



Issue # 2

# rosette



The Official Student Publication of PAREF Woodrose School, Inc.

April 2018

WOODROSE AT  
40 TAKES ON  
SEUSSICAL THE  
MUSICAL

By Andrea Garcia

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GOES ON FIRST  
HOLY LAND  
PILGRIMAGE

By Mina Mata

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The Official Student Publication of PAREF Woodrose School, Inc.



We, the editors, writers, and staff of the Rosette, aim to write and present works that engage our readers intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

We aspire to promote school pride and represent in our craft dynamism, depth, and creativity—

elements that define Woodrose students.

We aim to inspire reflection and to elicit responses from our readers by providing them with thought-provoking insights.

Finally, through our work, we strive to be models of truth and substance, helping Woodrose students develop a broader perspective of life

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# Woodrose at 40 Takes On Seussical the Musical

By Andrea Garcia

Photo by Stan Katindoy



“OH THE things you can think, when you think about Seuss!” For many flag ceremonies now, the Woodrose student body has heard this song echoing throughout the school as they walked through the hallways and to the gym. The entire cast even performed their ensemble number in front of everyone during the last flag ceremony before the actual play. After months and months of recording sessions, costume fittings, and after-school practices, Seussical Jr. was performed at the Globe Auditorium at the Maybank Performing Arts theatre on March 3 and 4. Hundreds of parents, students, and friends showed up to the three sold-out shows to watch the bright, bubbly, and colorful musical. Featuring characters such as the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, and many other lovable characters from the old Dr. Seuss books that most people know and love, the show was an instant success with everyone and was greeted with enthusiastic applause. But how exactly did Seussical Jr. come to life?

It all began with the idea of wanting to do something special for Woodrose's 40th year. Since the production last year, The Woodrose Dream, was such a success, the school wanted to take on something bigger that would involve more people, especially the grade school students. Seussical Jr. was the perfect choice, with its exciting story and diverse characters. The musical was directed by Stephanie Cabañes, who has worked with Woodrose on other school productions, such as My Life in 3 Bags, and the Little Empress. Like the previous productions, the audio from Seussical was all pre-recorded and lip-synched during the play itself. The process started after auditions when the cast was announced. Cast members were excused from class to record their parts with Gabe Austria, a Grade 12 student who worked on the musical as the audio producer. She recorded, mixed, and mastered all the tracks used by the musical, doing the work double as there were two casts. “It was extremely tedious and time-consuming, as I went through each and every track for both casts,” she said when asked about the experience. “But, I was so happy to see the cast bring the story of Seussical from my laptop to the stage.” Soon after the recording was finished, rehearsals started. The large wooden set, which was designed by Woodrose alumna Cay Lorenzo, was brought to Woodrose and placed in the promenade. Students would see the cast hard at work every day, practicing for many hours to get the choreography right.

The cast members' hard work and dedication definitely paid off, as the musical was heralded as a success. Despite difficulties that arose in the process, such as scheduling conflicts, budget constraints, and other unexpected challenges, everyone who worked on the play did a magnificent job of working past these hurdles and making the best of what they had. The result was a production that dazzled family and friends. From a simple idea, Seussical Jr. became a full blown production. Indeed, oh, the things you can think!



# PAREF Appoints New Woodrose Executive Director

By Patty Bufi

Photo by Nicole Morada

IT IS no doubt that the entire Woodrose community has known and grown to love Dr. Severina Villegas, the school's current executive director. That is why it comes off as a shock to many that after working 10 years in the PAREF board and 5 years as Executive Director in Woodrose, she has chosen to step down from her position in favor for a career as a consultant of the Institute for Marriage and Family Development in the University of Asia and the Pacific. Dr. Villegas will end her term on May 31, 2018, while Dr. Maria Gina Rama, the newly appointed Executive Director of Woodrose, will begin her term on June 1, 2018.

Despite the fact that she is about to be considered the school's new director, Dr. Rama isn't an entirely unfamiliar face to a few. In fact, several years ago, she had a brief experience working for Woodrose. After fulfilling her role as a Religion and Spanish teacher, she decided to take the position as the executive director of

PAREF Rosehill, where she has been staying for the past 16 years. There is no term more appropriate and fitting to describe Dr. Rama other than 'servant leader', as fondly coined by Dr. Villegas. According to the latter, the former's experience with working in PAREF schools has put her in a position wherein she's able to pass down the mission and vision of the school, which is 'parents first'. As a true educator and leader, there is no doubt Dr. Rama would be able to meet and even surpass what is expected of her in her position as the school's new director.

But while the idea of having a new head in school is thrilling, everyone can agree that Dr. Villegas will surely be missed. It is with a heavy heart that Woodrose bids its beloved director Dr. Villegas goodbye, but in no time, all can finally greet Dr. Rama with a warm welcome as she takes her place as the new head of the school.



## Woodrose Completes First On-the-Job Training Program

By Ariana Santos

Photos by Alex Rosadia



IN LINE with the Senior High School (SHS) Program, Woodrose had facilitated its first on-the-job training (OJT) program exclusively for the Grade 12 students. This work immersion program was held from November 27 - December 15, 2017. Its purpose was to provide the students with firsthand experience of what work life is like and to help them apply what they learned in

school to real life.

The students had to complete a total of 80 hours of work in the field or company of their preference. This ranged from doing clerical work and filing records in an ophthalmologist's clinic to memorizing doughnut flavors and learning how to make coffee drinks in Krispy Kreme. At the end of the program, they had to complete a portfolio with documentation on their OJT program experience. Evaluation forms regarding their performance were also sent to their supervisors or managers for assessment. This work immersion program gave the students the opportunity to decide on what career path or profession they would ideally pursue.

Grade 12 student Alex Rosadia, completed her OJT program at the De La Salle University Medical Center and worked for her aunt who is an obstetrician-gynecologist. She was able to enjoy various hands-on experiences as she witnessed different surgeries and live births. Moreover, she was also given the opportunity to personally deliver a baby. She realized and shared that, "Being committed and loving your work or what you are doing makes the whole process a bit easier and more fulfilling and meaningful at the same time. It's hard work but in the end, loving what you do will make everything worth it

despite all the tiredness and sleepless nights you would have."

Furthermore, Bella Palma shared what she learned from this work immersion, "Throughout this program, I was able to reflect on the sanctification of ordinary work. Usually tasked to perform mundane activities like clerical work, filing records, and retrieving documents, my most significant learning is to be the best at what I do, no matter what I do."

From a different perspective, Sophia Espina said, "I learned the importance of teamwork and a good working dynamics among coworkers, as it ensures that the customer is satisfied in the most effective and efficient way. I also learned the value of hard work and determination, as this job was certainly not easy, and I only worked there for about 2 weeks."

According to Ms. Criselda San, the Coordinator for Personal Formation of SHS, this OJT program was considered a success, as she was able to see the professionalism the students portrayed in their work immersion. Because the Grade 12 students are equipped with the knowledge, values, and skills they have gained from this work immersion experience, they are more likely to pursue their desired universities and courses with confidence and certainty.



# An Extracurricular Activity Update: January to March

By Nat Roque



ASIDE FROM academic excellence, Woodrose seeks to foster students' talents and skills in their many interests. To take students' learning outside the classroom, clubs and organizations of the High School Department hold field trips, attend seminars, and conduct school-wide activities for students to participate in. From January to March, there were several activities conducted by different student clubs and organizations.

Last January 25 and 26, students from Woodrose Scientific attended the Youth Science Convention held at University of the Philippines, Diliman. They listened to a series of talks from various experts and specialists about the different careers in the sciences and the importance of research in finding innovative solutions for local and global challenges. The following day, January 27, the High School theater club called Black Box participated in an event held at the International School Manila called Fast and Fresh, which is a showcase of 10-minute plays from various schools. One of the members of the club, Gica Clavano, won the Best Actress Award. On the same day, members of the history club Saysay went to Binondo-Escolta for a socio-historical tour. In Binondo, they visited a museum of archeology in Pedro Guevarra public school, two colonial churches, and other historical sites in Old Manila. Afterwards, they walked around Binondo and visited a contemporary museum in the First United Building.

From February 13-16, the Woodrose Artisans collaborated with the Junior High School MAPEH-HE Department and held an art fair in school entitled Salikha. The club conducted an exhibit showcasing artworks made by Junior High School students and organized art competitions for Grade School and High School students. Additionally, the club sold stickers and bookmarks designed by its own members and held watercolor, calligraphy, and oil pastel workshops. Additionally, Acts of Random Kindness or A.R.K. conducted its Spread the Love campaign last February 13-17 in honor of Random Acts of Kindness Day. A big red heart cutout was placed in the doors of each classroom where students can write motivational notes, compliments, and other messages to each other. Moreover, A.R.K. also launched its Share the Love campaign online last February 21. For this campaign, the organization launched a status game where students post a memorable experience of a random act of kindness on their Facebook status. In the status, students also tagged three friends to challenge them to post about a random act of kindness as well. On February 27, Woodrose Dance Crew participated in the National Dance Competition held at the MOA Arena. In the said competition, Woodrose

Dance Crew joined the Senior All Girls Hip Hop Division and placed fifth out of the fourteen schools that performed.

The month of March was packed with a lot of activities for various clubs and organizations. First off for the month, Save Our Surroundings or S.O.S. had its first agricultural trip to Terra Verde Ecofarm and Resort in Maragondon, Cavite last March 3. Members of the org participated in a rice planting activity, learned more about organic farming, and toured the site. Additionally, Students Coalition for Animal Care or SCAC launched a fundraiser last March 7 in partnership with the organization named CARA Welfare Philippines. The org sold enamel pins with the tagline "I Stand For Animal Welfare", as this activity aims to raise funds for CARA Welfare Philippines' campaign to lessen the number of stray animals in the country.

Moving on to the second half of the month, Inklings 2.0 held their spoken word performance last March 16 entitled Seasons 2, a follow-up of the poetry reading conducted last school year. Teachers and students read their own written poems aloud, with several music performances held between intermissions. Then, on March 22, Handog Lusog and Acts of Random Kindness or A.R.K. collaborated to serve breakfast to the auxiliary staff. Members of the organizations volunteered to give breakfast items such as bread, coffee packets, and jams to show appreciation for all the efforts the auxiliary staff has done for the school. Members of Saysay were busy as well, as they participated in a history summit entitled Talastasan-Adhika sa Kasaysayang Bayan held in Sanctuario de San Pablo Resort in San Pablo, Laguna from March 22-23. Conducted by a national organization called Asosasyon ng mga Dalubhasa, May-Hilig at Interest sa Kasaysayan ng Pilipinas or ADHIKA, the first day of the summit was filled with talks and workshops about history, nationalism, and civic duties. On the second day, participants engaged in a lakbay aral of Pandin Lake to understand the dynamics of the environment upon history. And finally, last March 24, Puso-Red Cross Youth Council hosted its yearly blood drive, in partnership with Philippine Red Cross. This school organization will have its culminating activity in April at the Philippine General Hospital.

Definitely, the school's clubs and organizations have been filling this second half of the school year with excitement and motivation for everyone to participate in.





# 10th Graders win Sabayang Bigkas 2018 competition

By Kat Rodriguez

LAST FEBRUARY 28, 2018, selected Grade 10 students of PAREF Woodrose School represented their batch and alma mater as they took part in the Sabayang Bigkas 2018 Contest organized by students from the University of Asia and the Pacific. Winners that earned the 3rd, 2nd and 1st places in the competition will receive cash prizes. The title of the piece they performed was *Invictus: Hinulma sa Bakal, Inukit sa Bundok, Pag-asa ang Kaloob-loob* by Leodivico C. Lacsamana.

The group made their way through the top 4 finalists and competed in the finals last March 7, 2018. Accompanied by God's blessing, PAREF Woodrose emerged as champions and won against PAREF Southridge, PAREF Rosehill, and Scuola Maria as well as 9 other schools who were eliminated during the semi-finals.

Sabayang Pagbigkas is an academic tradition in the Philippines known for its theatrical way of reciting a certain piece wherein the performers could show their appreciation for the country's language. Contributing factors to the criteria include sound, costume, props and most importantly, the group's interpretation of the piece, which comprises of voice and diction.

Junior High School Filipino subject head and Grade 10 Filipino teacher, Mrs. Azucena Tiotangco said that last year's Grade 9 performance was the basis of recruiting members for this inter-school contest. In spite of complications such as busy schedules and limited time for memorization, some students volunteered to participate in the competition. The group's official coach and trainer, Ms. Gina Palmares also mentioned that their practices began the week after the school's Intramurals and Family Day celebration.

In a recent interview with participant Justinne Katigbak, she expressed her thoughts and opinions of what Sabayang Pagbigkas is like behind the curtains.

Justinne states that their practices take lots of dedication and effort since it isn't easy to produce an excellent performance especially with a complicated piece and short period of preparation. However, Justinne claims that seeing the piece come together makes all of the practices very rewarding.

When asked about the values that she and her group have learned so far, she answered: "From this experience, I've learned teamwork, perseverance and time management all in order to make this Sabayang Pagbigkas a successful one."

Everyone must practice teamwork by contributing 110% effort so that our performance can reach its full potential. With each performer being a team player, we had to persevere individually since memorizing the piece and attending daily practices is not an easy task; it requires sacrifice. Also, it was vital that we practice good time management; if not for it, nothing would come together as it is needed for our practices during lunch and after Wednesday classes. We are able to represent our school and break the stereotype that Woodrose students do not appreciate the Filipino language or are unable to speak it."



Source

Sabayang Pagbigkas. (n.d.). Retrieved February 01, 2018, from [https://www.kapitbisig.com/philippines/information/arts-and-literature-sabayang-pagbigkas\\_348.html](https://www.kapitbisig.com/philippines/information/arts-and-literature-sabayang-pagbigkas_348.html)

## Woodrose @ 40

This year, Woodrose has celebrated its Ruby Anniversary. Here are some fast facts about the history of the school:

1. Woodrose opened its first school year in June 1977 at the corner of 4th and Gilmore Streets, New Manila, Quezon City with 10 teachers and 76 students from Grades 1 to 5.

2. The school has served its students under the guidance of the following executive directors:

- Ms. Luisa "Cholang" Lorenzo (1977)
- Ms. Socorro "Corito" Bautista (1984)
- Ms. Ma. Riza Bondal (1994).
- Ms. Delia Udani (1997)
- Dr. Severina Villegas (2013)
- Dr. Maria Gina Rama (2018)

3. The first issue of the school paper, Woodrose Gazette (precursor of the Rosette) was published with Bubbles de Mesa (Batch 1984) as the first Editor in Chief

4. The first high school batch, Class 1984, graduated from Woodrose.

5. In 1988, the Parent Formation Office was formed with Mrs. Marilene Aquino as the first Parent Coordinator.

6. The Chapel was completed and blessed by Jaime Cardinal Sin on January 9, 1992.

7. The Woodrose Student Council was formed with Cheska Ramos (Batch 1999) as the first WSC President.

8. Woodrose was named Center of Excellence in Sports and the Arts by the City Government of Muntinlupa (2001 – 2002).

9. The first Eucharistic Procession with floral carpets was held in Woodrose in 2005.

10. Woodrose was granted a 3-year Level II Accreditation Status by PAASCU (2006 – 2007).

11. Woodrose was granted a 5-year Level II Re-Accreditation Status by PAASCU (2009 – 2010).

12. The K-12 program has been implemented since SY 2012-2013.

13. Woodrose has been granted another 5-year Level II Re-Accreditation Status by PAASCU (2015 – 2016)

14. The Senior High School was established in SY 2016 – 2017.

15. Woodrose has established partnerships with three schools for the student exchange program and has sent students to St. Joseph School and Nagasaki Seido School for Girls in Japan, and Tangara School for Girls in Sydney, Australia (2016 – 2017).





# Woodrose Goes on First Holy Land Pilgrimage

By Mina Mata

Photos by Denise Camacho, Nicole Morada & Thea Saria

LAST FEBRUARY 5, a group of Senior High School students traveled to Holy Land for the school's first retreat-pilgrimage around the Holy Sites in Nazareth and Jerusalem. For their week-long trip, they were accompanied by their Theology teacher and school chaplain, Father Roque Reyes, and the rest of their families, including a few Junior High School students.

Upon arriving in Nazareth, the pilgrims visited the Synagogue Church and Nazareth Village. They were assisted by the local tour guide and archeologist, Murad, throughout the sites. At their last stop, they visited the Basilica of the Annunciation, where Father Reyes gave a meditation about opening up one's heart towards Jesus' calling. They feasted on Israeli delicacies at night and lodged in one of the town's small Franciscan guesthouses.

On the second day, the group toured multiple sites, including the Wedding Church at Cana, where Father Reyes discussed the martyrdom in marriage and the parents of the Woodrose students renewed their wedding vows. The group also visited the Church of the Multiplication in Tabgha, the Church

of St. Peter in Capernaum, and the Church of the Beatitudes in Tiberias. Additionally, they sailed a boat on the Sea of Galilee while Father Reyes spoke of parables relating to the lake and renewed their baptismal vows at the Yardenit Baptismal Site located along the Jordan River.

On the third day, the group hiked up Mount Tabor, where they visited the Church of the Transfiguration. They also rode the bus to Haifa, Israel's third-largest city, to explore the Maris Carmelite Monastery in the afternoon. Upon getting there, Father Reyes held a meditation that focused on the differences between divine and human love.

On the fourth day, the group traveled from Nazareth, Israel to Jerusalem, Jordan. Along the way, they stopped by St. Lazarus' tomb in Bethany, and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where they celebrated Holy Mass. After the ceremony, they visited the exact spot where Jesus was born, and the manger in which he was placed, which moved many of the pilgrims to tears. The group later toured the other scenic sites, such as the Church of the Pater Noster, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Basilica of the Agony. Lastly, they vis-

ited the Church of Dominus Flevit, where they were surprised with a blessing from His Excellency Most Reverend Leopoldo Girelli, Titular Archbishop of Capreae, Apostolic Nuncio to Israel and Cyprus, and Apostolic Delegate to Jerusalem and Palestine.

On the fifth and last day of the pilgrimage, the group performed the Way of the Cross. The students took turns in carrying a wooden cross as they prayed and journeyed by foot from the Via Dolorosa to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the holiest site in all of Christendom. Upon reaching their destination, they kissed the stone on which Jesus was crucified and visited the tomb where he was buried. Afterwards, the group toured the Wailing Wall, the Church of the Visitation in Ein Karem, and the Saxum Foundation's Visitor Center, where the pilgrims concluded their trip with a brief history on the Holy Sites.

Truly, the trip to the Holy Land left a permanent mark on the pilgrims' lives. As Father Reyes said, "I went to the Holy Land with a cold heart, and came back with a burning one. To me, this place means home."





# TRAIN LAW: Attempting to Eradicate Extreme Poverty

By Alexia Dagondon Art by Francine Medalla

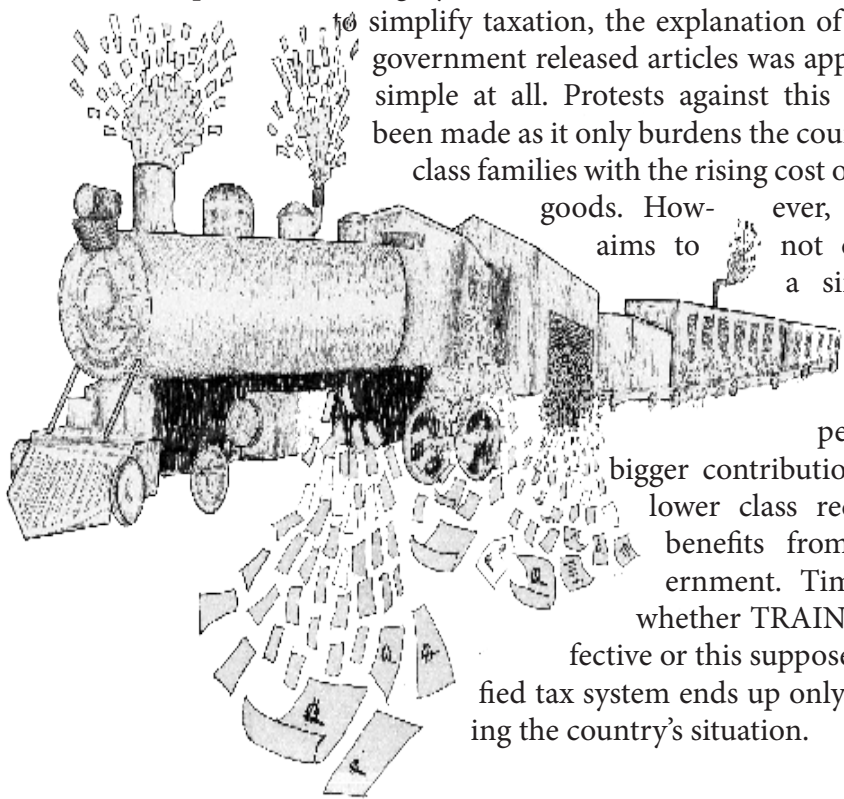
The New Year ushered in not only new beginnings this year, but new reforms to the tax system as well. Republic Act No. 10963 or Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) was fully implemented last January 1, 2018. It aims to simplify the country's tax system, one of the most popular reforms being that all those who earn less than P 21,000 a month are exempted from personal income tax (PIT). Many other tax exemptions were made, enforcing the initiative of TRAIN to promote a fairer tax system. These tax exemptions are not only rights of PWDs (Persons with Disabilities) and senior citizens but are also made for the betterment of the country and its economy, specifically in the areas of health, education, agricultural products, and renewable energy. Sugar-sweetened beverages and tobacco increased in tax in order to promote better health. Petroleum and automobiles were also affected by the new tax system to help contribute to the Philippines' environmental efforts in mitigating the effects of global warming. TRAIN aims to better the nation's education, healthcare services and infrastructure programs with the funds provided by tax reforms.

The newly-implemented tax system's long-term goal hopes to eradicate extreme poverty and achieve high-income status by 2040. However, this proved to be highly controversial as while TRAIN was made

to simplify taxation, the explanation of the law on government released articles was apparently not simple at all. Protests against this reform has been made as it only burdens the country's lower class families with the rising cost of consumer

goods. However, TRAIN aims to not only create a simpler system but to have the upper class give bigger contributions and the lower class receive more

benefits from the government. Time will tell whether TRAIN is truly effective or this supposedly simplified tax system ends up only complicating the country's situation.



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## Woodrose Competes in NCR Palaro

By Chelsea Britanico Photo by Kriselle Castellano



FROM FEBRUARY 5 to 10, 2018, two teams from Woodrose — the Softball and Swimming Varsities — participated in the NCR Palaro 2018, which was held in Pasig City and other venues in Metro Manila. After weeks of dedicated and extensive training, both teams emerged triumphant in their respective games.

The Woodrose Softball Varsity played against several teams from February 5 to 10, 2018 in Rizal High School, Pasig. The varsity placed 3rd amongst 11 other teams. Kriselle Castellano, one of the players, said, "NCR [Palaro] was a way for my team to showcase our skill and camaraderie. We saw what areas we needed to improve on individually, as well as a team. This tournament gave us more motivation and love for the sport. This experience will hopefully help us do better to achieve 1st place."

The Swimming Varsity, on the other hand, competed against several other participants from February 7 to 9, 2018 in the Marikina Sports Complex. Anya Austriaco, a Grade 6 student, won gold in both the 50 meters and 100 meters freestyle, as well as silver in 200 meters freestyle, 200 meters individual medley, and 50 meters butterfly. With 5 gold medals and 3 silver medals, she ranked 2nd in the NCR Palaro swimming top 10 Individual Ranking for elementary girls.

She says, "I feel very happy because all the hard work and effort put into my training finally paid off. To finally stand on the podium made me feel proud for myself, my parents, and my team". According to her, putting love in your sport, loving what you do, and making sure you work hard to get what you want are the secrets behind her success. Indeed, it seems in the NCR Palaro, both teams brought home not only medals but also new learnings and memorable experiences.



### INTRAMS 2017-2018

#### RESULTS LIST



HS SELECT VOLLEYBALL: BLUE  
 HS SELECT SOFTBALL: BLUE  
 HS SELECT TABLE TENNIS (SINGLES): RED  
 HS SELECT BADMINTON (DOUBLES): RED  
 HS TUG OF WAR: RED

CHEERDANCE COMPETITION:  
 4TH PLACE: BLUE  
 3RD PLACE: GOLD  
 2ND PLACE: GREEN  
 1ST PLACE: RED

ATTENDANCE: BLUE  
 OUTFIT (TEAM T-SHIRT): BLUE  
 LEAST NO. OF EXIT PASSES: GOLD  
 MOST ORGANIZED: RED

OVERALL RANKING:  
 4TH PLACE: GREEN  
 3RD PLACE: GOLD  
 2ND PLACE: BLUE  
 1ST PLACE: RED



# SCHOOL YEAR

# HOLY LAND

[illegible]

# EUCHARISTIC PROCES



The collage features several key scenes:
 

- Top Left:** Students in traditional red and white Filipino costumes performing a dance.
- Top Center:** A group of students in yellow and black uniforms, possibly a cheerleading or dance team.
- Top Right:** Students in green and black uniforms performing a dance.
- Middle Left:** Students in blue and white uniforms performing a dance.
- Middle Center:** A large group of students in white and red uniforms standing in a line.
- Middle Right:** Students in white and red uniforms sitting at a table, possibly participating in a game or activity.
- Bottom Left:** A large, colorful floral arrangement.
- Bottom Center:** Students in white and red uniforms performing a dance.
- Bottom Right:** A large group of students in white and red uniforms performing a dance.



# Editorial: You, the Youth, and the Dangers of Post-Truth

## “...the 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution was a product of fake news”

It is truly amazing what out-of-this-world concepts people will think of in this day and age: from artificial intelligence, tree-sprouting used pencils, and solar roof tiles, to heroic embezzling dictators, bloggers-turned-presidential-secretaries, and revisable historical events. Out-of-this-world indeed. We, as a country, have come to the point where even real news is being called fake news. In honor of the recent anniversary of the People Power Revolution and the subsequent social media storm it stirred up, we thought it fitting to add our two cents on the issue: Fake news and its close relative, negative historical revisionism, have become far too dangerous to the country to ignore or normalize. While it is tempting to think the online sphere of social media does not reflect the reality of the situation, the truth is that it more often than not contains a bitter grain of truth: falsified facts and heavily-biased influencers hold great power over public opinion, something we all know is crucial to every democracy.

As Woodrose students, we may find it hard to believe the magnitude of the influence fake news has on people's perspectives. However, we are undeniably privileged with education so focused on critical thinking and source corroboration-- while most just do not have a similar background. If even we, with our lessons and practices in screening truth, can be fooled by the

occasional inaccurate news article or one-sided argument, then how much more dangerous must fake news be to the literal millions of Filipinos without such education? And though it is true, a great number of alternative fact supporters on media are paid to respond in such a way or are simply creating controversy for controversy's sake (AKA trolls), they only add to a bigger problem created by fake news and historical negationism: the lack of unity across the country in calling for justice.

A number of unacceptable abuses of power were brought to light in the past years (eg. Marcos' secret burial in Libingan ng mga Bayani, extrajudicial killing, questionable promotion and firing in government) and yet, these controversies remained only controversies. Perhaps if, like in the previous People Power Revolutions, Filipinos unite in overwhelming opposition against injustice, our collective voices might be heard and heeded like in the democracy our country claims to have. However, even the memory of our first peaceful revolution in 1986 is being doubted at present. If we cannot even agree with each other, testimonies, documentation, and public records on our history of joining together for change's sake, then what more in the future?

Although we find ourselves swimming in fake news articles and cases of historical revisionism and negationism in social media today, one cannot ignore the many people who have continued to take a stand for the truth. Top universities and professors encourage their students to think critically and to listen to the facts, even setting up

Martial Law museums that propagate awareness among the youth about the realities of that time, providing students with avenues to use their talents in art, writing, and design in a meaningful and relevant way. Woodrose even took the time to allow its students to listen to talks about historical revisionism during Linggo ng Wika, and fake news forums are being set up online to promote conversations about these issues. Even generations before ours, people who had the same power to stand up and use their voices took that opportunity and led others towards the truth. With lies parading around as truths to poison the minds of our fellow

citizens, how can we as students, Filipino citizens, and people, not do the same thing? So welcome to the post-truth world. How long are we planning on staying?



## Likha ng mga Pilipino

By Pilar Fernandez Art by Oren Leonida

Kung nagagawi ka sa mga bookstore, ano ang mga karaniwang librong makikita mo? Hindi ba ang mga libro mula sa iba't ibang bansa tulad na lamang ang mga libro ni John Green? Habang nasa harap mo ang mga librong ito, ang mga isinulat ng mga Pilipinong manunulat ay inaalikabukan, nasa sulok at hindi binibigyan ng halaga. Indikasyon na kaunti lang ang nagbibigay nang pansin sa panitikan ng Pilipinas at sa mga Pilipinong manunulat. Mas sikat ang pagbabasa ng mga libro sa Ingles kaysa sa mga librong nasa wikang Filipino. Halos pareho ang sitwasyong ito sa industriya ng mga pelikula sa Pilipinas. Sa sinehan, minsan lang makikita ang mga pelikulang ginawa ng mga Pilipino sapagkat, marahil na maraming dayuhang pelikula ang mapapanood. Dahil dito, nalilimutan ang kagandahan at kaibahan ng mga Pilipinong pelikula at kasulatan. Ang mga likha ng mga Pilipino ay isang pamamaraan nang pagpapakita ng pagkatao at kultura nating mga Pilipino. Ito ay hindi makikita sa anuman na dayuhang libro o pelikula sapagkat ang kanilang pagkatao ay hindi karaniwan angkop sa ating kultura. Maaaring sabihin na kailangan ipagpahalaga ang ating mga manunulat at ang mga lumilikha ng pelikula upang hindi malimutan ng mga Pilipino ang mga pundasyon ng bayan tulad ng kanilang paniniwala at kultura.

Kailangan natin tandaan na mayroon tayong panitikang Filipino kagaya na lamang ang mga librong isinulat nila Bob Ong at Lualhati Bautista na nagpapahalaga sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas. Ang nobela ni Bob Ong na MacArthur ay naglalahad ng walang katapusan na paghihirap at pagsubok na nararanasan ng mga mamamayang Pilipino tulad na lamang ang pagdedesisyon kung ano ang tamang kilos upang makamit ang kanilang pangaraw-araw na pangangailangan. Isa pang halimbawa ay ang librong Dekada '70 ni Lualhati Bautista. Ito ay isang koleksyon ng mga salaysay



ng mga babaeng biktima ng Martial Law. Sinulat niya ito upang maibahagi ang dahas na nararanasan ng mga biktima nang naganap ang Martial Law at ang mga nakakayamot na katotohanan tungkol sa pamamahala ni Ferdinand Marcos. Makikita sa dalawang libro ang pagpapahalaga sa hustisya at moralidad ng mga mamamayang Pilipino. Samakatuwid, ang pangarap ng mga Pilipino para sa mabuting kinabukasan ng kanilang kababayan at pamilya ay ang dahilan ng kanilang kalakasan at katiyagaan sa mga pagsubok na hinaharap at haharapin nila sa kanilang buhay.

Sa industriya ng pelikula, mayroon din na mga pelikulang nagpapakita ng kultura at kasaysayan ng Pilipinas. Halimbawa na lamang ang pelikulang Ang Larawan ni Loy Arcenas. Ito ay tungkol sa pagkatao ng mga Pilipino at kung paano naimpluwensyahan ng kasaysayan ng Pilipinas ang kultura nating mga Pilipino. Ang mga bida ng pelikula, ang dalawang magkapatid na babae, ay nahihirapan sa kanilang desisyon: kung ibebenta ang huling larawan ng kanilang ama sa mga dayuhan upang makakuha lamang ng pera para sa bahay na matagal na nilang tinitirahan. Sila ang simbolo ng pagsisikap para sa pagpapanatili ng kanilang pagkatao bilang mga Pilipino na maaaring makita sa kasalukuyang panahon sa pamamaraan ng pagpapanatili ng mga relikulo, pamana, at tradisyon na nanggaling sa mga sinaunang Pilipino. Isang halimbawa nito ay ang paggawa ng mga batas na maprotektahan ang mga Indigenous Peoples. Dahil hindi sila naimpluwensyahan ng mga pagbabagong naganap noon at nagaganap sa kasalukuyan, sila ang nagpapanatili ng mga paniniwala ng mga sinaunang Pilipino sa buong Pilipinas. Sa huli, kailangan bigyan ng pansin ang mga Pilipinong pelikula at kasulatan upang hindi natin malimutan na ang mga ito ay mga pamamaraan upang malaman ng mga sumusunod at susunod pa na henerasyon ang katotohanan tungkol sa ating kasaysayan, pagkatao, at kultura; at upang mas mag-ing banyag sa mga Pilipino ang paggamit ng ating inang wika, ang wikang Filipino, kaysa sa Ingles. Sa gayon, mapapanatili ang kultura nating mga Pilipino at sisikat lalo ang paggamit ng wikang Filipino.



# Do artists, writers, and filmmakers have the obligation to be socio-political in their works in this current day and age?

By Kat Morales & Simone Yatco    Art by Coco Lee

## YES

The debate of whether or not writers and artists are obligated to be political in their works has been ongoing for years. However, one must understand that politics is the essential and fundamental backbone of an entire nation, and it would be a mistake to not critique, comment, or write about such a thing. Writers and artists are obligated to make their works political if they deem it necessary for the public to be informed or see a situation in that perspective. Aristotle himself concluded that “man, by nature, is a political animal.” There is almost nothing in our world that is not in some way political.

Politics affect almost everything a nation goes through, whether or not people agree. The authority and the laws mandated nationwide are factors of what occurs around us, even in small ways. There are many people who are uneducated about the news and controversies surrounding a nation's politics and governance, and it is a writer's obligation to speak the truth. Writers and artists can help people form their opinions and views on one's surroundings based on facts and objective truths. It is not the writer's fault as to whether politics is involved in anything he writes about. According to Biljana Puric, a staff writer and editor of Widewalls, “art has served its given purpose and has been influenced and shaped by different social conditions and circumstances.” In the modern world, interpreting the signs and events that occur to us is essential in one's life and understanding how society works. Art, in its most basic form, has the power to convey messages that may open its viewers' perspective of the world around them. Art is obligated to have a social relevance because there is no other purpose as for expression and communication. “Art has never been just a personal reflection of an artist, unengaged from the world. It was always dialogical and confound within a web of contextual meanings,” says Puric.

Annette Blum, an activist in media, politics and social action in the arts, says that “the intersection of arts and political activism are two fields defined by a shared focus of creating engagement that shifts boundaries, changes relationships and creates new paradigms”. She says that “both activist and artist work in the challenges of the unknown and the unpredictable, never truly able to determine the outcome and forever questioning if there is more to be done”.

From another perspective, writer and artists are allowed their freedom of speech and expression about any kind of topic they believe is important and necessary to relay to the public. Their right to an opinion and their right to express it should be acted upon. Celebrities, as well known as they are, are allowed to express their opinions and advocacies on politics very publicly. There should be no difference with writers and artists.

It is important to remember that writers have a certain influence on their readers, relaying messages and news to the public. Artists, too, have a special and unique way of expressing the deeper meaning and messages of certain occurrences and affairs. The writer's influence on the public must be used wisely, and a very important thing many must learn to pay more attention to is politics. The influence writers and artists have on their audience is quite impactful, for they inform the readers of the many facts involved and shape the perspective the reader may have. Making use of politics in certain news and situations should not harm anyone, for as long as the writer stays true to the facts and retains a certain objectivity.

It is not a sin for a writer and an artist's work to be political, as many critics have judged it to be. As it is their right to freedom of expression and it is their obligation to speak the complete truth about anything they write, politics will always be involved. It is the way the world and a country works, and it is a privilege and responsibility for writers and artists to convey these messages, political or not. It would be a sin to deprive others of the truth, and it would be a loss to hinder what is actually important in the work artists and writers give to us.

## NO

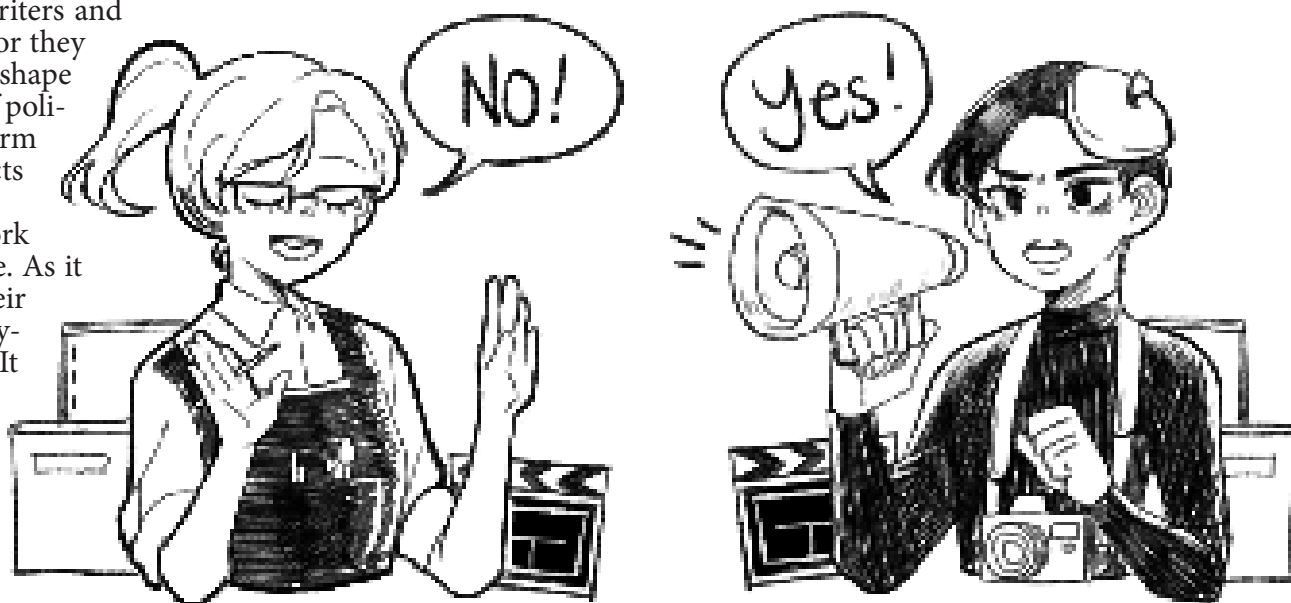
There is a strong expectation nowadays that all art has to mean something serious. In light of the negative events that occur regularly all over the world, some may feel a need to express their opinion in their art, whether it be in a film, an essay, or a painting. In an article titled “Is Political Art the Only Art That Matters Now?”, writer Carl Swanson addresses the rise in political art after Trump's election, and how this constant stream of statements through artwork has not let up. Even Pablo Picasso once said that art is an instrument of war, that an artist is a political being. However, in a world that is so political already, does our art always have to be the same?

I believe that artists, filmmakers, and writers should not have the obligation to be political in their works. Art that reflects a political statement can cause controversy that can very much harm either the viewers or even the artist himself. The artist may be bashed because of people who do not agree with his statement. This can also result in incidents of vandalism. In 2014, there was an attack on an exhibition that featured political and nationalistic artwork expressing sentiments about the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. There was even a visitor that was later harmed by the vandals. Likewise, in 2015, 12 people were killed in an attack on a Paris-based satirical magazine due to their controversial political cartoons. This is despite the fact that the artists worked under pen names.

Additionally, one cannot just assume that all creators are inclined to be political within their work. By making political statements obligatory within art, unwilling artists are then forced to express political statements just to establish their reputation in the art community. This may pressure these artists to agree with popular beliefs in order for more people to consume their art. Thus, their art and audience are limited. If anything, forcing a political meaning in art doesn't harm the audience — ironically, it harms the artist himself.

Moreover, one must remember that sometimes art is to be consumed freely and as a form of enjoyment. Not all art is serious; a lot of it is meant to entertain. There are forms of art that are meant to be seen as is or just because it is interesting. An example of such is conceptual art. Lastly, art should not force a meaning that is political but instead allow the viewer to internalize what he sees in a way that is specific to him. Each interpretation of art is different — that is the nature and fact of art. Otherwise, the viewer will not see anything but that political statement. Being political within something that is meant to be expressive and free is antithetical to the idea of art.

While politics in the arts can truly incite a change in people, it is not true to the meaning of art for it to be obligatorily political. Because if it is, how is this an actual expression of the artist? Once there is something to be expected of art, how can one say that it is true and genuine? Once there is something to be expected of art, how is the art community not compromised or limited? Once there is something to be expected of art, what are we really seeing?



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In celebration of Women's Month in March, these two articles were written to help understand the history and current situation of women.

## A Brief Background on Feminism: Women Making Waves

By Ella Navarrete Art by Julianne Catalan

FOR CENTURIES, gender roles have existed in society. Women have been treated unequally and this inequality has been seen in society ever since—until women began to stand up for their rights. This sudden change brought forth the Feminist Movement. Feminism, according to Merriam-Webster, is the “theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes”. The terms “feminism” or “feminist” first appeared in 1872 in France and the Netherlands (as *les féministes*). Despite being used in multiple public speeches, such as in Katherine Hepburn’s acceptance speech after winning the 1942 film of the year, these terms gained traction only in the 1970s.

According to Dorey-Stein (2015), the history of feminism can be summarized into three “waves”. The first wave feminism, also known as the Suffrage Movement, started from the 1830s to the early 1900s, wherein women fought for legal issues, primarily women’s suffrage (the right to vote). In other words, this wave promoted the idea that women have the potential to contribute just as much in politics or leadership opportunities outside of the home.

The next wave began in the early 1960s until the late 1980s wherein other issues concerning equality were highlighted such as discrimination in class, gender, and especially color. Since discrimination was apparent during this time, they felt that gaining the respect of other co-ed organizations was necessary to be able to address their concerns. In simpler terms, the second wave serves as a continuation of the first wave of feminism in advocating for equality among genders.

Finally, the third wave refers to the period of activity in the early 1990s up to the present time. This wave emerged not only to address the shortcomings and perceived failures of the second movement but to also respond to the strong and adverse reactions raised against it. Women were able to define for themselves what feminism is or what it can become by incorporating their own identities into their belief system. In fact, this can be seen in the emergence of feminist theories and currents such as Black Feminism and Post-modern feminism.

While the feminist movement has proven itself to be exemplary in promoting equality of the sexes, others may disagree. There are men and women alike who support gender equality but absolutely abhor the word “feminism”. This word actually instills an immediate, powerful, and usually negative response for it symbolizes the unpleasant interaction between the

two sexes. Sadly, the name of the feminist movement has been slandered by modern day allegations that women are dominant over men.

There are still foreseen gaps in gender equality. It is inevitable that women have certain physical, mental, social, or emotional differences from men but, the fact that women are doing better now than before, in terms of employment in the past decade, cannot be ignored. In fact, women’s rights have greatly developed throughout the years and the independence that women gained from it is a great feat. Hopefully, in the coming years, the “fourth” wave, which focuses on achieving justice for women and opposition to sexual harassment and violence against women, will be able to contribute erasing the divide in gender equality.



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## Millions Return to the Streets for 2018 Women’s March

By Moira Bongcayao Art by Sabine Guinto

LAST JANUARY saw millions of men and women marching in the streets of cities from around the world to rally for advocacies of women during the 2018 Women’s March. The protests, led by co-chairmen, Tamika Mallory, Carmen Perez, and Bob Bland, was a reprise of last year’s event and was scheduled on January 20 and 21, 2018. Hundreds of thousands of people returned to the streets carrying signs, banners, and tarps that advocated for the equal rights and opportunities for women. People from all around the world joined the cause in their own way, with some from Antarctica, Australia, Germany, and Japan. In the United States, some of the largest rallies happened in New York, Chicago, Washington, and San Francisco. The main event, entitled Power to the Polls, was held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The title of the event comes from one of the central messages of the 2018 Women’s March. While civil rights policies were still advocated, the event highlighted the United States’ midterm elections that will take place this coming November. The Las Vegas rally, held in a large football stadium, was a kickoff for Women March Inc.’s national voter registration tour. Several speakers encouraged women to utilize their votes in the coming elections, especially as voter registration is more difficult in the States and voter turnout is considerably low at about 50%.

Another major rally was the “March on the Polls” in Washington D.C., which also aimed to get more women involved in the politics. Senator Kristen Gillibrand spoke to the crowds and encouraged them to “support Democratic candidates all across the country,” as they campaigned in the actual November elections.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, “Elect Women!” was one of the cries of the crowd, which swelled to above 300,000 people. Among them was a member of the League of Women Voters of Chicago, Laura Ring, who was encouraging the participants of the event to vote. “In addition to marching, we have to be involved by getting everyone to vote,” she mentioned.

However, women didn’t just rally and offer their votes and support. This 2018, a record number of women are running for office. There is a minimum of 602 women likely to run for statewide office and Congress. In the previous 2014 elections, there were only about 321 potential female candidates. Meanwhile, at least 79 women are running for governor, while over 26,000 women also reached out about the prospect of launching a campaign to EMILY’s List, a political action committee that assists women candidates.

Today, the lack of women in office generally leads to them being underrepresented in the government. However, this year’s Women’s March has inspired women to become more involved in politics, be it by running or voting. This will not only lead to better representation of women in government but also to varying perspectives that can positively influence an administration’s decisions. Furthermore, giving women more leadership roles in society helps them combat oppression and changes what people believe women are really capable of.



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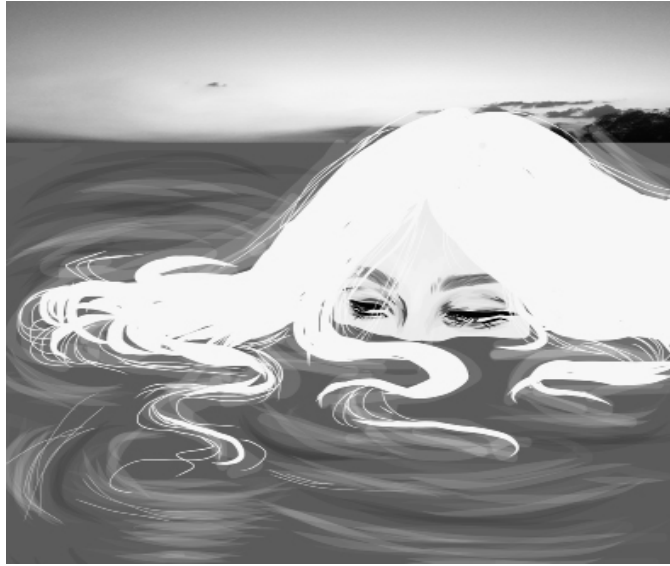
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# The Mental Health Discussion: A Response

By Francine Quilian Art by Yanyan Duran

WITH THE topic of mental health becoming a more prominent issue in school, students have expressed their desire for the atmosphere surrounding the discussion of mental health to become more open and less judgemental. Currently, students immediately associate the term, “mental health” with ideas of mental illness, which leads to students’ discomfort and even fear to openly discuss mental health issues with teachers and other students who are not close friends of theirs. This has caused an even more pressing, yet often ignored, concern among students who choose to stay silent when they feel like they are struggling with their emotions. However, members of the school’s faculty and staff responded to the issue and shared their thoughts on the topic of mental health and how it could be addressed.



According to Mrs. Agnes Yasay, a former psychologist of the school and current Grade 12 teacher for Developmental Psychology, there is a general misconception about mental health. “Mental health is not only having mental illness or mental problems,” she says. “Mental health is the overall disposition of a person. It’s keeping a balance to your everyday life: your academic life, your social life, even your family life. When you’re able to handle all of these, you’re able to handle your strong emotions... it means you have a very good understanding and handling of your life on a daily basis.”

Ms. Michelle Calsado, the head of the school’s Guidance Department, also released a similar statement. She says that students’ perception of mental health has been narrowed to merely the “problems,” such as depression and anxiety, when the discussion of the issue is not limited to the illnesses alone. According to her, there are also positive ways to talk about mental health, such as the discussion on how to improve and properly care for it.

She also discussed the school’s current means of reaching out to students who are struggling in school. She stated that the Guidance Department works closely with the Personal Formation Council, and is also in charge of its own programs that address the stigma against mental health issues. Counseling sessions could be recommended for students who are experiencing academic, emotional or behavioral problems in school. She mentioned as well that if counselors are unable to address the concerns of the student in need, they can refer the student to an outside specialist.

Upon enumerating the help that the Guidance Office is offering the students, she also shared her concern for the students’ impression of the Guidance Office. She said that the role of the Guidance Office is not a place where students who are struggling to keep a balanced life are made to go to feel that something is wrong with them or that they are a problem. She wants students to see the Guidance as a place where they can seek help from people who will listen, understand and will try to find a solution to their concerns by being positive and proactive. Ms. Calsado also revealed that the Guidance Department is currently in the middle of conceptualizing a school-wide mental health program aimed to not only educate about and prevent mental illness but also to promote positive mental health.

Towards the end of their interviews, the teachers had their own parting messages for the student body. Mrs. Yasay emphasized the connection between physical health and mental health, and how it is in learning to take care of oneself physically that the strength to handle strong emotions and stress will follow. Moreover, Ms. Calsado made clear the importance of being able to find trustworthy adults in the school that one could talk to within the school. She said that although people’s discomfort and reluctance toward the subject of mental health may make it difficult for the conversation to begin, communication is the key to a healthy discussion about the topic. True understanding and proper perspective of the situation are also needed to achieve a fruitful discussion.

With all that has been said by the school’s representatives, it is with great hope that Woodrose will be seeing a more welcoming atmosphere towards the discussion of mental health in the near future. Forthcoming discussions of the topic are expected to be more prevalent, encouraging, and fruitful as the school community acquire a greater understanding of mental health and an improved attitude towards it.

# The True Meaning of Intrams

By Sophia Medalla Photos by Trina Camacho

AMONG THE biggest mysteries of Woodrose, aside from the haunted basement of the gym and the traffic that occurs exactly when you arrive at the gate, is how all of us students seem to have this unrelenting love for Intramurals—more specifically, for our teams, whether it be the Green Griffins, the Blue Phoenixes, the Red Conquerors, or the Gold Lions. The extent to which we exert ourselves during Intrams is tremendous; from the cheers and dances meant to represent our teams to each fold and brushstroke seen in the various props. The Woodrose Intramurals is a unique experience that expresses the characteristics and values of each team.

Even if one were to compare our Intrams to that of other schools, Woodrose’s Intrams seems to have this unique distinction that allows us to develop a fierce devotion to our respective teams. Yes, we may be alike to other schools in the sense that we have a pep squad and different teams, but the essence of Woodrose’s Intramurals is our unique love for it. We don’t mind staying out in the rain to play softball or spending a margin of our allowance buying candy for the grade school kids. We put a tremendous amount of effort (there is never too much) into this event, even if the reward may seem minimal. The hours of intense practice and polishing under the sun do not go to waste. The reward of Intrams is not just the trophy, nor the bragging rights, but the ecstatic feeling each one of us receives knowing that we’ve done our best for our team, with the hopes that we can do better next time.

Is it graded? No. Is it required? Not particularly. Is it a great experience to make new friends and show your love for your second family? Definitely. Intrams is not just about 3 minutes of flashy dancing and costumes, but rather the sweat and tears that each and every student gives up for their team. The after-school practices, the smell of spray paint, and the due dates of pompoms all remind us in our heads of seemingly dreadful experiences—but walking around the gym during the Parade of Colors, seeing the banners represent our chosen theme, and celebrating for the games that we won are what make Intrams so worth it and so enjoyable. It may not make sense to those who aren’t students of Woodrose, but Intrams is a special part of our culture, a yearly event that motivates us to attend school on time, submit reply slips, and do all that we can in order to make our team proud. For as we grow from little grade school students learning basic addition to the high school students nervous for college entrance exams, the spirit of Intrams within us grows as well. Through the years, Woodrose students never fail to develop a flourishing love for their respective teams; simply because these teams give each one of us a sense of pride and family. We, as teammates, are given the opportunity to build each other up and form camaraderie in a new way, all for the love of our teams and for the glory of God. Really, the question is not how we can love Intrams as we do, but how can we not?





## Moving Pictures

By Katrina Moñozca Photo by Ela Banaag



"I always say that I make moving pictures, [not just because] the images are moving one after the other, but that the picture moves you. You are moved in the way that your characters are moving. How are they moving? They are moving from fear to faith. At the start of your movie, your characters are afraid. They are afraid of something, or they are afraid of something within themselves—but at the end of the movie, do you think they can overcome whatever it is they are afraid of? And then they become successful in the way they overcome that fear. They live a life of faith, they live a life of love, and they live a life of hope. And in a way, they say, when you make stories, you weave a dream for your characters. You allow your characters to dream, but you also allow your audience to dream. They dream a better life for themselves because they saw it happening in the movie." --Vanessa Valdez

Vanessa Valdez is a well-known screenwriter for Star Cinema and a Woodrose alumna. She has expressed her artistry and skill in many Filipino films such as *Seven Sundays*, *Everyday I Love You*, *Four Sisters and a Wedding*, *One More Chance*, and many more critically acclaimed movies focused on the themes of fear and love. Last January 27, she presented a talk in Narra Nueva Study Center about her career and her passion for it, and what she believes others can gain through her work—to inspire a greater sense of family and love in each listener.

With every film Vanessa makes, she tells a story. According to her, "Our brains are hardwired to process stories, to survive our physical, social, and individual and inner worlds. Stories help us to live vicariously through the characters, opening our eyes to what we are already doing and what we desire the most." There is no doubt that her films are not only heart-warming and appealing, but also highly relatable and familiar to the audience. The themes of her movies are prevalent in the different relationships of the characters, making it easier for viewers to process the movie and connect to it on a deeper level. Her movies expose the realities of life—thus, Vanessa aims to make her films a "handbook for life" for dealing with fear and love. She said, "We give stories of life, hope, and love because stories allow us to experience vicariously in situations we have not yet encountered just in case we find ourselves in those situations."

Vanessa's inspiring screenwriting is rooted in her care and consideration for what the audience will feel after leaving the cinema. "As much as possible, when I make a movie, I have to think of what you as the audience—when you watch it—what will you get out of it? Will you leave the cinema with hope, or will you leave the cinema even more afraid to engage the world, to engage with life? [What we want with] movies at Star Cinema is to come out of it with hope, you come out of it with a lot of faith in yourself and faith in other people. And the best thing you can realize about being human is you can love. [It doesn't have to be] romantic love, it could be love for family, love for God."

Vanessa is attentive to each word she writes, understanding the impact her words have on the story and on the audience, stating that "the reward that you get when you make movies is that you know that the people who see it are able to love again." No doubt, her films are worth watching as they are a reflection of us-- of humanity, and our struggles with fear and love.

## A Snapshot: The Portrait

By Tim Marasigan Art by Janin Puyat

Movie musicals aren't a new thing, but as far as the Philippine cinematic industry is concerned it can be said that they are. It is for that reason that the well-loved film *Ang Larawan*, which bagged the coveted Best Picture Award for the 2017 Metro Manila Film Festival, definitely shined because of its novelty. It was inspired by *A Portrait of the Artist* as a Filipino, a three-act play written by National Artist for Literature, Nick Joaquin. Moreover, National Artist for Theater Rolando Tinio wrote the libretto that transformed the popular play into a musical. Its cast was a great mix of theater veterans—Joanna Ampil, Cris Villonco, Menchu Lauchengco—and Filipino pop movie names such as Paulo Avelino, Ogie Alcasid, and Rayver Cruz. Even the movie's production team consisted of familiar names, one of whom is Ryan Cayabyab, the film scorer. The film presented an off-beat feel of a somewhat modernized version of Old Manila that seemed to work in telling a story that touches on themes like family, love, and fame.

This mood seemed to resonate even in the first few minutes of the film, which starts off as black and white. It may even remind one of Rizal's *Noli Me Tangere*, probably not only because of the "old Philippines" vibe but also because of the playfulness of certain dynamic characters that was mixed so well with the dramatic flares of the movie's musical aspect. The story follows two sisters, Candida and Paula Marasigan, who have been going through a financial crisis so dire that their older siblings are considering of moving them out of their house. Their father had created his obra maestra for them—a painting which has caught the attention of buyers, newspapers, and even the government. The sisters are forced, however, to weigh the decision of selling the painting in order to rid themselves of the shame of being in a financial crisis. Needless to say, the movie unfolds in such an alluring way that keeps audiences captivated until the end. The visuals were pleasing; each scene was truly much like a vintage snapshot of an almost historical view of the Philippines. From the costumes and the set design, the movie captured Filipino culture in its essence. The film has a number of humorous scenes that were delivered well in what may be described as classic Filipino humor, as well as cameos of celebrities that audiences would appreciate if they were regular watchers of locally-made films.

What was interesting was how the film and theater elements were married so well. The musical aspect was close to an actual theater performance, especially since actual theater actors and actresses were the ones playing the parts. Meanwhile, the film paid homage to the actual play as

the portrait was also never explicitly shown, elevating the overall theatrical feel of the movie. It's no wonder the film

garnered all the well-deserved awards that it did. It is a carefully and intricately crafted work of art that transcends different kinds of audiences. The film itself is a good indicator of the newly forged path that a whole new generation of local films may possibly take—a path that indeed leads to a very bright future in the Philippine entertainment industry.





## By la Barrientos

By Kass Cantos

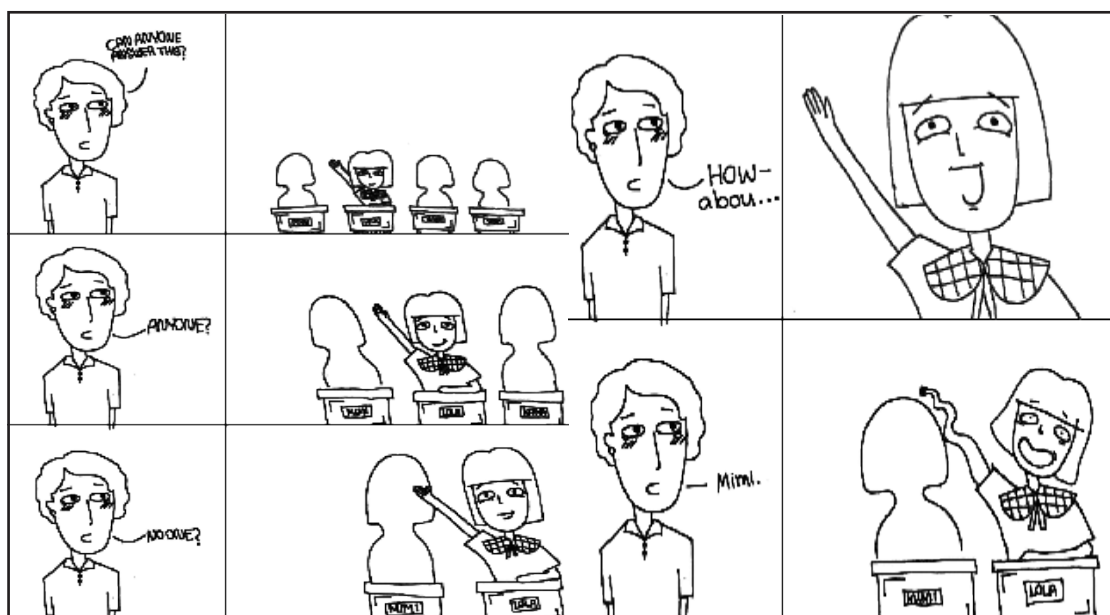
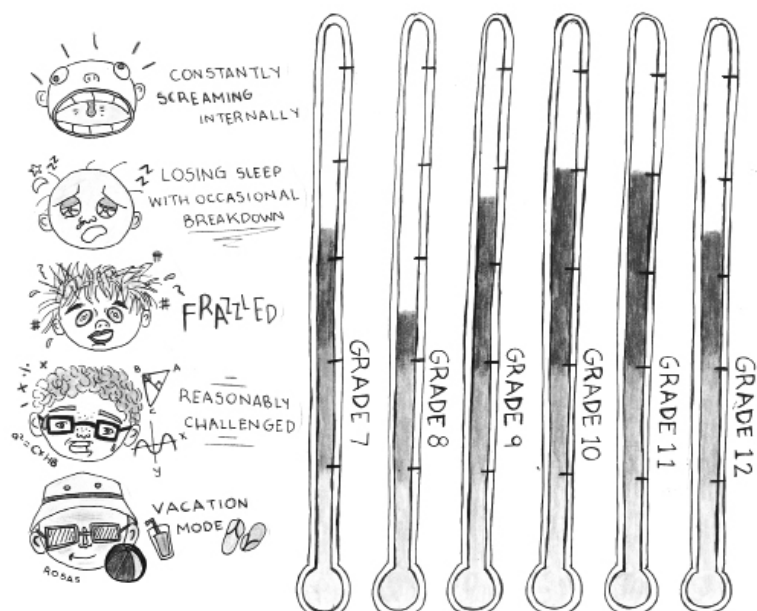
M.I.A

MISSING IN ACTION



By Mia Abalos

By Anya Rosas

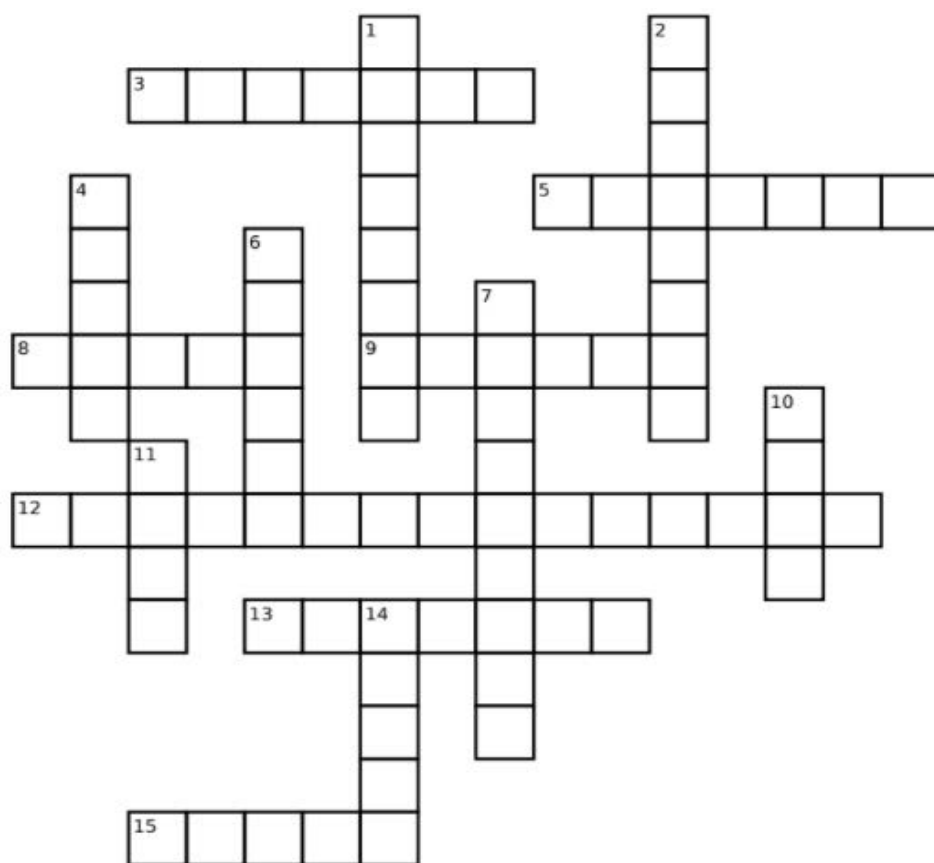


## DOWN

1. Last name of current executive director
2. First name given to intramurals
4. Last name of the current intrams head
6. Last name of the current senior high school principal
7. Last name of the current Woodrose Student Council president (SY 2017-2018)
10. Last name of the current online editor of Rosette
11. Color of latest intrams team formed
14. Last name of first Woodrose Student Council president (SY 1999-2000)

## ACROSS

3. Last name of current junior high school principal
5. Name of street where Woodrose was first built
8. Last name of current editor-in-chief of Rosette
9. Name of the street where Woodrose is currently located
12. First name given to school newspaper
13. Last name of the first alumna to be appointed as school board chairperson
15. Last name of the current Woodrose chaplain



1. Villegas 2. Field Day 4. Bunag 6. Adajar 7. Palaganas 10. Mata 11. Gold 14. Ramos 3. Vertido 5. Gilmore 8. Tapia 9. Acacia 12. Woodrose Gazette 13. Lorenzo 15. Reyes



# PH Ultimate Women's Team Heads to Perth

By Carmina Ashley Manabat    Photos by Chelsey Aquino

THE PHILIPPINE Ultimate Women's team, Binibinis, engaged in a 1-week ultimate tournament in Perth, Australia. The tournament, which ran from January 7 - 13, 2018, is more widely known as the World U24 Ultimate Championships. U24 brought together 100 athletes from countries such as Italy, India, Germany, USA, Taipei, Sweden, Ireland and many others to compete in this event.

There was an array of talent and grit that composed Binibinis which included Woodrose's very own Stella Escasa and Chelsey Aquino, whose journey to the National team was a harrowing one but well worth it. "Due to recovery from my ACL injury, I was unable to make the tryouts which was the initial process of getting into the National team. Shortly after coming back from my injury, one of the coaches' of the Women's PH National team was pleased with my performance during my first tournament since I was injured. He, along with the other head coach, then invited me to play for the National team," says Chelsey. Other members of Binibinis include Angela Titular, Annika Cruz, Anya Santos, AJ Baliong, Bianca Paras, Gabbey Rodil, Gale Gochangco, Gika Nasis, Isabel Weber, Jam Macaraeg, Jessica de Leon, Jessica Resch, Mabby Trvino, Mae Jaspio, Mica Bautista, Sam Gonzales, Zashi Pelegrino. In U24, the team competed against teams such as Japan, Canada, and Singapore.

Despite not winning any games, Binibinis made Philippine history by being the first all-female ultimate team to enter U24 and, in doing so, greatly commits to the team's aim of the "development of women in Ultimate". Stella Escasa says, "I was very happy with the results of the tournament despite not winning any games. The improvement of every player and of the whole Philippine team was very evident as each day passed. We learned from every loss and continued working together, maintaining the spirit of the game. The scores and losses didn't matter because we all gained experience that will definitely change us forever."



## Woodrose Ultimate Varsity: Champions of DiscOlympics 2018

By Joey Abesamis    Photos by Mika Medina

LAST FEBRUARY 10-11, 2018, the Woodrose Ultimate Frisbee Varsity traveled to Clark, Pampanga to compete in the 2nd DiscOlympics Tournament. They triumphed as champions against 4 teams in the High School Women's Division. The varsity competed against Aviatrix from Assumption Antipolo, Deadpull from CSA Laguna, Katipuneras from Miriam College, and PISAY Women's. They won all 4 games on the first day of the tournament, which sent them straight to the semi-finals on the last day of the tournament. In the semifinals, the team played a challenging game against Deadpull from CSA Laguna and emerged victorious with a score of 7-5. Their winning streak was not broken, for the team won the intense battle for 1st place against PISAY Women's with a score of 10-5. In addition to emerging as champions of the High School Women's Division, several of the team's outstanding players won individual awards. Grade 12 student Chelsey Aquino was awarded Tournament MVP for the High School Women's, and Grade 12 students Stella Escasa, Andrea Abaya, and Ysabel Delos Santos, all earned individual spots in the Mythical 7, the top 7 players in the High School Women's Division.

The team captain, Mika Medina, found the overall experience of the tournament to be challenging but worthwhile. She states, "At first I felt like we were entering unprepared but then our coaches would constantly remind us that we already had it in us—all we needed was to push ourselves and to be more confident. Eventually, that showed and we were able to bag first place once again!"

"During the tournament itself, personally one of the challenges for me as a senior player was trying to be more patient with the team. I was able to overcome that by trying to bring the spirit up amongst my teammates, especially the younger ones, so that everyone can continue to push their hardest and be positive when playing," Medina continued. Additionally, she proudly states that her favorite part of the experience was allowing the younger players to step up and show what they could bring to the team, which was very fulfilling to see as a senior player.

This is the second tournament wherein the Ultimate Varsity championed this school year 2017-2018. The team aims to triumph as champions once again in the National Ultimate Collegiate Championships (NUCC) this coming June.