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A Home for Minds and Stories: QCPL Celebrates its New Chapter in Culiat

By: Ms. Cybil F. Castillo

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The Quezon City Public Library Opens its New Doors in Camp Aguinaldo

By: Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon

The Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) marked the blessing and inauguration of its new branch library, the QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo, with a heartwarming ceremony at General Lim Street EP Village, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City last March 25, 2025 with Hon. Vice Mayor Gian Carlo G. Sotto; Atty. Thomas John Thaddeus F. De Castro, District 3 Action Officer; Hon. Wencerom Benedict "Wency" Lagumbay, Councilor of District 3; Dr. Armi Cunanan Yabut, FEU-Diliman Executive Director, Hon. Francia Meneses Escandor, Barangay Chairperson of Camp Aguinaldo, together with the barangay council; Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL; and the eager students and their supportive parents residing within the camp in attendance. Each official present offered inspiring words to warmly welcome this new branch library to the community.

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City Librarian's Corner



The New Year presents a transformative time, personal and collective, to embrace change, reflect, and set intentions for the coming year. In a world with uncertainty and noise, spaces that cultivate creativity and intellectual growth become even more crucial. The Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) stands as one such crucial space, committed to offering a caring place where the public, particularly the youth, can explore and connect with the imaginative worlds of Filipino authors. This commitment to creative expression is not just about preserving culture; it is about creating an opportunity where ideas can thrive and spark meaningful conversations, enabling a deeper understanding of ourselves.

The QCPL, as a public space, will continue to serve as a venue to create opportunities that will bring the public, especially the young ones, closer to the imaginative worlds created by Filipino authors. This is particularly important because we live in an unstable time where our expressions and humanity are being suppressed by people with personal agenda and as a librarian, I believe that this is only one of the rare chances that we can distance ourselves from all the noise and present ourselves a possibility to know some deep realities that can only be expressed through sharing of rich stories and ideas reflected in these published materials.

On behalf of the QCPL, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who contribute to this mission. May the coming days be filled with inspiration, growth, and a renewed commitment to the transformative power of unique stories immortalized in books!

The Quezon City Public Library Opens... Continuation from p. 1



Inauguration and Blessing of QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo Branch



Hon. Vice Mayor Gian Sotto delivering his inspirational message to all attendees.

Hon. Francia Meneses Escandor, Barangay Camp Aguinaldo Chairperson, opened the program with a welcome remarks and the endorsement of barangay resolution, reiterating the need of the QC community, especially young kids and students, for libraries.

The importance of libraries in the modern age took center stage as Hon. Vice Mayor Gian Sotto emphasized in his speech that libraries still remain as information hubs that provide access to information and foster a culture of reading that is crucial for individual and societal growth. He claimed that libraries pooled resources — from educational offerings to outreach — and put them all under one welcoming roof for everyone to share. He ended his speech with an encouragement to all attendees to make use of what the library has to offer instead of spending too much time online.





Hon. Wencerom Benedict "Wency" Lagumbay, District 3 Councilor, (left) and Atty. Thomas John Thaddeus F. De Castro, District 3 Action Officer, (right) conveying their special message to the attendees.

District 3 Action Officer, Atty. Thomas De Castro, echoed this sentiment and highlighted the library's role in bridging information gaps and empowering communities through their literacy programs. He reiterated in his speech the fundamental need to bring literacy and knowledge directly to the community at the grassroots level.

Hon. Wencerom Benedict "Wency" Lagumbay, District 3 Councilor, wholeheartedly welcomed QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo as a beacon of knowledge and opportunity to children to provide them with a safe and stimulating environment to learn and grow in the community. He inspired his audience with a heartwarming message to embrace the library as the new center of learning and make it an integral part of life before concluding his speech.

Dr. Armi Cunanan Yabut, FEU-Diliman Executive Director, claimed that libraries in communities will undoubtedly inspire the next generation of thinkers, leaders, and innovators in our community.



Hon. Francia Meneses Escandor, Barangay Camp Aguinaldo Chairperson, giving her welcome remarks and endorsement of barangay resolution.

Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, expressed her eagerness for this new extension of library services and reiterated QCPL's commitment to serve all QCitizens in her closing remarks. The newly inaugurated branch library would stand as a symbol of the city's dedication to reaching all of its corners and advocating for literacy development.

The establishment of QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo branch library represents a crucial step in bringing essential library services directly to the families of our military officials. Children will now have a dedicated space for academic pursuits and leisure. This initiative ensures that access to learning opportunity and resources will be conveniently available within the military community in return of their unwavering support to our country.



Dr. Armi Cunanan Yabut, FEU-Diliman Executive Director, discussing the importance of libraries especially in the academe.



Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, concluding the ceremony with her closing remarks.

The QCPL affirms its commitment in ensuring that this new QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo Branch Library will actively strive to serve the general public — be it QCitizen or not, leaving no one behind, by enriching their reading and learning experience through a wide array of books, puzzles, and other learning materials that the library has to offer. This demonstrates QCPL's true dedication to push for a comprehensive city-wide literacy advocacy.





A Photo Opportunity after the Blessing and Inauguration of QCPL - Camp Aguinaldo

A Home for Minds and Stories: QCPL Celebrates its New Chapter in Culiat

By: Ms. Cybil F. Castillo

Last March 27, 2025, the QCPL celebrated the inauguration and blessing of its newest branch library in Barangay Culiat. Attendees, including barangay officials, library staff, and community members, gathered to honor the new addition to the QCPL network.

The day began with a meaningful blessing of the library, creating a reflective and hopeful atmosphere. The prayers were not just for the success of the new branch but for the community it would serve—an invitation for the space to become a hub of learning, enlightenment, and harmony. It was a beautiful moment of reflection before the whirlwind of speeches and ribbon-cutting that followed.



Hon. Cristina "Nanay Bebang" Bernardino, Barangay Chairperson of Barangay Culiat, opening the program with her welcome remarks.



Atty. Mark Anthony Aldave, District 6 Action Officer, delivered an inspirational message on behalf of Hon. Mayor Joy Belmonte.

Hon. Cristina "Nanay Bebang" Bernardino, Barangay Chairperson of Barangay Culiat, set the tone of the event with her welcome remarks, outlining future plans and programs for the new library branch as she opened the program.

Also present in the ceremony was Atty. Mark Anthony Aldave, District 6 Action Officer, who delivered an inspirational message on behalf of Hon. Mayor Josefina "Joy" Belmonte. He highlighted that libraries provide benefits to the community in many ways, one of which is promoting literacy among children. He encouraged parents to start teaching their children how to read while they are young.



Inauguration and Blessing of QCPL - Culiat Branch



Ribbon Cutting with Hon. Vito Sotto (District 6 Councilor), Hon. Cristina Bernardino (Barangay Chairperson), Ms. Mariza G. Chico (OIC-QCPL)

Hon. Victorio Manuel "Vito" S. Generoso, District 6 Councilor of Quezon City, conveyed a special message which stressed the importance of libraries, especially branch libraries, to children. He emphasized that they easily adapt to technology, specifically online games like ML, and in turn forgot to focus on their studies. He reminded the parents to teach their kids to read and encourage them to visit libraries.

One key theme resonated deeply among all: libraries are not 'old school' infrastructure, but essential hubs for the future. In today's fast-paced, information-driven world, libraries are necessary spaces where technology, learning, and community intertwine seamlessly.



Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, ending the program with her closing remarks.



Hon, Victorio Manuel S. Generoso, District 6 Councilor of Quezon City, delivering a special message to the inauguration and blessing attendees.

But it was the thought-provoking question from Ms. Mariza Chico, OIC - QCPL, who delivered the closing remarks that left everyone in the room deep in thought:

"Kailangan pa ba ng library?"

She passionately declared that a library is not just a building filled with books; it is a fortress of truth in an era where disinformation runs rampant. A library is where reliable knowledge can always be found to help us navigate the maze of modern-day misinformation.





A photo opportunity taken after the event.

This library is more than just a building, it is a promise—a promise to evolve with the needs of its community. No matter how the world changes, the quest for knowledge will always remain accessible to those who seek it. In a world where the landscape of learning is constantly shifting, the new QCPL Culiat branch will stand firm as a beacon of hope, wisdom, and endless possibilities.

The QCPL's Latest Publication, "The Extraordinary 85 Women," Finally Found its New Home

By: Ms. Dominique Alexinne V. Dizon

For the 1st Quarter of 2025, the QCPL started 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.



From left to right: Ms. Manica M. Cortes, Head of Technical Services Division; Ms. Analiza M. Martinez, Head of District Libraries Division; Ms. Jennifer R. Leoncio, OIC, Library Extension Division; Ms. Agatha Wong, a Philippine Wushu Martial Artist; Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL; Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC, Assistant City Librarian; and Ms. Jeniffer R. Adajo, OIC, Readers' Services Division.

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

- **Dr. Florangel Rosario-Braid**, a member of the Philippine Constitutional Commission of 1986, currently the president emeritus of the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC).
- **Ms. Agatha Wong**, the Philippine representative to international wushu competitions.



Dr. Florangel Rosario-Braid
President Emeritus, Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication



Dr. Rose Marie O. Rosete-Liquete
Executive Director of the National Kidney & Transplant Institute



Dr. Neriza M. Gerial
Deputy Executive Director for Nursing Services,
National Kidney & Transplant Institute



Dr. Cristina Batario-Cristobal
a retired Special Teacher 5 of Philippine History at
Philippine Science High School

- **Dr. Mary Joy Canon-Abaquin**, the founding directress of Multiple Intelligence International School (MIIS)
- **Dr. Neriza M. Gerial**, the current deputy executive director for Nursing Services Office of the National Kidney & Transplant Institute
- **Dr. Rose Marie O. Rosete-Liquete**, the current executive director of the National Kidney & Transplant Institute.
- **Dr. Cristina Batario-Cristobal**, a retired special teacher 5 in Philippine History at Philippine Science High School.

Initially published in 2024, the QCPL's "Extraordinary 85 Women" contains inspiring stories of resilience, innovation, and the unwavering commitment of these distinguished women to enrich the lives of every QCitizen and shape the landscape of the city. We aim to share and raise awareness on the roles of these distinguished women on their fields, particularly in politics, education, healthcare, sports, pageantry, and social welfare, to encourage little girls and young ladies the power they hold for being one.

Let's empower women, QCitizens! Celebrate Women's Month with us here at QCPL.



Dr. Gay Jane Perez
Deputy Director General for Space Science and Technology,
Philippine Space Agency



Dr. Mary Joy Canon-Abaquin
Founding Directress of Multiple Intelligence International School

The 15th World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) Celebration at QCPL

By: Ms. Ana Katrina T. Honrade

The QCPL successfully celebrated the 15th World Read Aloud Day last February 05, 2025 at the QCPL Conference Room. This special event was graced by Hon. Vice Mayor Gian Carlo G. Sotto as the guest storyteller which captivated young minds with an engaging and interactive storytelling session.



The activity was held in partnership with the Social Services Development Department (SSDD), with the enthusiastic participation of students from the Quezon City Hall Yakap Child Development Center. The event aimed to emphasize the importance of reading aloud in developing children's literacy skills, creativity, and love for learning.

Vice Mayor Sotto's lively storytelling session delighted the children, making their experience both educational and entertaining. The event concluded with a short message from Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, who expressed gratitude to Vice Mayor Sotto and the SSDD for their continuous support in advocating literacy development.





Through activities like World Read Aloud Day, QCPL reaffirms its dedication to provide meaningful and engaging literacy programs for the community to ensure that every child has access to the transformative power of books and storytelling.

QCPL and QCU Enter Partnership through Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

By: Ms. Janet B. Alday





The QCPL and the Quezon City University (QCU) achieved a significant milestone last February 11, 2025 as they signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a collaboration that aims to enhance library services, expand resource access, and foster knowledge sharing for students and QCitizens by promoting interlibrary cooperation, resource sharing and educational initiatives.

The MOU was signed by Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL and Dr. Theresita V. Atienza, President-QCU, with witnesses Dr. Randel D. Estacio, OIC, Vice President for Academic Affairs-QCU; Ms. Edlyn O. Aquino, Director-QCU Library; Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal – OIC, (Assistant City Librarian) QCPL; and Atty. Stephanie H. Siason – Contreras, Head, Administrative Services-QCPL. The partnership was formalized during a ceremony held at the QCPL Conference Room.



Overall, the MOU between QCPL and QCU marks the beginning for a strong community partnership. This will create a more robust and dynamic library environment that benefits QCitizens, especially students in the community.

A New QCPL Branch Opens in Brgy. Sta. Lucia

By: Mr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador

The QCPL proudly soft-launched its newest branch in Barangay Sta. Lucia to expand further its commitment to literacy, education, and community service last February 10, 2025. The official opening was held during the barangay's flag-raising ceremony which marked a significant milestone in the local government's efforts to enhance public access to educational resources.



From left to right: Barangay staffs, Barangay Chairperson Ruel S. Marpa with his wife, Mr. Victor Anthony Salvador, Mr. Jose Carlo Ibabao, Kagawad Jaja Galarpe, SK Kagawad Nadz Ambinoc, Brgy Secretary, SK Chairperson Xyrone Pelayo and Kagawad Wendy Atienza visiting the QCPL - Sta. Lucia Branch.

Mr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador, Asst. District Supervisor of the District 5 Libraries, took the opportunity to introduce and promote the various services offered by the newly established Sta. Lucia Branch. These include book borrowing, research assistance, storytelling sessions, e-Gov services, and literacy and numeracy programs among others. He emphasized that the library will serve as a valuable hub for learning and community engagement.



Mr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador, Asst. District Supervisor-District 5 Libraries, marketing the services offered by the QCPL- Sta. Lucia Branch



Barangay Chairperson Hon. Ruel S. Marpa conversing with Mr. Victor Anthony Salvador.

Barangay Chairperson Hon. Ruel S. Marpa led a visit to the library following the program to personally show the support of the barangay for this new initiative. He was accompanied by SK Chairperson Xyrone Pelayo, Kagawad Wendy Atienza, Kagawad Jaja Galarpe, and SK Kagawad Nadz Ambinoc, along with other barangay employees, which highlighted the barangay's commitment in supporting literacy and knowledge-sharing initiatives in the community.



Mr. Victor Anthony Salvador touring Barangay Chairperson Hon. Ruel S. Marpa.

The opening of QCPL-Sta. Lucia Branch marks another achievement in Quezon City's ongoing efforts to provide accessible educational resources to its residents. The new branch is expected to foster a culture of learning and intellectual growth among youth and the general public due to the strong support of local leaders and the dedication of every library personnel. Residents of Barangay Sta. Lucia and nearby areas are encouraged to visit the library and take advantage of its various programs and resources. The QCPL continues to strive towards promoting literacy and lifelong learning through its network of libraries across the city.

QCPL Celebrates National Bible Month 2025

By: Mr. Arnel C. Franco

The QCPL celebrated the National Bible Month 2025 with the theme, "God's Word, Source of HOPE: Harmony, Obedience, Peace, Empowerment" last January 30, 2025 through a collaborative event with the Reader's Services Division (RSD) and the Library Extension Division (LED) with the aim to foster awareness of the Bible's importance and relevance in today's world.



Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, opening the program with an opening remarks.



Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), ending the program with a closing remarks.

The event was led by Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, who delivered the welcome remarks, alongside Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), who gave the closing remarks. Librarians and staff from the Main and Branch libraries were also in attendance.

The National Bible Month celebration was established by Proclamation No. 44, Series of 1986, signed by former President Corazon C. Aquino.



The guest speaker, Mr. Henry V. Chua from Victory Christian Fellowship Mandaluyong



Awarding of Certificate of Appreciation with Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), and the Division Heads.

The guest speaker, Mr. Henry V. Chua from Victory Christian Fellowship Mandaluyong, taught the audience about the five sources of HOPE. He explained in detail how each source—Education, Hardships and Difficulties, Vision, Time, Talents and Diligence, and Leadership—plays a crucial role in guiding individual towards growth and progress. Mr. Chua emphasized how these elements help us become stronger, overcome challenges, and lead with purpose. His insightful talk inspired the audience to embrace these sources of hope in their own lives and encouraged them to continue striving for personal and collective development.

Ms. Jennifer R. Leoncio, OIC-Library Extension Division, shared her thoughts on their group's collective insights during the discussion. She expressed how deeply impressed she was by the participants' engagement and the meaningful reflections they shared. She highlighted the importance of collaboration and the value of diverse perspectives, noting that it was through such collective exchanges that everyone was able to gain a richer understanding of the topic. Ms. Leoncio emphasized that the group's shared wisdom was a powerful reminder of how much can be learned when we come together and share our experiences, reinforcing the essence of unity and community.



Ms. Jennifer R. Leoncio, OIC-Library Extension Division, sharing her thoughts on the group's collective insights



Participants posing for a photo opportunity.

Overall, the event provided a meaningful experience, deepening participants' understanding of the Bible's teachings. Attendees left feeling refreshed, enlightened and uplifted.

Date with a Book: Chapters of Love

By: Ms. Maria Antonette O. Yabut

Last February 14, 2025, the QCPL – Cubao Branch hosted a heartwarming activity entitled "Date with a Book: Chapters of Love" to celebrate International Book Giving Day and Valentine's Day. The activity was designed for book lovers without a traditional Valentine's date but still wanted to experience the joys of the season in a meaningful way.



A female client immersing herself in a world of romance at the library.



Clients carefully selecting their favorite romance novels.

A total of twenty (20) Senior High School (SHS) students from various schools indulged their love for reading by choosing their favorite romance novels and immersed themselves in captivating stories of love and passion. They were also treated to complimentary drinks and snacks which added a cozy touch to their literary escape.

As a special gift, each participant received a book-quet featuring "Wisdom of Life" — a thoughtful collection of life lessons and inspirational quotes, providing wisdom that extends far beyond the pages of their novels.



Each participant receiving a book-quet: "Wisdom of Life" — a thoughtful collection of life lessons as a token of participation.



A group of senior high school students discussing the novel they are reading.

The event emphasized the idea that Valentine's Day is not solely about romantic relationships – it can be celebrated in various forms. For many, books can be a perfect companion. Whether reading for personal growth, joy, or simply for the escape that a good book offers, the "Date with a Book" event reminded attendees that love can be found in many places, and sometimes, between the pages of a book.

Book Talk with Ms. Ma. Ophelia Butalid-Echavez

By: Ms. Rowena G. Garcia

A heartwarming and successful book talk was hosted by QCPL featuring the highly talented Filipina author, Ms. Ma. Ophelia Butalid-Echaves, also known as Maya Butalid, last February 14, 2025. Currently residing in the Netherlands with her husband and children, Maya's passion for literature transcends borders. Her visit to QCPL highlighted the power of stories to connect people across continents.





The book talk, which coincided with the celebration of the International Book Giving Day, was aimed to encourage the concept of sharing of books to spread the joy of reading, particularly to those who may have limited access to literature. As part of this celebration, Ms. Maya generously donated copies of her two inspiring works to the QCPL: "Chasing Windmills" and "The Heart of a Mother," both of which explores deep themes of love, resilience, and the human experience.

Ms. Maya had also shared personal stories from her book Chasing Windmills, in which she bravely recounts the challenges of living as a migrant in a foreign country, building her own family, and raising her daughters in a mixed cultural environment. She also discussed her second book, The Heart of a Mother, in which she tells the story of her Moroccan colleague, a mother who raised her two children in the Netherlands. The strength and vastness of her colleague's heart led Maya to collect stories from mothers around the world to shed light on their unique experiences and share these with other mothers and children.

Several participants shared their thoughts and reflections on the books. Their stories showed how Maya's stories resonated with their own experiences and fostered a sense of solidarity and understanding among the audience.





BOOKwentuhan sa KNL

By: Mr. Reymark D. Felipe

The QCPL - Krus na Ligas Branch successfully conducted the "BOOKwentuhan sa KNL" at Amado Baluyot Covered Court, Barangay Krus Na Ligas last February 21, 2025. This initiative was designed to cultivate a culture of reading among local children and was proven to be an effective platform for promoting literacy and community engagement.

The program commenced with a structured warm-up exercise facilitated by Mr. Reymark Felipe and Ms. Jeniffer de Nieva, which served to energize the participants and establish a conducive environment for learning. This was followed by a series of interactive activities, including storytelling sessions and reading challenges, aimed at stimulating children's imagination and fostering a deeper appreciation for literature.



Mr. Felipe, Mr. Linsangan, and Ms. De Nieva, along with the barangay council and its staff, during the photo opportunity.



The storytelling activity with the participants and QCPL - Krus na Ligas library staff, Mr. Linsangan and Ms. De Nieva .

A notable component of the event was the storytelling segment with a book titled, “Ang Sampung Magkakaibigan” which was delivered with an engaging narrative by Mr. Martin Linsangan, captivating the young audience. The primary objective of "BOOKwentuhan sa KNL" was to emphasize the significance of reading and to familiarize the children with the resources and services available at the Krus Na Ligas Branch. This objective was further reinforced by the address of Kagawad Angelo Agpaoa, who underscored the role of literacy in personal development and reiterated the barangay's commitment to supporting educational endeavors.



Kagawad Agpaoa delivering the closing remarks and message on behalf of Chairman Perdido and the barangay council.

In recognition of their active participation, refreshments were provided to children, which contributed a positive and inclusive storytelling atmosphere.

The event effectively achieved its intended purpose to demonstrate the library's continued relevance as a vital community institution. "BOOKwentuhan sa KNL" served as a testament to the enduring power of physical books and the library's role in promoting literacy and fostering a sense of community amongst the residents of Barangay Krus Na Ligas.

District 2 Libraries Celebrate National Bible Month with Engaging Film Showings

By: Ms. Maria Cristina V. Rabaja









In January 2025, the QCPL - District 2 Libraries put emphasis on promoting biblical literacy, especially among children, as a guide for moral development through an engaging film showing of beloved biblical stories in celebration of the National Bible Month.

The QCPL-Payatas Lupang Pangako Branch was the first to kick off the festivities last January 17, 2025 with a film showing of "Ang Arko ni Noah." Twenty students (20) from Lupang Pangako Elementary School participated and enjoyed the event. The QCPL-Bagong Silangan Branch followed suit with film showings on January 22 and 25 with the same film, providing an entertaining and interactive experience for our community children.

Students from Yakap Day Care Learning Center actively engaged with a film show entitled "Cain & Abel" at QCPL-Holy Spirit Branch last January 15, 2025 as well. Finally, the QCPL-MRB Commonwealth Branch showed the "Superbook: Daniel Story" during their film showing last January 17, 2025.

Each film showing was complemented by interactive activities designed to reinforce lessons like kindness, obedience, and the importance of prayer. By making scripture accessible and engaging through film and creative expression, libraries aim to promote both values and literacy to reinforce the idea that reading and learning are lifelong pursuits.

Purse-It of Art: A Canvas for Expression

By: Ms. Dez Noelle Macasaet

In celebration of the National Arts Month with the theme "Ani ng Sining, Diwa at Damdamin," the QCPL - Roxas Branch, in collaboration with the Barangay Roxas Council and Sangguniang Kabataan ng Roxas, conducted the Purse-It of Art: Coin Purse Designing activity last February 21, 2025. This activity gathered youth from Barangay Roxas, which offered a creative space for artistic expression through a hands-on workshop.



SK Chairman Xavier ABCD Gamboa giving his welcoming remarks.



Participants designing their coin purse canvas.

SK Chairman Xavier ABCD Gamboa welcomed the participants and emphasized the role of art in self-expression and youth empowerment. Ms. Dez Noelle Macasaet, a librarian from QCPL - Roxas Branch, then led a concise yet insightful discussion on design elements and principles to prepare participants for the creative session.

Each participant received a plain coin purse and acrylic markers. They then transformed it into unique and personalized artworks. The activity encouraged self-expression, confidence, and creativity in a fun and engaging environment.



A group photo featuring participants, library staff, and SK Chairman Gamboa.

To further enrich their experience, an interactive activity called “QCPL Online Race” was facilitated by Ms. Jaychelle Patueg and Ms. Lestlie Callo, students from Cagayan State University. This segment introduced participants to the QCPL website and social media pages to promote digital literacy and library resource awareness.

The “Purse-It of Art” activity successfully combined artistic exploration with digital engagement which provided participants with a well-rounded learning experience. Beyond enhancing their artistic skills, they also gained valuable insights into leveraging QCPL’s digital resources for lifelong learning.

Unlock the Power of Visual Storytelling

By: Ms. Maria Carmen C. Chua

On February 20, 2025, two professionals in their field, namely Mr. Johaness L.. Chua and Mr. Romeo M. Mariano, served as resource speakers for a much-anticipated seminar entitled "Social Media and Photo Documentation for Effective Communications." The seminar aimed to equip attendees with the tools and knowledge needed to excel in the ever-evolving digital landscape.

The seminar kicked off with an inspiring welcome remarks from Ms. Jennifer R. Leoncio, OIC-Library Extension Division, who captivated the audience and set the tone for the day.





In the first session, the attendees learned the art of crafting compelling social media posts that resonate with their target audience. They discovered the importance of understanding platform algorithms, choosing the right hashtags, and optimizing their content for maximum reach. Resource Speaker and Columnist Mr. Chua encouraged the active participation of the attendees by asking them to come up with their commitments.





In another session, Resource Speaker and Photographer Mr. Mariano demonstrated the techniques of photo documentation. He guided the participants through the process of capturing impactful images, from composition and lighting to editing and captioning. His insights into visual storytelling left the attendees inspired and eager to apply their newfound skills.

The seminar concluded with a thoughtful-provoking Q&A session, where attendees posed their burning questions to the experts. The lively discussion covered a wide range of topics, from emerging trends in social media to the ethical considerations of photo documentation.

As the seminar drew to a close, participants left with a wealth of knowledge, practical skills, and a renewed sense of motivation. They were excited to implement the strategies they had learned and harness the power of social media and photo documentation to elevate their communication efforts.



Before the seminar ended, Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, and Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), shared their takeaways and offering words of encouragement.

The “Social Media and Photo Documentation for Effective Communications” seminar was not just an educational event; it was a transformative experience that empowered attendees to create meaningful and impactful content in the digital age.





God's Word, Source of Hope: A Discussion

By: Ms. Rosel E. Cabalquinto



The QCPL – Balingasa Branch held a special discussion activity to celebrate the National Bible Month 2025 entitled "God's Word, Source of Hope: A Discussion" on January 24, 2025. The objectives of the activity were to promote national solidarity, inspire participants to listen to the teachings from the Bible, and strengthen the bonds of fellowship among them. This year's gathering was attended by seventeen (17) participants from Barangay Balingasa, Quezon City.

The event was organized with dedicated preachers from The Church of the Almighty God. Brother Mike Jayme took on the role of primary preacher, skillfully delivered, and explained various biblical passages to the attendees. The event began with an opening prayer led by Sister Melchora Tagubilin, with Brother Melchor Calagui also sharing the discussions.

The event concluded with a sense of spiritual enrichment and strengthen community bonds, leaving a lasting impact on the participants.



The Opening Prayer being led by Preacher Melchora Tagubilin.



Preacher Mike Jayme introducing the essence of God's words.

"Kids, Show Your Talent!" at QCPL-MRB

By: Mr. Julius B. Cultivo

Forget the usual quiet library; a day pulsed with laughter, applause, and the sheer exuberance of young performers sharing their dreams was witnessed at QCPL – MRB Commonwealth last January 23, 2025 in an event entitled, "Kids Show Your Talent!" It was not just a performance but a vibrant explosion of youthful energy, creativity, and courage from twelve remarkable young artists. Each child was brimming with confidence and transformed the familiar space into a dazzling stage. They unleashed their self-esteem as they sang, danced and recited poems.



Two talented girls singing their hearts out during their performance.



A participant looking dazzling in his best attire.

The event served as a powerful reminder of the importance of nurturing creativity and providing young people with opportunities to shine. The resounding applause at the end underscored the success of this extraordinary afternoon. It inspired all who attended, reminding us of the incredible power of young voices and the importance of fostering creativity.



The activity starting with a prayer.

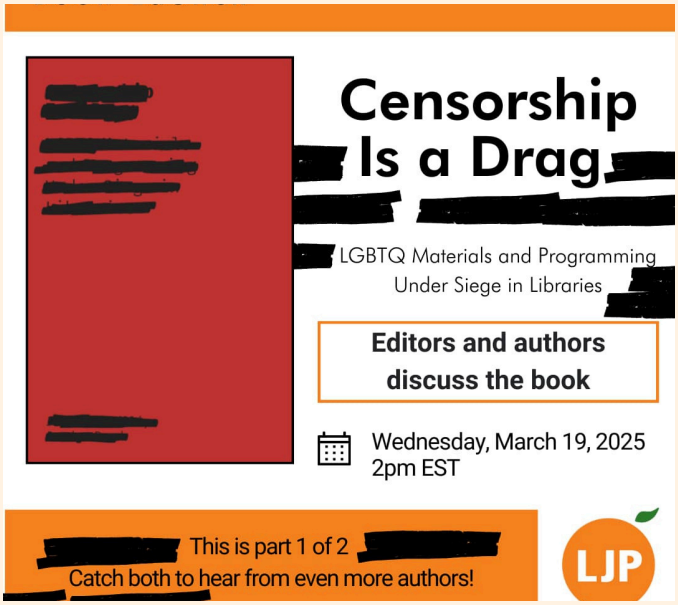


Participants flaunting their loot bags.

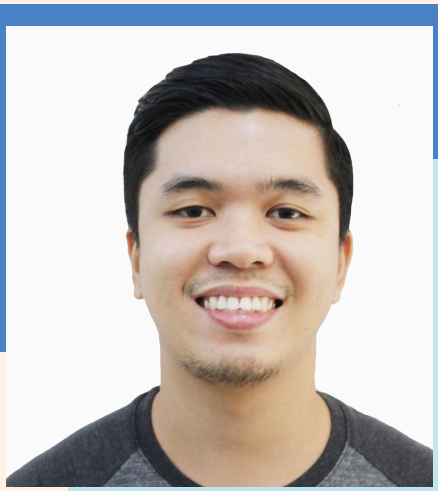
Quezon City for All

By: Ms. Analiza C. Martinez

The QCPL is delighted to announce that one of its institution's librarian was included in the recently launched book entitled “Censorship is a Drag: LGBTQI+ Materials and Programming Under Siege in Libraries,” edited by Jason D. Phillips and Jordan Ruud. Mx. Ernani Agulto, Librarian III and GAD Focal Person of QCPL, is among the authors highlighted in this significant publication. Their article, “Queering the Undisturbed: Reflections on the Construction of Queer Space Through LGBTQIA+ Materials and Programs at QCPL,” explored the role of libraries in harnessing inclusive spaces and **"possibility of queering an undisturbed, heterosexual space through conscious implementation of LGBTQIA+-centered library materials and programs thereby constructing a more inclusive library space for the queer community."**



The book, launched on March 19, 2025, is currently available on Amazon. This publication reflected the Quezon City Government's steadfast dedication to inclusivity and its continuous support for LGBTQIA+ employees within its workforce. By discussing the impact of LGBTQIA+ materials and programs in libraries, the book aspires to contribute to a broader conversation on representation, accessibility, and advocacy in public institutions. It emphasizes the vital role of libraries as safe spaces that champion intellectual freedom and equitable access to diverse resources. As part of its commitment to this advocacy, QCPL will acquire a copy of "Book Censorship is a Drag" for its collection. This will allow library patrons, researchers, and the general public to engage with valuable insights on LGBTQIA+ representation in libraries. Through this initiative, QCPL reaffirms its mission to promote awareness, inclusivity, and diversity within its programs and services to reinforce its role as a hub of knowledge, acceptance, and social progress in the community.



16. "Out and Open: Promoting LGBTQ+ Resources that Defy Censorship"
Stacey Ewing and Colleen Seale

17. "From Research to Practice: How Studies of Drag Storytimes can Inform an Evidence-based Toolkit for Public Libraries"
Vanessa Kitzie, Sarah Barriage, and Shannon Oltmann

18. "Queering the Undisturbed: Reflections on the Construction of Queer Space Through LGBTQIA+ Materials and Programs at the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL)"
Ernani A. Agulto

19. "The Library Classroom as a Safe Space: Academic Libraries, Information Literacy, and Trans Allyship"
Matthew Rohweder

20. "How an Education Liaison Librarian Uses Library Information Sessions and Other Outreach Methods to Instruct Pre-Service Teachers on Using LGBTQ Children's Literature in their Lesson Planning Efforts"
Allyson Wind

21. "Does This Camouflage Come in Rainbow?: Visibility of Frontline Library Workers During the Culture Wars"
Debra Trogdon-Livingston and Patrick Connors

22. "Trans Accessible Libraries Initiative"
Julie Leuzinger and Coby Condrey

Queering the Undisturbed: Reflections on the Construction of Queer Space Through LGBTQIA+ Materials and Programs at the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL)

Ernani A. Agulto

As a queer, Filipino teacher-librarian, I have always imagined a library as a place where everyone is welcome. I envisioned it being a safe space where people from different walks of life can study, gather, and have meaningful conversations, evoking a sense of comfort and belonging. Back in college, I vividly remember frequenting the university library and was interested in pursuing a certificate in Women's Studies (which did not materialize, sadly). I used to spend my free time, even Saturdays, wandering through the dim aisles of the library and running my fingers over dusty books' spines, trying to memorize specific call numbers and locations of Simone de Beauvoir's *Second Sex* and Elie Wiesel's *Night*. Even though I felt the pleasure of being in a space filled with books, there was a certain feeling of disconnect. Looking back, I realize that this feeling of detachment stemmed from the academic library's lack of visibility of queer resources, services, and programs intended for queer students like me. To be candid about it, I never saw myself in Filipiniana books, nor in the library activities and

Empowering Solo Parents: Celebrating Women's Month 2025

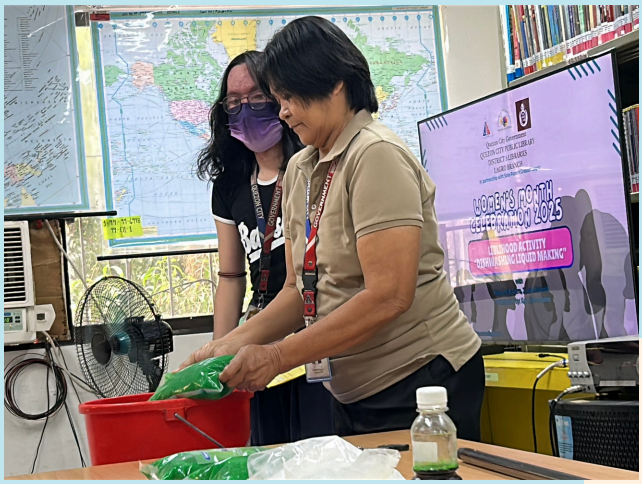
By: Mr. Bienvenido P. Ongkiko, III

The QCPL – Lagro Branch, in collaboration with Solo Parent Greater Lagro QC, led by their President Ms. Love Guingab, conducted an empowering event last March 14, 2025, as part of the 2025 Women's Month celebration. This initiative was made possible with the support of Hon. Leo B. Garra, Jr. and Kgd. Ma. Sheryl "Bem" Abalos, who had continuously supported the library in our community programs that inspire growth and independence for the solo parents, especially the women of the community.

The event was participated by the solo parents from Brgy. Greater Lagro for a hands-on tutorial on making homemade dishwashing liquid—an essential skill that opens doors for livelihood opportunities. The activity was designed to provide participants with practical knowledge and skills, empowering them to start their own small business to support their families and assist in their financial needs.



Mr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador concluding the activity with a closing remarks.



Ms. Trinidad R. Domingo, assisted by Mx. Christian A. Modar, demonstrating the step by step process of making a dishwashing liquid.

Through step-by-step demonstration of Ms. Trinidad R. Domingo assisted by Mx. Christian A. Modar, the attendees learned the proper techniques and materials needed to produce high-quality dishwashing liquid. QCPL staff emphasized the cost-effectiveness of homemade cleaning products and provided insights on packaging, pricing, and marketing strategies to help the participants start their own small businesses.

Encouraging words from Ms. Guingab. and Kgd. Abalos further inspired solo parents, reminding them that resilience and resourcefulness are key to overcoming life's challenges. Mr. Victor Anthony H. Salvador (Assistant Supervisor, District 5 Libraries) closed the event with an encouraging and heartfelt closing remarks.





Awarding of Certificates of Appreciation to Kgd. Ma. Sheryl "Bem" Abalos and Ms. Love Guingab for their support during the activity.

With this 2025 Women's Month celebration, the QCPL – Lagro Branch continues to provide quality service to the public through various engaging and knowledge filled activities.

District 2 Libraries' Monthly Celebrations: World Read Aloud Day and Oral Health Month

By: Ms. Nor-ashiyah M. Ontong

In celebration of the World Read Aloud Day and Oral Health Month, the QCPL District 2 Branch Libraries hosted storytelling events to emphasize the importance of reading and oral health among children. The event was held across four branches: QCPL-Holy Spirit Branch, QCPL-MRB Commonwealth Branch, QCPL-Bagong Silangan Branch, and QCPL-Payatas Lupang Pangako Branch.





The QCPL-Holy Spirit Branch spearheaded the district's World Read Aloud Day and Oral Health Month activities on February 5, 2025. They successfully conducted a library orientation, an educational game, and a storytelling session featuring the book "Ay! May Bukbok ang Ngipin ni Ani" from the 31 participants from Our Lady of Sacred Heart Organization.

The following week, February 13, 2025, the QCPL-MRB Commonwealth Branch hosted a storytelling session at Manuel L. Quezon Elementary School featuring the same book as well. A total of 53 enthusiastic Grade 3 students participated, with Hon. Rowena E. Lucas as the guest storyteller. The activity concluded with each student receiving a book as a token of appreciation.

The QCPL-Bagong Silangan Branch also held a storytelling session entitled "Idol ko si Titser" for the eighteen (18) regular clients of the Bagong Silangan Elementary School on February 10, 2025. The session was led by the energetic Ms. Maria Luisa Miguel, who inspired children through an interactive storytelling.

Lastly, the QCPL-Payatas Lupang Pangako Branch organized a storytelling session and a discussion on proper tooth brushing on February 21, 2025. The session featured the story "Si Gato, ang Batang Ayaw Mag-Sepilyo," presented by Hon. Vienmar Magdaraog, SK Chairman of Brgy. Payatas. A total of 40 students from Urban Pinasama Day Care Center, KnK, and Lupang Pangako Elementary School attended while being accompanied by their parents and teachers.



Adding to the event's significance, Dr. Vivian Humphreys from QCHD Lupang Pangako Health

Center delivered a talk titled "A Payo ni Dok: Ngipin mo ay Titibay, Tamang Pagsisipilyo Dapat Ibigay" to emphasize the importance of proper dental care. Participants received hygiene kits and family dental kits as generously sponsored by Hon. Aly Medalla and Dr. Vivian Humphreys. Additionally, Hon. Rascal D. Doctor, Chairperson of Brgy. Payatas, provided snacks for everyone.





The events were a resounding success, with children not only enjoying themselves but also gaining valuable knowledge on literacy and oral health. The QCPL District 2 Branch Libraries remain committed to fostering a lifelong love for reading and learning among young minds.

The QCPL District 2 extend their heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated and contributed to the success of these events. The QCPL District 2 Branch Libraries will continue to uphold their mission of promoting literacy and education in Quezon City to empower children to grow, learn, and succeed.

District 5 Branch Libraries' 2025 National Bible Month

By: Mr. James Russell C. Colastre

In celebration of the National Bible Month, the QCPL - District 5 Lagro and North Fairview Branch Libraries, in partnership with the Family Life Global Christian Church, arranged an educational, short storytelling and film showing activities together with a brief library introduction and orientation to the participants from the community on January 25, 2025.



Participants attentively watching the film.



Participants preparing themselves for the film showing.



QCPL-District 5 Lagro and North Fairview branch libraries' staff with the Barangay community children

The main goal of these activities was to educate the fifty (50) children from the Barangay community who participated and interacted in the activity to improve their reading, understanding, listening, and comprehension in faith and spirituality.

The parable of "The Wise and Foolish Builders," found in the Bible (Matthew 24:7-27), is a story about building one's life on a solid foundation. This story was narrated by Ms. Celeste Estilo, while selected short films showed were stories from Bible as well.

QCPL Returns to Quezon Memorial Circle with a Pop-Up Library

By: Ms. Chelsea Denise S. Din

On March 1, 2025, QCPL returns to Quezon Memorial Circle (QMC) with a pop-up library to bring excitement and new learnings to park visitors through educational books, fun games, and coloring activities.

The newly introduced coloring sheets and art materials spark the interest and joy of the kids – who, together with their parents, bring the black and white images to life through their artistic skills.





The return of the pop-up library also caught the attention of park visitors, including the news media outlets who featured the library's services in news articles — posted both in print and online.

The QCPL pop-up library truly brings a sense of joy and nostalgia. A heartwarming and simple act of sharing books and providing space for learning that lights up the community, especially for children who are drawn to reading and coloring. It creates a moment for families to bond, learn, and play together in such a wholesome environment.

Park visitors are welcome to visit the QCPL Pop-up library at QMC every Saturday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. See you around, QCitizens!

Women's Month 2025 Celebration with the District 2 Libraries

By: Mr. Krestan S. Gutierrez

The QCPL District 2 Libraries participated in various activities, in celebration of Women's Month 2025. This month highlighted the importance of advancing gender equality and recognizing women's pivotal role in society. Women's Month is not only a time for celebration but also a time for collective action. It is a chance to honor the incredible women who have shaped the society and to push for continued progress in achieving gender equality for future generations.





On March 14, 2025, the QCPL Holy Spirit Branch partnered with the Holy Spirit Zumba Ladies group to conduct a Zumba session titled "Indak ko, Libro mo." The aim of this event was to promote health, the joy of donating books for the library, and the unity of women in the community. A total of eighteen (18) women had fun in participating in the energetic Zumba dance session with the Holy Spirit Zumba Ladies.

The QCPL – MRB Commonwealth Branch organized an activity titled "Kembot Mo! Libro Ko!: Zumba Dance for a Cause" on March 15, 2025, in partnership with Barangay Commonwealth. The aim of the activity was to celebrate and empower women through a fun and energetic exercise. It was a way to promote health, confidence, and strength while creating a positive and supportive community. The Commonwealth Run Club (ComRunClub), with a total of forty-three (43) women, was invited to participate in this energetic zumba dance session.





Lastly, the QCPL-Payatas Lupang Pangako Branch conducted a "DIY Wallet Making: An Upcycling Activity for Women" activity last March 20, 2025. This activity was intended to impart valuable skills to women in the community by facilitating a hands-on workshop where they can create unique and eco-friendly wallets from recycled materials. A total of twelve (12) youth volunteers and five (5) adults participated in the training.





By promoting a variety of activities which aims to encourage literacy and reading efforts, the QCPL-District 2 libraries will be able to show that reading is a lifetime learning activity.

Hang Your Creativity!

By: Ms. Cynthia C. Mendez

The QCPL – North Fairview Branch celebrated the National Women's Month 2025 on March 21, 2025 with a Liblihood Activity entitled "DIY Hanging Craft Making." The activity participated by the solo parents from Samahan ng Dakilang Nanay, Solo Parent Association, led by their president Ms. Jenifer Evangelista of Barangay North Fairview. The activity focused on creating Do-It-Yourself hanging craft. This initiative was made possible through the support of Hon. Amelia "Amy" Chua and Ms. Mary Grace G. Elen, GAD Focal Person, who had continuously supported the library's community programs that inspire growth and independence especially among solo parents and women in the community.



Participants from Solo Parent Association and Gad Focal Person



Participants from Samahan ng Dakilang Nanay, Solo Parent Association.

This activity began with a warm welcoming speech from Ms. Eleanor M. Sampiano, Supervisor of District 5 Libraries, with her message sparking the excitement among participants who were eager to learn a new skill and discover a new way to empower themselves.

Empowering messages were also shared by Ms. Grace G. Elen and Ms. Jenifer Evangelista. Their speeches made solo parents felt seen, heard, and appreciated which reminded them of their rights and value as a woman.



Group 2 featuring their finished art work.



Group 1 featuring their finished art work.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the event was the sense of camaraderie and support built among participants. Women shared tips, ideas, and laughter while working on their crafts, building meaningful connections that extended beyond the workshop itself. The activity became not only a creative outlet but also a safe and empowering space for women to connect, inspire, and uplift one another.



Awarding of Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Grace G. Elen



Awarding of Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Jenifer Evangelista

Serving as the Master of Ceremony, Mx. Christian A. Modar concluded the program with an empowering phrase: **"Hindi ka lang Babae, Babae Ka!"**

The DIY Hanging Craft workshop was designed not only ignite creativity but also to promote a sense of independence and self-expression. This hands-on activity allowed everyone to tap into their artistic potential and create beautiful pieces that could be proudly displayed at home or even sold, as part of a small business pursuit. It was an enriching experience that combined creativity with practical skills that offers valuable insight into potential livelihood opportunities.

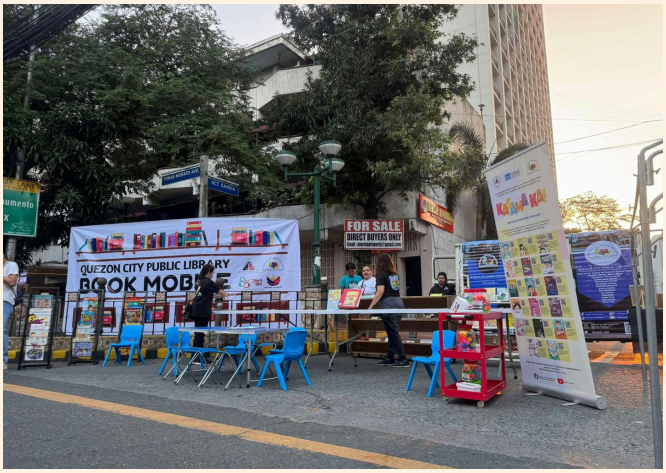
A Closer Move to the Community: QCPL Pop-up Library at Car-free, Carefree Sundays

By: Ms. Chelsea Denise S. Din

The QCPL Pop-up Library is the new exciting addition to the Car-free, Carefree Sundays in Tomas Morato, which started on February 16, 2025. This aims to bring reading materials and library services closer to the community.

Adventure, Fantasy, or Mystery, you name it! The QCPL pop-up library has all the genres you want to read. Alongside this are educational games such as building blocks, board games, and puzzles that kids can play together with their parents and friends.





The Car-free, Carefree Sundays is a project by the Quezon City Government, which promotes environmental stability, a healthy lifestyle, and participation in various activities, which everyone can join regardless of their age. It is an avenue to promote community engagement and to create a vibrant public space that will contribute to the well-being of the visitors and residents. The good news is, QCPL is here to serve as a breather from the busy days at school and work – a reminder that people should also take time to read, learn and spend time with their loved ones amidst their busy schedules.





Catch QCPL at Car-free, Carefree Sundays at Tomas Morato Avenue, Quezon City on July 13, 2025, from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM. A friendly reminder that attendees are encouraged to bring their own reusable water tumbler and eco bag. Watch out for other schedule announcements on our official QCPL social media pages. See you there, QCitizens!

Reference Services and Strategies for Improving the Public Library Setting

By: Ms. Rowena G. Garcia

The QCPL was privileged to welcome Dr. Amy VanScoy, a distinguished visiting researcher from the University at Buffalo, New York, on March 24, 2025, for generously sharing her invaluable knowledge and extensive experience in library reference services, which significantly enriched the understanding and enhanced the professional practices of QCPL's librarians.





The event began with Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, warmly welcoming the esteemed guest and all forum participants, with her unwavering support and leadership inspiring the QCPL community. The session was brought to a meaningful close after Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), delivered a thoughtful and insightful summary that highlighted the importance of collaboration and continuous learning in the librarian field.

A sincere gratitude to all librarians, On-the-Job-Trainees (OJT) from Cagayan State University (CSU), and the dedicated organizers whose hard work and active participation made this event a resounding success. Their enthusiasm and commitment to professional growth truly made a difference.





To carry this momentum forward, QCPL is excited to announce its plan to continue this initiative with an upcoming workshop. Stay tuned for more opportunities to engage, learn, and grow together as we strive for excellence in library service and innovation!

Ako'y Hindi Babae Lang!

By: Ms. Jennifer P. de Nieva



Participants having fun while solving the jigsaw puzzle.



Participants reading "The 85 Extraordinary Women: Quezon City's Women of Merit and Excellence in Nation-Building."

The QCPL – UP Campus Pook Amorsolo Branch organized the activity "Ako'y Hindi Babae Lang!" on March 19, 2025 to commemorate the 2025 National Women's Month. The activity was organized to honor and recognize the remarkable contributions of women in nation-building, with a focus on the women featured in the "85 Extraordinary Women: Quezon City's Women of Merit & Excellence in Nation-Building." It was aimed to raise awareness about the significant roles women play in shaping society and to engage the community, especially children, in learning about these influential figures from various sectors such as politics, education, healthcare, sports, pageantry, and social welfare.



Participants posing for a group photo after the activity.



Participants watching the QCPL promotional video.

The activity encouraged eleven (11) community children from Barangay UP Campus to explore and appreciate the stories of these extraordinary women while promoting reading as a valuable tool for learning and personal growth. Children were also engaged in an interactive jigsaw puzzle activity; they completed the faces of several women featured in the book which led to a discussion as they tried to identify the women, naturally introducing them to their accomplishments. They shared who they consider great women aside from the ones discussed in the book as well. To conclude, QCPL showcased a promotional video to introduce the various services and programs the library offers to the community.

Artifacts and Imagination: A Book Caravan Activity

By: Mr. Joshua C. Ebalobo

In celebration of Public Library Day, the QCPL – U.P. Campus Pook Dagohoy Branch, in collaboration with the UP School of Archaeology and Heritage on Wheels, conducted an engaging Book Caravan activity on February 8, 2025 for the children of Pook Palaris, Barangay UP Campus. A total of thirty-six (36) community children participated in this enriching day of activity.



Mr. Martin Linsangan, assisted by Ms. Jennifer de Nieva, conducting a storytelling session.



A photo op with the participants, members of the UP School of Archaeology, and Heritage on Wheels after the activity.

The event was divided into two main sessions: the morning session was dedicated to storytelling and art activities which enhanced their communication and creative expression; while the afternoon session featured archaeology-themed educational exercises where children were introduced to archaeological concepts, tools, and methods in a fun, hands-on environment. This blend of creative and intellectual activity was designed to encourage children's curiosity, boost their literacy skills, and expand their knowledge of the world around them.



Children enjoying the activities prepared by the UP School of Archaeology in the afternoon.



QCPL District 4 staff starting the activity with an energizer for the community children.

A standout feature of the day was the Bambike Mobile Library brought by Heritage on Wheels. The mobile library, designed to bring books directly to communities, gave children the opportunity to explore a wide range of reading materials, enrich their reading experience, and expand their knowledge base. This resource allowed children to continue their reading journey long after the activity had ended.

German Class at QCPL!

By: Ms. Rowena G. Garcia

QCPL was honored to welcome once again Ms. Cindy Llorente-Weigand, the passionate owner and dedicated instructor behind Pinay German Tutor (PGT), as she generously shared her invaluable expertise in teaching the German language at QCPL on March 26, 2025, which was met with great enthusiasm from its participants.





Her second time teaching marked a special occasion for QCPL, as the library hosted an engaging and insightful in-person German language session exclusively for the library staff. With Ms. Llorente-Weigand in the country, this rare face-to-face learning opportunity allowed QCPL to benefit from her dynamic teaching style and cultural insights—an experience that went beyond textbooks and online modules.





This initiative not only supports the library's ongoing professional development efforts but also reinforces QCPL's commitment to expanding access to diverse language and cultural education. QCPL is also excited to extend this opportunity to the broader community very soon.

Stay tuned as we prepare to open our German language classes to the public. Whether you're a beginner, a language enthusiast, or someone simply looking to explore new horizons, our upcoming sessions promise a rich and rewarding journey into the German language—right here at QCPL!

Ligtas Galas: Fire Safety Awareness

By: Ms. Rosario J. Malig

In celebration of the Fire Prevention Month, the QCPL – San Isidro Galas Branch hosted a session of the Ligtas Galas Program, entitled "Ligtas Galas: Fire Safety Awareness" on March 19, 2025. The event was aimed to raise awareness about the importance of fire safety among children of Barangay San Isidro Galas.

The session managed to gather approximately thirty-one (31) participants from the local community including three (3) OJTs from the San Isidro Galas Fire Substation. The goal was to educate them on fire prevention and safety measures, especially as fire-related incidents had become an increasing concern. The library staff, along with the San Isidro Galas Council and Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC), strongly believed that providing this crucial knowledge to children would help them stay safe and know how to respond appropriately in the event of an emergency.



FO3 Mart Jerome Rasonable asking questions about what the children had learned in the lecture.

To ensure the session's success, QCPL invited a fire safety expert from the Bureau of Fire Protection – San Isidro Galas Fire Substation. FO1 Lean Mark J. Gonzales and FO3 Mart Jerome Rasonable, both nozzlemen, led the discussion. They shared practical fire prevention tips through a children's video presentation, demonstrated the correct steps to take during emergencies, and highlighted key safety measures that children should follow at home and school. An interactive activity, an actual fire drill to be specific, helped children become engaged with the topic to make their learning experience both informative and fun.



FO1 Lean Mark Gonzales and FO3 Mart Jerome Rasonable demonstrating the basic step during a fire emergency.



A mock fire drill taking place to help children practice safe evacuation procedures during a fire emergency.



FO1 Lean Mark Gonzales presenting a children's video tackling the basics of fire safety.



This initiative proved to be a valuable opportunity for children to gain essential life skills that could protect them and their families from danger. The session not only educated the young community members but also fostered a sense of responsibility in ensuring the safety of their homes.

Through this successful event, the "Ligtas Galas: Fire Safety Awareness Program" reinforced the importance of fire safety in the community and provided children with the knowledge and tools to act safely and confidently in an emergency. The QCPL's commitment to community education played a vital role in empowering the next generation with life-saving skills.

Protecting Youth, Empowering Communities: The Role of Public Libraries"

By: Mr. Percival D. Mendoza

In accordance with Proclamation No. 563, s. 1959 declaring March 9 of every year as Public Library Day, QCPL joined in the celebration of the 66th Public Library Day by conducting a seminar entitled, "Kabataan, Ligtas sa Ating Pampublikong Aklatan." This activity was held at the QCPL Conference Room on March 8, 2025. The theme for this year's celebration was "Public Libraries in Action: Blueprint of Empowered Community."



Ms. Rowena F. Bondoc sharing her thoughts on outreach programs and services to the community.



Ms. Gladys E. Torralba explaining the benefits of reading and how it builds confidence, creativity, and critical thinking.

One of the objectives of the seminar was to provide an informative perspective to the function of public libraries as an alternative facility where youth can feel secured while reading, researching, performing and/or just taking advantage of other services being offered by the library.

Giving the in-depth information and knowledge about the topic were two distinguished educators from the Quezon City High School namely, Ms. Rowena F. Bondoc and Ms. Gladys E. Torralba. Their "talk "gave emphasis on the importance of fostering a sense of security and a feeling of belongingness among children, youth and elderly.

Thirty (30) parents from Barangay Central, Quezon City attended the event and was enthusiastically engaged in discussions about the role of public libraries in promoting safe spaces and empowering the youth. Their presence to activities like this is a testament of their unwavering dedication in cultivating a reading culture that supports their children's pursuit of achieving educational success.



Awarding of Certificates of Appreciation to Ms. Rowena F. Bondoc and Ms. Gladys E. Torralba.



A photo opportunity with the resource speakers and participants.

Public Library Day reminds us that libraries are more than just places where to read and borrow books; they are safe, welcoming spaces that play an important part in shaping a brighter future for our children. As we commemorate this special day, QCPL reaffirms its commitment in creating an environment where everyone can learn, grow, and thrive. We also recognize the vital role of collaboration amongst our leaders, the education sector, and partner organizations in ensuring that every library user has access to a safe, inclusive space where they can reach their full potential and contribute to a stronger, more united community.

E-Resources Section Hosts a Forum on Enhancing Access to Online Databases

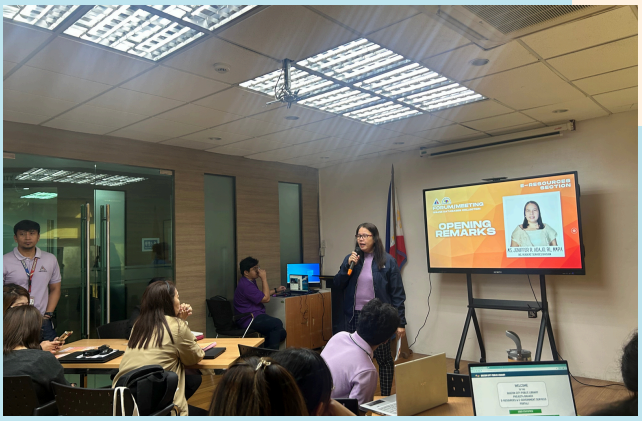
By: Mr. Charles A. Pasicolan

The QCPL's E-Resources Section, under Readers' Services Division, successfully conducted a Forum on the Online Database Collection on February 12, 2025 at QCPL Conference Room. The event gathered QCPL's district supervisors, assistant district supervisors, branch library heads, and section heads to discuss challenges, best practices, and strategies for improving the accessibility and utilization of the library's digital resources. The forum was aimed to:

1. To identify problems, issues and concerns regarding access and usage of the online databases.
2. To share, identify, and recognize best practices among library branches and sections in promoting and utilizing our e-resources.
3. To develop collaborative strategies and action plans to improve database access and usage.
4. To foster stronger communication and cooperation between branch libraries.



Mr. Charles A. Pasicolan, Head of E-Resources Section, explaining their section's current subscription.



Ms. Jeniffer R. Adajo, OIC-Readers' Services Division, delivering her opening remarks.

5. To assess the current outreach and promotional efforts for QCPL's online databases and identify areas for improvement.
6. To discuss the rollout of QCPL User Accounts of the BuriBooks, ensuring a smooth implementation and effective integration into the QCPL's services.

One of the highlights of the forum was the discussion on the problems, issues, and concerns in promoting and utilizing the online databases. Participants shared insights on how their respective initiatives could benefit students and educators, as well as the steps needed for a smooth implementation. Additionally, best practices from different branches and sections were recognized, emphasizing successful strategies in promoting and integrating online databases into library services.



The event concluded with an open forum and collaborative planning session, where participants proposed action plans and strategies to improve database access and user engagement. Key takeaways included the need for integration of the online resources into the activities and programs of the branch libraries, stronger promotional efforts, and better technical support to address access issues.

The QCPL's E-Resources Section expresses its commitment to continuously improve its digital resources and ensure that QCPL remains a leading provider of accessible and high-quality information resources for the community.

QCPL's Digital Poster Making Contest

By: the District Libraries Division

An awarding ceremony for the Digital Poster Making Contest with the theme: "Basic Literacy Program: Reading and Numeracy Tutorial" was conducted by the QCPL - District Libraries Division (DLD) on March 13, 2025.



Ms. Analiza C. Martinez, Head of the District Libraries Division, giving her welcoming remarks.



Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian), delivering her inspirational message.

The entries for this activity were submitted to DLD from February 29, 2025 to March 10, 2025 while judging took place on March 11, 2025 with the following judges: Mx. Ernani Agulto, Ms. Rona Crucillo, Ms. Ma. Carmen Chua, Mr. Paulo Timban, and Mr. Joe Carlo Crucillo.



Ms. Lore Ann Ting sharing her experience on how she came up with the design and concept of her entry during the open forum.



Ms. Rona D. Crucillo, OIC (Assistant Head)- District Libraries Division, delivering the program as the Master of Ceremony.

The ceremony began with a welcoming message by Ms. Analiza C. Martinez, Head of the District Libraries Division, followed by an inspirational message from Ms. Mary Ann L. Bernal, OIC (Assistant City Librarian). Congratulations to the following winners of QCPL's Digital Poster Making Contest:

1st Place - Ms. Cynthia C. Mendez
2nd Place - Ms. Arriane Nicole Martinez
3rd Place - Ms. Rheale A. Llarena

The winning entry from this activity will be used as the cover photo for the Basic Literacy Program Handbook and as a background for every tutorial that will be conducted on future dates.



Awarding of Certificates to the Winners.
(From Left to Right): Ms. Rheale A. Llarena (3rd Place), Ms. Cynthia C. Mendez (1st Place) and Ms. Arriane Nicole Martinez (2nd Place).

Beyond Books: Nurturing Inclusivity for Children with Special Needs

By: the District Libraries Division

The QCPL – District Libraries Division, in partnership with the Quezon City Kabahagi Center for Children (QCCCD), conducted a hybrid seminar workshop entitled "Beyond Books: Nurturing Inclusivity for Children with Special Needs" on March 13, 2025. Its objective was to teach library staff on how to teach children with special needs and to explore strategies and other effective methods for teaching them when visiting the library.

The ceremony began with a welcoming address from Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL, followed by Councilor Julienne Alyson Rae "Aly" Medalla, Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Science and Technology, who gave her inspirational message before the program started. Lastly, Ms. Analiza C. Martinez, Head-District Libraries Division, introduced the seminar-workshop's resource speaker, Ms. Charlene Faye A. Agati.



Councilor Julienne Alyson Rae "Aly" Medalla, Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Science and Technology, delivering her inspirational message.



A photo-ops with Ms. Mariza G. Chico, OIC-QCPL; Councilor Julienne Alyson Rae "Aly" Medalla, Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Science and Technology; and Ms. Charlene Faye A. Agati from QCCCD).

Before the seminar-workshop began, Ms. Charlene Faye A. Agati, led an icebreaker activity to energize the participants and provide context for the upcoming discussions. Snacks were distributed while participants brainstormed for their group workshop session.



Awarding of Certificate to Ms. Charlene Faye A. Agati



Ms. Charlene Faye A. Agati, Resource Speaker, discussing tips related to the topic.

Each group then presented their outputs on effective time scheduling and teaching strategies to engage students with special needs. The focus was on ensuring that students remain interested and stay focused in their studies.

The output of this seminar workshop was the knowledge gained by participants on how to properly teach children with special needs. and how it is important to have a schedule each tutorial session.

"Dealing with Sexual Harassment at School" Seminar at Lagro High School

By: Mx. Ernani A. Agulto

In coordination with the QCPL-GAD Committee, the QCPL - District 5 Libraries conducted a seminar in Lagro High School on March 28, 2025.





The seminar titled "Dealing with Sexual Harassment at School" was part of a seminar series that focused on the important concepts surrounding sexual harassment and proper ways on to how to deal with it at school. Moreover, it was designed to strengthen QCPL's campaign against all forms of violence against women.





Mx. Vince Liban, GAD Council Office Consultant, served as a resource person while selected Senior High School (SHS) students from Lagro High School attended the seminar.

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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.