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Inauguration of the Quezon City Public Library's (QCPL) Women and LGBTQIA+ Collection

By: Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon

The Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) proudly launched its new Women and LGBTQIA+ corner on June 26, 2025. The collection featured a wide array of books, periodicals, and other learning materials focusing on gender and sexual studies, women's rights, and LGBTQIA+ narratives.

The successful launch commenced with QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico honoring all distinguished guest for their support in her opening remarks. The attendees who graced this special event to promote gender inclusivity and diversity were the following: Councilor Maria Eleanor R. Juan, Chairperson on Women, Family Relations, and Gender Equality; QC District I Action Officer Olivier Belmonte; QC District III Action Officer Atty. Thomas John Thaddeus F. de Castro; GAD Council Officer Head Janet Oviedo; Babaylanes, Inc. Executive Director Jap Ignacio; and Education and Training Staff Center for Women Resources Program Assistant Nikki Santos.



Spearheaded by Mx. Ernani Agulto together with the QCPL GAD committee, the launch of QCPL's Women and LGBTQIA+ corner aims to provide a quiet study area with thoughtfully curated collection of resources that invokes a sense of belongingness and safety to all QCitizens.

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City Librarian's Corner



In the second quarter of this year, many opportunities were presented to the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) to further its desire to be a safe space for every QCitizen.

Headed by the QCPL-GAD Committee, the QCPLib Talk Series: Usapang Pride was held on June 30, 2025. This is second in the series of seminar that features experts in various fields to discuss about important concepts and issues surrounding the LGBTQIA+ community. This particular seminar focused on the concepts and issues about gender-affirming language in the context of workplace. Mx. Vince Liban, Consultant from the QC-GAD Council, served as the guest speaker. This seminar is important because language is one of the primary ways of communication and through conscious use of language, we may be able to create a public library, like QCPL, more humane and safe for everyone.

Meanwhile, the QCPL-Women and LGBTQIA+ Collection—the one and only collection in the public library in Metro Manila specializing on women, LGBTQIA+, gender, and sexuality—formally inaugurated on June 26, 2025. It was attended and supported by different key people: Ms. Janet Oviedo, Head of the GAD Council Office/ Representative of Office of the City Mayor; Mx. Tek Victorio, Representative of Office of the City Vice-Mayor; Hon. Oliviere Belmonte, District 1 Action Officer; Hon. Maria Eleanor R. Juan, Chairperson on Women, Family Rations, and Gender Equality; Bb. Nikki Santos, Education and Training Staff of the Center for Women's Resources; and Mx. Jap Ignacio, Executive Director of the Babaylanes, Inc.

At present, this is considerably the highlight of the activities of the year because QCPL was given an opportunity to express its inclination to create an inclusive and liberating public library. This is an evidence that QCPL always and is consistently goes beyond its mandate by executing programs and initiatives that promotes collaboration with our partners.

These are few library initiatives that furthers QCPL's advocacy on genuine equality. This is the only start of many programs and activities of QCPL and together with the community, coupled with conscious action, we can strive towards a society that is humane and safe.

Adopt-A-Library at BJMP Quezon City Jail - Male Dormitory

By: Mr. Paulo Dominik P. Daulat

The QCPL, led by its OIC, Ms. Mariza G. Chico, visited the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Male Dormitory located in Bagong Silangan, Quezon City on May 21, 2025. This visit marked a significant step in a collaborative effort to promote education, literacy, and mental wellness among Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL).

The initiative was set into motion following a formal request made by Jail Warden Warren Geronimo, who expressed the need to build a library within the dormitory. He emphasized that access to books and educational materials would be instrumental in helping PDLs cope with their time in detention, encouraging rehabilitation through reading and self-improvement.





Welcoming the proposal, Ms. Chico, along with QCPL Division Heads Ms. Analiza C. Martinez, Ms. Manica M. Cortes, and Ms. Jennifer R. Leoncio, and Section Head Mr. Paulo Dominik Daulat, personally visited the facility to assess the space and discuss the logistics of establishing a fully functional library. The meeting was filled with positive energy and a shared commitment to the transformative power of education.





Once established, the library will serve as a sanctuary for learning and reflection. It is envisioned to house a wide range of materials—from academic resources and vocational guides to inspirational books and recreational reading—to cater to the diverse needs and interests of the PDL. Both parties also explored potential programs and activities, such as book donation drives and computer literacy workshops.

The QCPL team expressed their full support for the project, which aligns with their advocacy of bringing inclusive library services to all sectors of the community. This initiative stands as a testament to the belief that rehabilitation begins with opportunity—and that even behind bars, lives can be transformed through the simple power of a book.

The QCPL Launches Korean Corner

By: Ms. Rowena G. Garcia

The QCPL successfully launched a new, dedicated space for a new collection of books — the Korean Corner, which was made possible through a meaningful partnership with the Korean Cultural Center (KCC). This collaborative initiative reflects the QCPL's ongoing commitment to providing diverse and enriching resources to our community.

The Korean Corner features a wide array of materials designed to deepen public understanding and appreciation of Korean culture, language, and history. From books and multimedia resources to cultural displays, this special collection offers something for everyone — whether you're a student, enthusiast, or curious learner.





A wrap-up photo opportunity featuring Hon. Allyson Rae Medalla, District II Councilor; Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian) of QCPL; Mr. Kim Myeongjin, Director of KCC; along with KCC and QCPL Heads.

The launching ceremony was marked by the presence and support of distinguished guests who underscored the importance of this partnership on May 16, 2025. The QCPL was honored to welcome Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian) of QCPL; Hon. Allyson Rae Medalla, District II Councilor; and Mr. Kim Myeongjin, Director of KCC. Their attendance and messages of support highlighted the shared vision of fostering cultural exchange and learning.



The QCPL invites all Korean enthusiast to visit the library and experience the Korean Corner for yourself. This initiative opens new doors for exploration, study, and cross-cultural connection — a testament to the vibrant partnership between QCPL and KCC.

Let this be the beginning of your journey into the richness of Korean heritage — right here at your local library, QCPL!

Hon. Allyson Rae Medalla, District II Councilor; Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian) of QCPL; Mr. Kim Myeongjin, Director of KCC; and the QCPL Heads in the Korean-themed photo booth.

1st Anniversary Celebration of the QCPL Bookmobile and Pop-up Library

By: Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon

The QCPL, spearheaded by the Library Extension Division (LED), celebrated the 1st Anniversary of its Bookmobile and Pop-up Library at the Quezon Memorial Circle (QMC) last May 17, 2025, with fun and engaging activities for its one hundred (100) participants, kids and adults alike, that were present in the community park that day.



Super Book Duo converse with children engaged in the coloring activity.



Participants seek a good story book in the pop-up library.

Participants were first welcomed with face painting, photo booth, pop-up library, and coloring activities while waiting for the program to commence. A book fair was also nearby to entice readers of all ages to buy sale books, encouraging them to read and learn.

A heartfelt, welcoming remarks from Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian) kickstarted the program. It was followed by a storytelling activity from the Super Book Duo, two librarians from the District Libraries Division, who captivated their little audience with an interactive storytelling and talkback session, with prizes in line after a successful answer. The QCPL mascots also had a short stint during the program. The main highlight of the program was the puppet show that featured the founding myth of the Philippines.



Participants poses for a photo opportunity with QCPL mascots and staff.



Participants poses for the photo booth.

The QCPL Bookmobile and Pop-up Library's 1st Anniversary embodies QCPL's dedication in reaching every QCitizen, a vision where learning and access to knowledge belongs to everyone and truly becoming a library for all.

The QCPL's Benchmarking Activity at Quezon City University (QCU) & Tandang Sora Women's Museum

By: Ms. Fatima Ronz Margaret M. Amador



A wrap-up photo opportunity together with the QCU librarians and staff

On April 29, 2025, the QCPL team organized a successful educational tour. The morning session was conducted at the Quezon City University (QCU) assisted by Ms. Edlyn O. Aquino, RL (Director of the QCU Library), Ms. Erna Mar P. Viray, RL (Librarian), and Ms. Gerlyn A. Valencia, RL (Librarian). The first part of the tour at the QCU showcased their knowledge on urban farming which offers numerous benefits in the environment and enhanced food security. The second part of the tour demonstrated the talented works of their students in the field of robotics. The end of the tour was in their library wherein the QCPL team observed their best practices in library operations, digital resources management, and their academic support services. The QCPL is honored to receive donated research materials from the QCU that will enrich the collections of the organization.



Library tour at the QCU library.



A photo opportunity at the QCU's urban farm.





Museum curator discusses Tandang Sora's memorabilia and artifacts

Meanwhile, the afternoon session was conducted at Tandang Sora Women's Museum. The tour was guided by the museum's curators and the staff from the Quezon City Tourism Department (QCTD). They share the history and contributions of Melchora "Tandang Sora" Aquino, known as the "Mother of the Philippine Revolution." Along the tour was the exhibits of the women who fight for our country and their valuable contributions in nation building. At the end of the tour, the QCPL team gained knowledge on the life and legacy of Tandang Sora and the role of women in Philippine History.

This educational tour organized by QCPL strengthened the partnerships with the QCU and Tandang Sora Women's Museum, paving the way for information sharing, community engagement, and resource development. This inspired the QCPL to create a more effective programs and services aligned with the needs of the community.



A wrap-up photo opportunity at Tandang Sora Women's Museum.

"Through shared knowledge and open hearts, we grow better together."

UNUSUAL SUSPECTS:
F.H. Batacan in conversation with Kenneth Yu

By: Ms. Cybil F. Castillo

The QCPL, in partnership with Penguin Random House, Soho Press, and National Book Store, successfully hosted a special book launch and author event featuring the award-winning writer F.H. Batacan on June 19, 2025, at the QCPL - Main Conference Room. The event began with an opening remarks from Ms. Mariza Chico, OIC-QCPL.



Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, commences the book talk with an opening remarks.



Ms. F. H. Batacan discusses her new book, "Accidents Happen," together with Mr. Kenneth Yu.

Maria Felisa H. Batacan, who writes under the pseudonym F.H. Batacan, is a Filipino journalist and acclaimed author of crime fiction. Her work has been published both in the Philippines and internationally. Her debut novel, "Smaller and Smaller Circles," won the prestigious Philippine National Book Award and is widely recognized as the first Philippine crime novel.

The event was moderated by Kenneth Yu, an award-winning Filipino fiction author. His short works, "Mouths to Speak, Voices to Sing" and "The Greatest Fight of Sunny Granada and Other Stories," have been published locally and abroad. Yu is one of the major contributors to the rise and growing popularity of genre fiction produced by Filipino writers.



QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico and Section Head Alistair Troy Lacsamana present a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. F. H. Batacan and Mr. Kenneth Yu

At the end of the event, F.H Batacan teased the attendees from the NU LIBRO – Library Readers Organization, the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO), and the Quezon City University (QCU) with a news of a Filipino translation of her recently published book, "Accidents Happen," which will be published by another author.

The QCPL's "The Extraordinary 85 Women" Awardees

By: Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon

The QCPL continued awarding its latest publication, a book entitled "The Extraordinary 85 Women – Quezon City's Women of Merit & Excellence in Nation-Building" to the selected 85 distinguished women who greatly contributed in the success of Quezon City since its founding day, as part of its 85th founding anniversary last year, this 2nd quarter.

The featured award-winning women who received the book in this quarter were the following:



Dr. Patricia Benitez-Licuanan
Former Chairperson, Commission on Higher Education



Prof. Leonor Magtolis-Briones,
Former DepEd Secretary, Department of Education

- **Dr. Patricia Benitez-Licuanan** is a social psychologist, educator, and women's rights and empowerment activist. She is known as the former chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education on 2010-2018. She has played leadership roles in the women's movement both nationally and internationally, serving as chair of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women and the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as well as NGO networks in the Asia and Pacific region. Dr. Licuanan was awarded of the book on her home on April 3, 2025.

- **Prof. Leonor Magtolis-Briones** is a Professor Emeritus of the University of the Philippines - National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG). She was better known as the former secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd) under former President Rodrigo Duterte's administration. She also served as a treasurer of the Bureau of the Treasury and lead convenor of the Social Watch Philippines. Prof. Briones visited QCPL on June 19, 2025 for a library tour and to receive her copy of the book.



Atty. Darlene Marie Berberabe
Dean, University of the Philippines - College of Law



Dr. Emerlinda Roman
Professor Emeritus, University of the Philippines - Virata School of Business

- **Dr. Emerlinda Roman**, is a Professor Emeritus at UP Virata School of Business. She also served as the 19th President of the University of the Philippines Diliman — the first woman to ever hold the position of the presidency in the history of the esteemed university. QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico personally awarded the book to Dr. Roman on April 22, 2025 at UP Virata School of Business. In return for receiving the award, Dr. Roman donated a box of her personal book collections.

- **Dean Darlene Marie Berberabe** is the 17th Dean of the University of the Philippines - College of Law. She once served as the chief executive officer of the Pag-IBIG fund under the late President Benigno Aquino III's administration. She will soon leave her deanship after her appointment as the Solicitor General of the Philippines, becoming the second woman to hold the said position, under President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.'s administration. Dean Berberabe received her copy of the book on April 10, 2025 at the Dean's office of the University of the Philippines - College of Law.



Atty. Agnes Joyce G Bailen
Law Professor, Philippine Christian University



Dr. Maria Josephine "Joi" Barrios-LeBlanc
Filipino and Filipino Literature Professor, University of California

- **Atty. Agnes Joyce G. Bailen** is currently a law professor at Philippine Christian University. She once served as a public servant in all branches of the Philippine government: an executive assistant at the Supreme Court Public Information Office; a judicial staff head at the office of Justice Artemio V. Panganiban; a chief of staff in the legislative branch; and an undersecretary at the Department of Budget and Management. Atty. Bailen received her copy of the book on June 4, 2025 at UP Church of the Risen Lord. She donated 2 copies of a book she co-published entitled "Women of Faither, Hope and Love in the Bible."

- **Dr. Maria Josephine "Joi" Barrios-LeBlanc** is a distinguished educator, a poet, and a writer of her self-published books, which earned her several prestigious awards such as the Palanca Awards — the most prestigious award for literature in the Philippines. She was recognized as one of the 100 Women who was honored with the "Weavers of History" title of the Women's Sector ng National Centennial Commission. In 2004, she received the TOWNS (Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service) Award from the President of the Republic of the Philippines. Currently, Dr. Joi Barrios-LeBlanc is professor of Filipino and Filipino Literature course at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Joi received her copy of the book on June 25, 2025 at UP University Hotel after she returned to the Philippines for a short visit.

- **Justice Cecilia Muñoz-Palma** was widely known as the first female appointed Associate Justice to the Supreme Court in 1973 and received an accolade of being the only "man in the Supreme Court" during her time. In 1937, she topped the Philippine Bar Exam with a rating of 92.6%, becoming the first woman to top the said exam. She passed away on January 2, 1992 at the age of 92.

  QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico, together with the Publication team, visited the Justice Cecilia Muñoz Palma Foundation, Inc. — a foundation meant to honor and continue her legacy, to deliver a copy of the book and to receive 2 copies of their book donation that features the former associate justice entitled "The Mirror of My Soul: Selected Decision, Opinions, Speeches and Writing."



Justice Cecilia Muñoz-Palma Foundation on behalf of former Chief Justice Cecilia Muñoz-Palma



Ms. Eliza Bengzon, niece of National Artist Fe Del Mundo

- **National Artist Fe Del Mundo** was the first woman to be named as National Artist of the Philippines in 1980. She was a pediatrician who founded the first pediatric hospital in the Philippines, situated in Quezon City, in 1957 — the Children's Medical Center (now named Fe Del Mundo Medical Center after her). She was awarded the Order of Lakandula with the rank of Bayani at the Malacañan Palace in 2010. Dr. Del Mundo was very active in doing medical rounds until her 90's. She passed away on August 6, 2011 and was buried at Libingan ng mga Bayani.

The Publication Section, headed by its Section Head Paulo Dominik P. Daulat together with his staff, Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon and Ms. Chelsea Denise S. Din, awarded the book to Ms. Eliza Bengzon, niece of National Artist Fe del Mundo, on June 27, 2025 at Fe Del Mundo Medical Center. Ms. Bengzon donated three books entitled "Dr. Fe Del Mundo: A Beautiful Life," "The Centennial Woman: A Life Devoted to the Filipino Child," and "Fearless Filipinas II: 24 Women Who dared to Dream" in return for the recognition presented to the late National Artist.

Empowering Communities through Skills: QCPL – Sta. Lucia Conducts Bracelet Making Livelihood Program for Parents

By: Dr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador

As part of its ongoing commitment to inclusive community development and skills training, the QCPL – District 5 Libraries successfully conducted a Bracelet Making Livelihood Program — a program specifically designed for parents within Brgy. Sta. Lucia community, at the QCPL – Sta. Lucia Branch.



Library staff actively assist the participants during the activity.



The QCPL - Lagro Branch Library-in-Charge Ms. Raquel I. Lunar gives a brief orientation before the start of the activity.

The program was organized in coordination with the Barangay Sta. Lucia Council headed by Kap. Ruel Marpa, and the Sangguniang Kabataan Council, led by SK Chairman Xyrone Pelayo. It served as a platform to provide hands-on training in creating handcrafted beaded bracelets—an entrepreneurial skill that can open doors to home-based income opportunities.

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the activity directly supported:

- SDG 1: No Poverty, by equipping parents—many of whom are homemakers—with marketable skills that can supplement household income.
- SDG 5: Gender Equality, as the program focused on empowering mostly women participants, and equipping with tools to become financially self-reliant.
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, by encouraging the development of micro-entrepreneurship through livelihood initiatives that could grow into small-scale businesses.





A group picture that shows the success of the activity.

Participants enthusiastically took part in learning various techniques in bracelet design, assembly, and presentation. The training fostered a spirit of creativity and self-reliance, while also building camaraderie among community members. Many participants expressed their appreciation for the opportunity, emphasizing how such practical programs contribute to their personal and family development.

The activity highlighted the essential role that local institutions like public libraries play in delivering grassroots solutions that align with global goals. It also underscored the importance of community partnerships in building sustainable, empowered, and resilient neighborhoods.

The QCPL on the Roll: Books, Wheels, and Pop-up Thrills

By: Ms. Chelsea Denise S. Din

The QCPL Bookmobile and Pop-up Library continued to roll out exciting activities during the second quarter of the year, bringing joy and learning to QCitizens. From Car-free, Carefree Sunday at Tomas Morato to its first-year anniversary celebration at Quezon Memorial Circle, QCitizens' unwavering support to these activities has been a powerful source of motivation and strength for the library to further enhance its programs and services for the public.

On April 12 and 26, 2025, the pop-up library was filled with excited children who gathered around the bookshelves to immerse themselves in different genres of books. One of the kids led a storytelling session, drawing the others in to listen and learn valuable lessons from the book.



Children feels intrigued to the magic brought by books of QCPL Pop-up Library at QMC



Children concentrate on reading available books of QCPL Pop-up Library at QMC

May 3, 10, and 24, 2025 were the days that added a splash of color to this month. With imagination and creativity, children brought black-and-white coloring activity sheets to life. Some proudly brought home their artworks to share their creations with loved ones.

The joy brought by the pop-up library continued on June 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2025. Kids and even those 'kids at heart' enjoyed reading educational books and playing fun and educational board games such as snakes and ladders, Monopoly and Damath, which are the attendees' favorite games to play.



A kid happily receives his prize from winning in the Q & A session during QCPL Bookmobile and Pop-up Library 1st Anniversary Celebration's Puppet Show



Little kids show interest in puzzles during QCPL Pop-up Library at Tomas Morato Carfree, Carefree Sunday

On April 20, 2025, the pop-up library joined the Car-Free, Carefree event at Tomas Morato during Easter Sunday, where children and parents bonded over jigsaw puzzles and colorful blocks that sparked creativity and problem-solving. The fun continued on May 17, 2025, as the QCPL marked the pop-up library's first anniversary at Quezon Memorial Circle with over a hundred participants enjoying free activities like a photo booth, face painting, and a lively puppet show.

Looking back at all these events and activities, the pop-up library proved that it's not just about access to books. It also brings people together in a traditional way through shared reading, board games, and puppet shows. These serve as a break from social media and rekindle the joy of bonding just like in the old days.

The QCPL Bookmobile and Pop-up Library is stationed every Saturday at the Quezon Memorial Circle from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, continuing to bring QCitizens a variety of books, educational board games, and colorful activity sheets and materials

QCPL - Libis Branch's Basic Literacy Program: Reading Tutorial Batch 2

By: Ms. Riena-Jane M. Velasco

Ang QCPL - Libis Branch ay patuloy na nagsusulong ng mga programang pang-edukasyon upang mapalakas ang kasanayan sa pagbasa ng mga kabataang nasa ikatlong baitang. Bilang bahagi ng adbokasiyang ito, isinagawa ang isang Baseline Assessment noong Mayo 5–7, 2025, upang matukoy ang kasalukuyang antas ng kasanayan sa pagbasa ng mga batang interesado sa programa. Layunin ng assessment na makapagbigay ng angkop na suporta batay sa kanilang pangangailangan.



Ang Basic Literacy Program: Reading Tutorial ay binubuo ng labing walong (18) sesyon na idinisenyo upang paunlarin ang kakayahan sa pagbasa at pagsulat ng mga mag-aaral. Sa pamamagitan ng mga sistematikong aktibidad at gabay mula sa mga volunteer teachers, ang mga kalahok ay inaasahang makakamit ang mga kasanayan sa pagkilala at pagbigkas ng mga titik at tunog ng abakada, pagbuo at pagbasa ng mga simpleng salita at pangungusap, pagpapalawak ng bokabularyo at pag-unawa sa kahulugan ng mga salita.

Matagumpay na isinagawa ang "classroom-based" na sesyon ng pagbabasa.

Lubos na pinasasalamatan ng QCPL ang Education Affairs Unit (EAU) ng Lungsod Quezon para sa kanilang mga modyul at kagamitang pang-edukasyon na ipinagamit sa programa at sa patuloy na pagtutok at pakikiisa sa layunin ng QCPL na mapalawak ang literasiya sa lungsod. Ang kanilang suporta ay mahalaga sa pagbibigay ng dekalidad na materyales na angkop sa pangangailangan ng mga mag-aaral.

Hindi rin magiging matagumpay ang programa kung wala ang dedikasyon ng mga volunteer mula sa komunidad ng Barangay Libis. Ang kanilang walang sawang pagtuturo at paggabay sa mga bata ay nagpapakita ng tunay na diwa ng bayanihan at malasakit sa kapwa. Gayundin, ang suporta ng Sangguniang Barangay ng Libis ay napakahalaga sa pagpapatupad ng programa. Ang kanilang pakikiisa at pagtulong sa mga pangangailangan ng programa ay nagpapakita ng kanilang malasakit sa edukasyon ng kabataan sa kanilang nasasakupan.



Isang one-on-one na sesyon ng pagbabasa sa pagitan ng mag-aaral at ng boluntaryong guro.



Pagsasagawa ng endline assessment sa mga bata upang matukoy kung sino ang mga matagumpay na nakatapos sa Reading Tutorial Program – Batch 2.

Ang QCPL – Libis Branch ay nananatiling tapat sa pagbibigay ng suporta sa literasiya para sa mga kabataan. Sa pamamagitan ng Basic Literacy: Reading and Numeracy Tutorial Program, layunin ng aklatan na hubugin ang mga batang mambabasa na may sapat na kasanayan at kumpiyansa sa kanilang kakayahan, bilang paghahanda sa mas mataas na antas ng pagkatuto.



Walong (8) bata na napagtagumpayan ang Reading Tutorial Program Batch 2.

The QCPL – Sta. Lucia Hosts Reading Outreach and School Supplies Distribution

By: Dr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador

The QCPL – District 5 Libraries successfully held the NTC Smart-Class Homeschooling: Reading Outreach Program and School Supplies Distribution at the QCPL–Sta. Lucia Branch in a continued effort to promote inclusive and equitable quality education. The initiative served learners from Grade 4 to Grade 7 and was conducted in partnership with The National Teachers College (NTC) Homeschooling and APEC Schools. It was also coordinated with the Barangay Sta. Lucia Council led by Kap. Ruel Marpa and Sangguniang Kabataan Council, headed by SK Chairman Xyrone Pelayo.

Anchored on the principles of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 – Quality Education, the activity aimed to ensure inclusive and lifelong learning opportunities for all. Through engaging reading sessions, students were encouraged to develop literacy skills critical for academic success and personal growth. Facilitators from NTC and APEC Schools led the sessions using interactive methods that sparked imagination and promoted comprehension.



A group picture that shows the success of the activity



Children are focused during the activity

Following the literacy activity, school supplies were distributed to the student participants—providing much-needed resources for their continued education, especially for those facing economic hardship. This component of the program further aligns with SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by supporting marginalized youth and empowering them through access to learning tools.

The initiative demonstrated the power of multi-sectoral collaboration, highlighting the role of public libraries as community learning spaces, and reinforcing the importance of local government and youth leaders in education-focused outreach.



Children proudly hold educational kits and school supplies



NTC staff and volunteer together with QCPL District 5 Supervisor, Ms. Eleanor M. Sampiano and Brgy. Sta. Lucia, SK Chairman Xyrone Pelayo

Parents and students expressed heartfelt appreciation for the activity as it not only brought joy and encouragement but also practical assistance to help students remain engaged in school.

With this successful event, the QCPL – District 5 reaffirms its commitment to advance the Sustainable Development Goals at the grassroots level—ensuring that no learner is left behind.

"Ready, Set, Click!: Exploring the Artistry Behind the Lens" Seminar-Workshop

By: Ms. Cybil F. Castillo

The QCPL's Publication Section, under Library Extension Division, successfully conducted a seminar-workshop entitled "Ready, Set, Click!: Exploring the Artistry Behind the Lens" on May 30, 2025. Thirty (30) participants from the Main and Branch libraries took part in the event. The seminar kicked off with an inspiring welcome remarks from QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico.



QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico commences the event with her opening welcome remarks



OIC (Assistant City Librarian) Mary Ann L. Bernal concludes the event with her closing remarks

The seminar-workshop, led by speakers from the Quezon City Public Affairs and Information Services Division (PAISD), consisted of three sessions: Basic Camera Settings, Camera Composition Techniques, and Social Media Captioning.

The first session led by Mr. Janz Michael Matic, a professional photographer, featured an engaging lecture on basic camera settings and taught the attendees how to properly utilize the functions of their cameras from key-to-key to button-to-button.

In the second session, Mr. Joshua Benedick Acpal, a professional videographer, taught participants how to use camera composition techniques to their advantage. He demonstrated how to capture impactful images using methods such as the rule of thirds, leading lines, framing, and such. The session also included an engaging hands-on photography activity, allowing participants to apply what they had learned.



Resource speakers Mr. Janz Michael Matic (left), Mr. Joshua Benedick Acpal (center), and Ms. Ma. Luella Albarado (right) discuss the three aforementioned topics

Ms. Ma. Luella Albarado, Information Officer III of PAISD, concluded the seminar-workshop with a lecture on social media captioning. Attendees learned the art of incorporating storytelling into their captions to better resonate with their target audience.

The seminar concluded with a closing message from Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), along with a heartfelt expression of gratitude for the speakers, whose expertise and knowledge greatly enriched the participants' experience.



OIC (Assistant City Librarian) Mary Ann L. Bernal together with Division Heads present Certificate of Appreciation to resource speakers



A wrap-up photo opportunity after the seminar-workshop

The seminar not only sharpened the participants' photography skills and deepened their appreciation for the power of their cameras but also fostered creative collaboration across QCPL branch libraries, inspiring a shared vision through the lens.

Bongga ka Day!: A Seminar on LGBTQIA+ Triumphs in the Professional World

By: Ms. Rosario J. Malig

In line with the celebration of Pride Month, the QCPL – San Isidro Galas Branch proudly hosted a seminar titled "Bongga Ka Day! A Seminar on LGBTQIA+ Triumphs in the Professional World" on June 25, 2025 at Carlos L. Albert High School. The seminar gathered fifty (50) Senior High School (SHS) students to foster understanding, inclusion, and empowerment.

The activity kicked off with a warm welcome message from Ms. Dez Noelle Macasaet, OIC-Assistant District 4 Supervisor, who highlighted the importance of recognizing and celebrating diversity within educational and professional environments. This was followed by an inspirational message delivered by Ms. Menalyn Lopez, Head of the Senior High School, on behalf of School Principal Dr. Arnel Cañero.



A QCPL staff takes a souvenir photo of the participants, the teacher, and the resource speaker



Ms. Menalyn Lopez – Head of Senior High School, delivers an inspirational message on behalf of the Principal of Carlos L. Albert High School

Serving as the main speaker was Mx. Ernani A. Agulto, QCPL Librarian III and Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Person. Mx. Agulto delivered a heartfelt and enlightening presentation, emphasizing that librarianship is a profession rich with diverse and long-term opportunities. More than just a career path, he portrayed librarianship as a platform for advocacy, leadership, and social change. Sharing his personal experiences as a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community, he inspired the students to embrace their identities and pursue their dreams with courage and integrity.



Resource Speaker Ernani Agulto discusses and explains the presentation to the participants



One of the participants asks the resource speaker a question during the open forum of the activity

In addition to discussing his journey, Mx. Agulto also unveiled several forthcoming programs and initiatives of QCPL, which will be launched in partnership with the Quezon City Government. These projects are designed to further strengthen the city's commitment to inclusivity, access to information, and community development.

The seminar served not only as a Pride Month celebration but also as a platform to reinforce the QCPL's ongoing advocacy for gender equality and safe spaces. It aimed to raise awareness among students that Quezon City, through its public libraries, continues to be a staunch ally of the LGBTQIA+ community. It is also emphasized the importance of creating workplaces that embrace both diversity and inclusivity, spaces where individuals feel recognized, respected, and supported

QCPL's MIS Section Hosts the Training "Introduction to DSLR Camera: Parts and Functions"

By: the Management Information System (MIS) Section

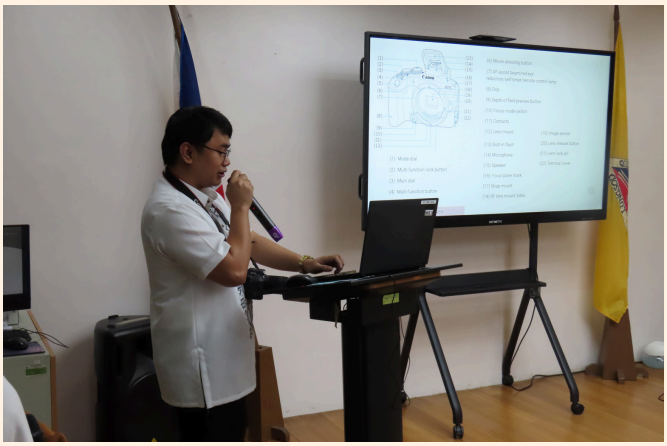


Ms. Jeniffer R. Adajo, OIC-Readers' Services Division, delivers her welcoming remarks on behalf of QCPL OIC, Ms. Mariza G. Chico.



Mr. Edward Bayani, Head-MIS Section, lays down the topics to be discussed during the training.

The QCPL Management Information System (MIS) Section successfully conducted a half-day workshop titled "Introduction to DSLR Camera: Parts and Functions" last April 7, 2025 at the QCPL Conference Room. The event was designed for beginners looking to learn the fundamental skills of using DLSR Camera and digital photography.



Mr. Angelo Fernandez leads the workshop on fundamental camera functions.



Mr. Clark Tina discusses key camera components and basic operations including how to navigate settings and menu.

The session began with a brief welcome message from Readers' Services Division (RSD) OIC Jeniffer R. Adajo, on behalf of QCPL OIC Mariza G. Chico. She warmly greeted participants to set a warm and enthusiastic tone for the program and acknowledged the value of exploring new skills.

Mr. Angelo Fernandez led a workshop on fundamental camera functions of Canon EOS R10. He covered key settings such as shutter speed, aperture, and ISO and how these settings work together to influence image quality.

Mr. Clark Tina covered key camera components and basic operations, including how to navigate settings and menus of Canon Powershot SX70HS on the next session. He also discussed selecting the appropriate shooting mode for different situations and proper handling to ensure equipment longevity and high-quality results.



Mr. Manny Fajilan presents a session entitled "A Guide to Picking the Perfect Images for Library Programs Using DSLR"



Mr. Christian Jacobe teaches how to set up and use a smartphone gimbal

Mr. Manny Fajilan presented a session entitled "A Guide to Picking the Perfect Images for Library Programs Using DSLR" which offered practical advice on how to choose, frame, and evaluate photographs. He discussed simple composition techniques and what to consider when aiming to capture visually compelling shots.

In a beginner-friendly session led by Mr. Christian Jacobe, participants learned how to set up and use a smartphone gimbal, including basic functions, app connectivity, shooting modes, and tips for smooth video recording.



Reference Section Head Rowena Garcia closes the seminar-workshop with a closing remarks.

A hands-on photography activity followed the seminar to allow participants to apply what they had learned by taking their own photos using the camera models provided. They were also invited to present their photos, briefly explain their creative decisions, and receive constructive feedback.

The event concluded with closing remarks from Reference Section Head Rowena Garcia, on behalf of OIC (Assistant City Librarian) Mary Ann L. Bernal. She congratulated the team and participants for a successful and interactive session.

Overall, the seminar-workshop served as a valuable introduction to photography for beginners and was well-received by participants for its hands-on, supportive learning environment.

Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
City Hall Complex, Diliman Quezon City
Tel.: 8927-98-34; 8922-40-60. Website: quezoncitypubliclibrary.org
email: qcplibrary@quezoncity.gov.ph

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Mariza G. Chico
OIC, City Library
Adviser

Jennifer R. Leoncio
Editor-in-Chief

Paulo Dominik P. Daulat
Editor

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Asst. to the Editor

Zestli M. Buenaventura
Layout Artist

Contributors:
Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon
Paulo Dominik P. Daulat
Rowena G. Garcia
Fatima Ronz Margaret M. Amador
Cybil F. Castillo
Victor Anthony H. Salvador
Chelsea Denise S. Din
Riena-Jane M. Velasco
Rosario J. Malig
the Management Information System (MIS) Section

Eden R. Villanueva
Consultant

VISION: The QCPL envision itself to be a premier and world-class public library, responsive to the information and research needs of the community.

MISSION: Imbued with its Vision, the QCPL commits to:

1. Provide quality resources and services to meet the changing needs of the community through the introduction of innovative techniques for the advancement of learning and literacy.

2. Train and develop the staff to be equipped with the needed skills and competencies and strive to be an innovator in public library services.

3. Foster strong linkage and partnership among government and non-government agencies both local and international.

QCPL CORE VALUES:

1. **QUALITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES** – QCPL believes in the value of accuracy and efficiency in providing information to its clientele, through the available relevant resources in different format facilitated by the flexible, responsible, service-oriented, skilled and resourceful QCPL team that helps in the formation of responsible citizens of the city and the country.

2. **COMMITMENT** - QCPL team believes in the importance of commitment in doing its role wholeheartedly as a public library through honest, trusted, loyal and motivated employees to achieve personal and professional integrity.

3. **PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY** – QCPL team believes in the value of developing its human resources to become fully aware of their duties as professionals, accountable in everything they do and respectful in dealing with their clients, co-employees, and duly constituted authorities.

4. **LEADERSHIP** - As a prime public library in the country, QCPL team continues to be an influence to other public libraries in the country being the leader in public library service through its innovative strategies and initiatives.