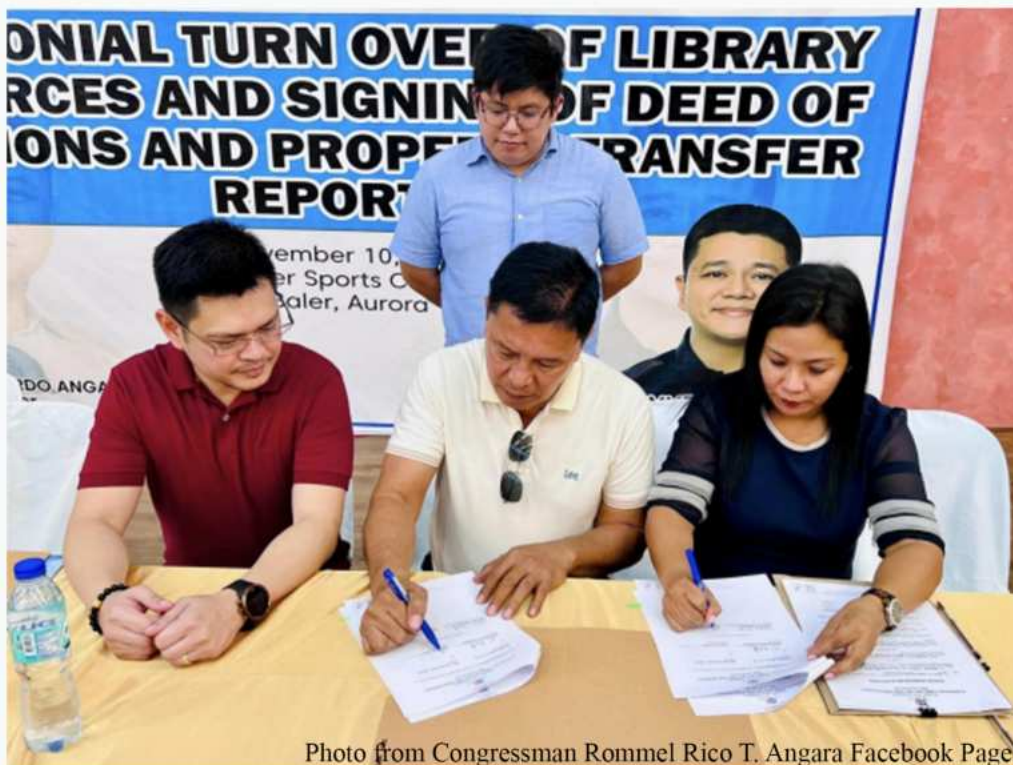


Photo from Congressman Rommel Rico T. Angara Facebook Page.

E-Resources Training

Facilitated by Collection Development Division

The NLP delved into the realm of electronic resources in a day-long training session on April 24, 2023. Led by Ms. Melody M. Madrid, Chief of the Collection Development Division (CDD), the training welcomed publishers and suppliers who showcased various online materials and guided NLP staff on effective navigation through their portals, specifically designed to benefit NLP researchers.

In addition to the extensive physical collection housed at NLP, the library is expanding its services by offering free access to electronic resources for all library users. This training session was a crucial step in ensuring that NLP clients receive the necessary guidance to make optimal use of these digital materials, complementing the traditional resources available at the library.

E-Resources Day with the Legislative Library Services

The NLP, through the Reference Division (RD), recently conducted two insightful sessions of "NLP eResources Day" for the personnel of the Legislative Library Service and Legislative Records and Archive Service of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Senate of the Philippines. The events took place on May 3 and May 18, 2023, at the 6th Floor Function Room of the NLP Building, T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila.

The initiative was prompted by the Legislative Library Service's request to enhance accessibility for their clients by integrating the link to the NLP eResources Portal (ePortal) into their site. This request aligns with the existing Terms of Agreement between NLP and the Publishers and Providers of the online databases.

The orientation sessions were designed to empower participants by guiding them through the account creation process to become NLP-authorized users. Ms. Xenia B. Romero, the dedicated eResources portal administrator of RD, facilitated presentations on the diverse online databases available in the ePortal. The sessions also featured hands on navigation of the ePortal platform, ensuring that participants gained practical skills to maximize the resource.

Since May 2022, NLP has been consistently providing sessions of "NLP eResources Day" to onsite users, marking a significant effort to promote the array of online databases available for free. The primary objectives include orienting library users, cultivating their interest in exploring the ePortal platform, and broadening customer engagement. Notably, these efforts extend beyond the traditional IP authenticated areas, allowing users remote access to the wealth of resources. The NLP's commitment to facilitating knowledge dissemination is evident through such initiatives, creating a more inclusive and accessible learning environment for both onsite and remote users.

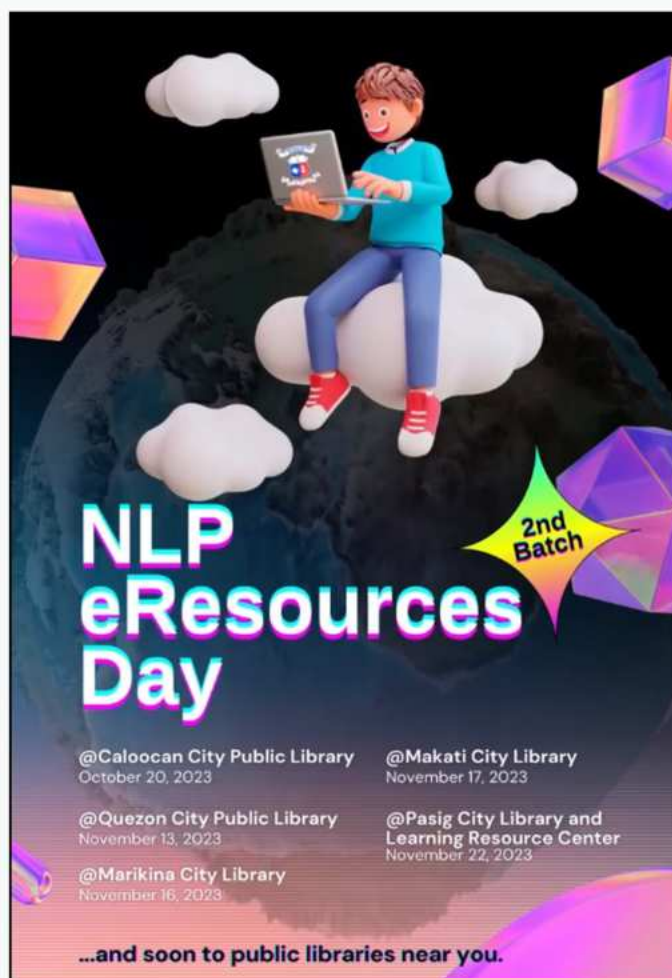
Series of eResources Day in Various Libraries in the Metro

The Reference Division of the NLP has successfully conducted a series of engaging "NLP eResources Day" activities across various public libraries in Metro Manila. The initiative aimed to inform and empower participants about the wealth of electronic resources available through NLP's eResources Portal.

The activities took place at key locations, including the Quezon City Public Library (July 13), Manila City Library (July 20), Valenzuela City Library (September 21), Caloocan City Public Library (October 20), Quezon City Public Library (November 13), Marikina City Library (November 16), Makati City Library (November 17), and the Pasig City Library and Learning Resource Center (November 22, 2023).

The NLP eResources Day provided participants with valuable insights into the diverse range of electronic resources accessible through the NLP's dedicated portal. Attendees learned about the portal's features and capabilities, empowering them to make the most of these resources for research, learning, and personal enrichment.

As part of the NLP's commitment to fostering digital literacy and accessibility, the initiative is set to continue in more public libraries in the future. The NLP continues in providing communities with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate the digital landscape and access a wealth of information at their fingertips.



CDD Hosts Successful Stakeholders' Forum on Library Acquisition

The NLP Collection Development Division (CDD), conducted the "CDD Stakeholders' Forum on Acquisition of NLP Library Materials" on June 27, 2023. The forum gathered representatives from diverse suppliers and publishing companies, specializing in foreign and Filipiniana print, electronic/multimedia resources, and databases. The primary objective of the forum was to enlighten stakeholders about the NLP's Acquisition and Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) requirements and processes. Ms. Melody Madrid, CDD Chief; Ms. Maricel Diaz, Filipiniana Division Assistant Chief and BAC Member; and Ms. Neriza Oraba of CDD led discussions on these crucial aspects. Additionally, the forum provided valuable insights into Legal Deposit procedures.

Issues and concerns related to the procurement and delivery of library materials were openly discussed and effectively addressed during the forum. This collaborative platform served as a means to enhance communication and understanding between the NLP and its valued stakeholders, ensuring a smoother and more efficient acquisition process moving forward. These multifaceted initiatives stand testament to the NLP's unwavering dedication to knowledge dissemination and capacity-building. By fostering practical skills, embracing digital advancements, and empowering library professionals nationwide, the NLP is not only preserving the past but also shaping the future of library services in the Philippines.

As the journey continues, these endeavors will undoubtedly leave an indelible mark on the landscape of library sciences, making knowledge more accessible and preservation efforts more profound.

NLP's Visionary Initiatives Transforming Public Libraries Nationwide

Through a series of pioneering activities, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and its Public Libraries Division (PLD) are catalyzing a major development in public library services across the nation. From comprehensive training sessions enhancing the basics of library services to empowering affiliated libraries through product-focused training and innovative webinars promoting equitable services, the NLP is at the forefront of fostering community development and knowledge dissemination.

Enhancing Public Library Services Nationwide Through Training Series

In a dedicated effort to raise the quality of public library services across the Philippines, the NLP successfully conducted Series 4 and 5 of the Training-Series on Delivering the Basics of Quality Public Library Service, facilitated by the PLD during the second half of 2023.

Series 4 took place on July 11, 2023, at Sugarland Hotel, Bacolod City, with the esteemed presence of Hon. Eugenio Jose "Bong" V. Lacson, Governor of the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental, and NLP's Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros delivering the Welcome Remarks and Opening Message respectively. The program aimed to fortify public library services, covering crucial areas such as mission and vision, collection development, services, facilities, administration, and financial resources.

Following the training, PLD staff engaged in a validation activity of the 2015 Revised Standards for Philippine Public Libraries (RSPPL) from July 12-14, 2023, in various public libraries in the Province of Negros Occidental. The activity included courtesy calls with Local Chief Executives and members of the concerned Local Government Units (LGUs).

Series 5, held on July 25, 2023, at Mallberry Suites Business Hotel, partnered with the Provincial Government of Misamis Oriental through the Misamis Oriental Provincial Library. The event, attended by public librarians, Officers-in-Charge, and staff from Misamis Oriental and nearby areas, delved into discussions on services based on the 2015 RSPPL. Notable speakers, including Ms. Richel Pajara, Provincial Librarian, Mr. Clint Kenneth Yañez, Provincial Budget Officer, and Ms. Remedios Janier, Director of Library and Audio-Visual Services of the University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines-Cagayan de Oro Campus, shared their expertise. The event was graced by Hon. Gerardo "Boboy" Sabal III, Committee Chairman on Education, Culture and Arts, and Mr. Cesar Gilbert Adriano, Director IV of the NLP.

In addition, PLD staff conducted a validation activity of the 2015 RSPPL in selected affiliated public libraries in the Province of Misamis Oriental and Cagayan de Oro City on July 26-27, 2023. The visits also included courtesy calls with Local Chief Executives and LGU representatives, with the distribution of "Impact Stories of Philippine Public Libraries (Books 1-3)" to visited LGUs.



Webinars for Equitable Public Library Service

The NLP continues to spearhead initiatives fostering community engagement, knowledge sharing, and innovation. From November 15-17, 2023, PLD organized a series of webinars via Zoom and Facebook Live under the title "Ang Inyong Pampublikong Aklatan... Sharing Ideas, Innovations, and Inspirations."

Conducted from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM, the free webinar aimed at promoting and advocating plans, programs, and activities (PPAs) implemented by public libraries. These efforts are geared towards providing equitable library services to diverse communities.

Distinguished 2023 Gawad Pampublikong Aklatan (GPA) awardees served as resource speakers, enriching the learning sessions. The three-day event covered various categories, addressing the Best PPA for Local Culture and Historical Preservation and Conservation on November 15, Best PPA for Indigenous Groups on November 16, and Best PPA for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) on November 17.

Additionally, on December 15, 2023, the PLD convened an online meeting session with newly-established and soon-to-be-established public libraries, alongside their respective local government officials. Held via Zoom, the meeting aimed to guide participants through the affiliation process with the NLP.

These proactive measures by the NLP and PLD underscore a commitment to building stronger, more inclusive public library services, thereby fostering community development and knowledge dissemination. As the NLP continues to leverage both onsite and digital platforms for outreach, the impact on public libraries and their communities is poised for significant growth in the coming years.

The poster features a light beige background with colorful abstract shapes in shades of purple, blue, and pink. At the top left, it reads "NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES (NLP) PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION (PLD)". On the top right is the official seal of the National Library of the Philippines. The main title "Ang Inyong Pampublikong Aklatan....." is in a large, bold, black font, followed by "Sharing Innovations, Ideas, and Inspirations" in a colorful, bubbly font. At the bottom left is a calendar icon with a checkmark, and to its right, the text "Save The Date" is followed by the dates and times: "15-17 November 2023 | 10:00 AM-11:30 AM via Zoom and Facebook Live".

NLP Drives Inclusivity and Accessibility Through Diverse Training Initiatives

The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) has undertaken a series of transformative training initiatives, solidifying its commitment to diverse facets of its community. From promoting inclusivity through disability awareness to empowering staff with social media expertise, and conducting workshops on preservation and eResources, the NLP stands at the forefront of fostering a dynamic and accessible environment for its patrons and employees alike. These initiatives underscore the NLP's dedication to evolving in the ever-changing landscape of information dissemination.

NLP Promotes PWD Inclusivity Through a Workshop



The National Library of the Philippines (NLP), through the Senior Citizen and Persons with Disabilities Committee (SCAPWD), conducted an activity in celebration of the 45th National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week, which was observed from July 17–23, 2022. The theme: "Persons with Disabilities Accessibility and Rights: Towards a Sustainable Future where No One is Left Behind = Aksesibilidad at Karapatan ng mga Taong may Kapansanan: Daan Tungo sa Sustenableng Kinabukasan na Walang Maiiwan," is an annual observance spearheaded by the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA).

NLP actively participated in this week-long observance underscoring its commitment to inclusivity. Thirty (30) NLP employees took part in a transformative training session titled "Basic Workshop on Handling Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)."

Conducted on July 19, 2023, the workshop provided a dedicated space for NLP staff to delve into critical aspects of the library's frontline services, focusing on readership and library assistance. The session was strategically designed to empower participants with pertinent information on PWDs, offering specific techniques and practical recommendations to seamlessly integrate newfound skills into the library's daily programs and activities.



Led by representatives from the National Council on Disability Affairs, Ms. Myrta P. Sedenio and Ms. Virginia S. Rabino, the workshop also facilitated an insightful discussion on various laws and policies related to disabilities. Participants gained a broader perspective, enhancing their awareness of the diverse needs and rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Another activity was the reaching out the children with disabilities by giving their guiding tour, storytelling and giving food for them. The activity was well-liked by kids with impairments. They were nonetheless able to enjoy themselves at the museum despite having a disability.

Through this proactive engagement, the NLP aims to contribute significantly to the promotion of a more inclusive community. By fostering awareness and equipping employees with practical skills, the NLP aims to create an environment where the library becomes a welcoming space for all, and addressing the unique needs of Persons with Disabilities.



NLP Empowers Staff Through Forum on Sexual Harassment and Women's Health



In line with National Women's Month, the NLP hosted a Forum on Sexual Harassment and Women's Health on March 23, 2023. The event, held at the NLP Auditorium, featured esteemed speakers such as Judge Maria Rowena V. Alejandria and Dr./Atty. Jose C. Montemayor Jr. Organized by the Gender and Development

Committee and the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, the forum aimed to enhance awareness among NLP staff regarding sexual harassment and women's health issues. The initiative received support from Central Books Supply Inc., represented by President Mr. Paolo M. Sibal and Vice President Dr. Girlie G. Jacala.

Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros emphasized the importance of the activity, highlighting its role in educating and enlightening NLP staff. The forum, attended by NLP employees, contributes to the broader goals of National Women's Month, promoting gender equality and empowerment.

Orientation on SOGIESC: Understanding Individual Differences for an Inclusive Workplace

On July 6-7, 2023, during the the annual Capacity Building of the National Library of the Philippines held at Forest Crest Nature Hotel and Resort at Nasugbo, Batangas, members of the Gender and Development Committee organized a lecture on Orientation on SOGIESC: Understanding Individual Differences for an Inclusive Workplace.

Dr. Renifer Francisco, President of Gender Empowerment Consultancy and Advocacy Firm (GECAF), provided a basic orientation about Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression and Sexual Characteristic or SOGIESC to promote awareness and encourage NLP employees to become more gender sensitive. Mr. Leonardo P. Bernabe Jr., the Chairperson of NLP GAD FPS and Chief of the Information Technology Division, led the GAD Committee in organizing the said forum in collaboration with the Capacity Building working committee and the TNELEA.

Ms. Julie Ann Dominique San Esteban, GAD Committee Member, gave a general background and idea about SOGIESC. During Dr. Francisco's presentation several NLP employees shared their insights about gender equality in a workplace. The discussion presented many new concepts about LGBTQ+ that could broaden the awareness of many towards building a more accepting and inclusive community for the all types of gender. This could also expand the NLP employees' understanding on the attitude and behavior of other people and eliminate an environment that tolerate discrimination and isolation.

Overall, the GAD's forum was a productive discussion that leave an impact to many influencing most of the participants in becoming a more gender-sensitive individual.



NLP's Commitment to Employee Well-Being: Empowering, Caring and Fostering Camaraderie

In a dedicated effort to prioritize the well-being of its workforce, the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) has undertaken a series of initiatives to empower, care for, and foster camaraderie among its employees. From addressing crucial issues like sexual harassment and women's health to conducting annual physical examinations and organizing a vibrant sports festival, these endeavors underscore NLP's holistic approach to ensuring the mental and physical wellness of its staff.

TNLEA Organizes Annual Physical Examination for NLP Employees

In a commitment to the health and well-being of its workforce, The National Library Employees Association (TNLEA) successfully facilitated the two-day Annual Physical Examination (APE) for permanent employees of the NLP on March 29-30, 2023. The APE, a comprehensive health check-up program, provided on-site services including routine diagnostics, screening, and various laboratory tests and procedures. The initiative aimed at early detection and ensuring the timely and adequate treatment of any potential health issues among NLP staff.

NLP holds this annual event as part of its proactive approach to employee well-being. By offering these health services, the library ensures that its employees are in optimal health conditions, fit to perform their roles effectively and efficiently. The emphasis on preventive care aligns with NLP's commitment to fostering a healthy and productive work environment.

Year after year, NLP underscores the importance of employee fitness, recognizing that maintaining physical well-being is crucial for the seamless delivery of library services. The Annual Physical Examination not only serves as a preventive healthcare measure but also encourages employees to prioritize and maintain their overall health.



NLP Sportsfest 2023 Boosts Employee Well-Being and Camaraderie

In a commitment to enhancing the well-being of its workforce, the NLP successfully executed its Mental Health Program (MHP), aligning with the model developed by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). The program focuses on both physical and mental health, incorporating various methods such as physical activities, team-building exercises, stress management techniques, peer counseling, support groups, and interest groups.

To kick off this holistic approach to employee well-being, TNLEA spearheaded the NLP Sportsfest 2023, commencing with a vibrant ceremony on April 17, 2023. The event brought together all members, team managers, and captains to celebrate the spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition. Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, in his address, encouraged active participation and enjoyment of the diverse games prepared by the Sports Sub-committee, led by Christopher T. Diaz. While emphasizing the importance of maintaining competitiveness, Director Adriano prioritized the safety of all participants.

The NLP Sportsfest 2023 commenced with the Elimination Round on April 14, 2023, and concluded on May 12, 2023. The grand finale on May 15, 2023, at the 2nd floor lobby of the NLP building witnessed a display of sportsmanship and skill. The much-anticipated awarding ceremony honored the outstanding achievements of players and teams in various sports categories. Assistant Director Quiros, along with TNLEA President Cherry V. Melquiades, presented medals and trophies to each participant, creating a moment of pride for the entire NLP community. This annual sports extravaganza is a testament to NLP's commitment to mental and physical wellness, fostering a healthy and productive workforce. Despite the games and festivities, NLP services remained uninterrupted, ensuring continued support for all library users.

The NLP Sportsfest serves as a cornerstone in NLP's comprehensive approach to employee well-being, promoting a culture of health, camaraderie, and resilience within the organization.



Employees Capacity Building

Conducting a capacity building activity for employees of a national cultural agency is a strategic investment in the organization's growth and success. It is a systematic approach of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations and communities need to survive, adapt, thrive in a fast-changing world (<https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/capacity-building>). By identifying needs, setting clear objectives, designing an engaging program, involving subject matter experts, evaluating progress, and providing post activity support, the agency can empower its employees and foster a culture of continuous learning and professional development.

On July 6-7, 2023, the annual Capacity Building of the National Library of the Philippines was held at Forest Crest Nature Hotel and Resort at Nasugbo, Batangas, organized and facilitated by The National Library of the Philippines Employees Association (TNLEA) through its President Ms. Cherry V. Melquiades. The activity was fully supported by NLP Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano and Assistant Director Edgardo B. Quiros, who believed that the benefits of this activity will be reflected in enhanced performance, improved efficiency and increased innovation of NLP employees.

Primarily, the Capacity Building aimed to strengthen the workforce of NLP through knowledge dissemination activities by learning, re-learning and unlearning the skills and information necessary in performing the core and organizational competencies of the division.

After weeks of planning and coordination made by the members of the NLP Capacity Building organizing committee, the two-day activity was conducted with the following topics:

- a. Gender and Development Forum titled, "Orientation on SOGIESC: Understanding Individual Differences for an Inclusive Workplace;
- b. Parallel sessions on the core and organizational competencies for each group;
 - Readers Services- Managing Information Services (Inter-library Loan and Document Delivery Service
 - Technical Services- NLP Databases for Indexing and KOHA updates and New Features
 - Finance and Administrative Services- Audit Rules on Procurement and Inventory Management
 - Competencies of Job Order Personnel
- c. Team Building Activity;
- d. Fellowship Night

There were also parallel sessions tailored for NLP departments--Readers Services Group, Technical Services Group, Administrative Services Group and the Group of Job Order Personnel. Each group were required to submit a Learning Action Plan and Learning Development Report after the sessions. Asst. Director Edgardo B. Quiros and Ms. Maricris Abancia, Information Technology Officer I of ITD, presented updates about the NLP databases for Indexing, including KOHA updates and its new features. The Readers Services on the other hand attended the lecture about Managing Information Services (Inter-library Loan and Document Delivery Services) by Mr. John Christopherson L.T. Fredeluces, Head of Strategic Communication, Research and Marketing of the University Library Diliman - University of the Philippines. For Administrative competencies, Ms. Miriam M. Villanueva, Director IV of the Commission on Audit, discussed the Audit Rules on Procurement and Inventory Management. The last group was facilitated by Ms. Michelle A. Flor, HRMS head and presented proper conduct of NLP Job Orders.

These sessions are intended to support the employees skills and abilities in the respective areas. In-house speakers like Asst. Director Quiros and Ms. Abancia of ITD introduce the new databases for Indexing and KOHA which will be utilized by the staff of Catalog Division, Bibliographic Services Division, Copyright Division and Research and Publications Division. Meanwhile, Ms. Flor was incharge in giving a more comprehensive discussion about the role, duties and responsibilities of Job Order Personnel. It was notes that JO are essential support in the services and processes of NLP. Thus, this will provide additional intervention in the skill development of the JO Personnel. Moreover, The working committee also invited experts in Procurement and Reading Services that provided new learning and unlock new knowledge.

The afternoon session was dedicated for the Team Building activities facilitated by the staff of the resort. Colors of the competing group were also identified:

- Readers Services Group- Moss Green
- Technical Services Group- Burnt Orange
- Administrative Services Group- Maroon

During the Fellowship Night, several employees were given recognition by the organizing committee, and winners of the team building activities were also announced. The night was concluded with the dance/zumba performance of all the employees turning the grand hall into a dance floor. This is indeed a great way to make the bond of every employees more stronger and create positive work relationship.

NLP DIVISION AND SERVICES

BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES DIVISION (BSD)

BSD's main task is to compile the Philippine National Bibliography (PNB) and serves the National Center of Philippines for International Standard Number for books, serials and music (ISBN, ISSN, ISMN). It also indexes serial publications so that they may be found more easily in the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC).

CATALOG DIVISION (CD)

CD ensures that the books of NLP and of affiliated public libraries are properly catalogued. The division is also responsible for the Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) of book publishers. It also sets cataloguing standards in the country and spearheads the use of Resource Description and Access (RDA).

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (CDD)

CDD is responsible for the acquisition and technical processing of books which are then catalogued by the CD and eventually sent to the reading rooms of the NLP or to be allocated to affiliated public libraries. It also issues certifications that permit newspapers to publish legal notices.

COPYRIGHT DIVISION (CoD)

This division is incharge to receive, classify and records copyright applications for registration, prepares copyright registration and deposits certificates and issue copyright certificates. CoD also keeps and preserves copyrighted-registered works and supervises the conduct of public inspection of published materials.

FILIPINIANA DIVISION (FD)

NLP's goal of preserving a comprehensive collection of materials written by Filipinos, as well as materials printed in and about the Philippines are entirely centered in the Filipiniana Division's activities. Theses and dissertations are also maintained by this division.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION (FAD)

This division handles the logistics, human resource development and financial management of the Agency. It implements and executes administrative policies on the organization and functions of the NLP. It is also responsible for the coordination among divisions on administrative support and services.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (ITD)

ITD manages and maintains the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) of the Office. It also conducts free ICT training for NLP staff, public libraries and stakeholders.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION (PLD)

PLD discharges public library functions and campaigns for the establishment, development and maintenance of public libraries in the provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays throughout the country. It also plans and conducts training programs, seminars, workshops, and conferences for public librarians.

REFERENCE DIVISION (RD)

This division maintains reading room services and provides information, reference, and research services from foreign sources. It also has multicultural sections sponsored by foreign governments. RD also provides services for children and young adults such as story-telling and puppetry. Finally, the division also maintains a section for visually impaired clients and those with disability.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION (RPD)

RPD's primary task is the conduct of research and publications. It handles library tours and exhibits for the agency and promotion of NLP programs and services.

**NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICIALS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

CESAR GILBERT Q. ADRIANO
Director IV

EDGARDO B. QUIROS
Director III

JENNIFER B. DIMASACA
Librarian V
Bibliographic Services Division

SUSAN M. ZAMORA
Librarian V
Catalog Division

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Librarian V
Collection Development Division

LORADEL MARTINEZ
Librarian III/Officer-in-Charge
Copyright Division

SUSAN J. FETALCO
Librarian V
Filipiniana Division

FE B. BASAGRE
Chief Administrative Officer
Finance and Administrative Division

LEONARDO P. BERNABE JR.
Information Technology Officer III
Information Technology Division

BLESILA P. VELASCO
Librarian V
Public Libraries Division

DOLORES D. CARUNGUI
Librarian V
Reference Division

MARICEL M. UREÑA
Librarian V
Research and Publications Division



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