



PCMC unveils its Timeless Treasures

By Ira Karen Apanay | Public Relations Officer III



Philippine Children's Medical Center Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez (right) and former Executive Director Dr. Lillian V. Lee present the *Timeless Treasures* Coffee Table Book during the soft launch on April 27, 2023.

The Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC) celebrated the release of its new book *Timeless Treasures* during its soft launch event on April 27, 2023, as part of the weeklong celebration of the hospital's 43rd Anniversary.

The 90-page coffee table book features more than 100 photographs of artworks, old furniture, and fixtures that are still present and used to be available inside the medical center.

PCMC Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez said the book aims "to capture the beauty of PCMC's living art and make known the reasons behind why it was called a Wonderland for Children."

The PCMC, formerly known as "Lungsod ng Kabataan", was an oasis for patients because of the eye-catching murals, educational walls and ceiling designs, artistic nurse stations and patient beds, and life-sized fruits turned into benches and an information desk. As the years passed, these gorgeous and educational artworks were subjected to wear and tear due to hospital-wide repairs and construction.

The "Lungsod ng Kabataan" was created in 1979 through Presidential Decree 1631. It was inaugurated on April 29, 1980, in the

presence of Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret of the United Kingdom. Under the then-Minister of Human Settlements, First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, the hospital started delivering expert healthcare to children on June 23, 1980.

In November 1986, Malacañang issued Memorandum Order No. 48, renaming the hospital the Philippine Children's Medical Center, or PCMC.

As the first alumna of the PCMC Residency and Fellowship Training Program who became the executive director of the institution, Dr. Gonzalez was one of the people who witnessed the beauty and uniqueness of the hospital.

As a fitting tribute to these historical figures, she decided to come up of a coffee table book consisting of all these artworks and old furniture for everyone to see, especially the future generations, the treasures of PCMC which are considered timeless.

The furniture and other fixtures of the hospital reflected the resiliency and ingenuity of this specialty center which used materials naturally found in the country. These timeless pieces have been functional in the executive offices for the past 43 years.



The Editorial Team



The Master of Ceremonies Dr. Beatriz Praxedes Apolla I. Mandanas-Paz shows the Timeless Treasures Coffee Table Book with PCMC Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez and Former Executive Director Dr. Lillian V. Lee.



(From left to right) Members of the Management Committee, Deputy Executive Director for Education, Training and Research Services Dr. Mary Ann C. Bunyi, Deputy Executive Director for Hospital Support Services Dr. Cecilia O. Gan, Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez, Deputy Executive Director for Nursing Services Dr. Amelinda S. Magno and Deputy Executive Director for Medical Services Dr. Maria Eva I. Jopson.

PCMC Battle of the Bands 2023

"Isang Tunog, Isang Tinig ng Pagsigya, Pagningas at Pagkakaisa sa Pagbabago"

By Art John Blanco, MSc | Employees' Program Committee

Randy P. Urtula M.D. | Over-all Chair, Executive Committee, 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebration

"Isang Tunog, Isang Tinig ng Pagsigya, Pagningas at Pagkakaisa sa Pagbabago" is this year's theme of the Employees' Program Anniversary Presentation. Uncommonly used Filipino terms such as "pagsigya", "pagningas," and "pagbabago" really aroused the curiosity in all of us. "Sigya" means great enthusiasm, "ningas" means ignite, and "pagbago" means change. This year's theme is really timely as we celebrate the 43rd anniversary of PCMC on our road to transformation.

Last year, we were able to witness the talents of our colleagues in the field of dance. Creativity sure isn't lacking in our PCMC personnel. This year's Employees' Program Committee came up with something different. It brought back an art form that doesn't only require the ability to dance but also exacts musicality. The "Battle of the Bands" was conceptualized for employees to foster cohesiveness, ignite their passion, and unite them with a common goal. This was held on April 28, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at the Sto. Niño Atrium.



The band from the Nursing Service, named The Defibrillators, won first place during the PCMC Battle of the Bands 2023 held on April 28, 2023 at the Sto. Niño Atrium.

Five bands from the Director's Office/Outsourced Personnel, Medical/ETRS, Allied Medical/Surgical, Hospital Support Services, and Nursing Service battled it out to be the best. Each band presented two songs of their choice, with the second song being the contest piece in line with this year's anniversary theme. The front act was the revitalized PCMC Band, which cherished the opportunity to be able to play again after a long hiatus. They set the tone for "Rock and Roll" for the rest of the evening.

First to perform was "The Defibrillators" (Nursing Service), followed by "Tropang Gising" (Medical/ETRS), then "New Band on the Block" (Allied Medical/Surgical), HEA Band (Hospital Support Services), and finally "Bandwidth" (Director's Office/Outsourced Personnel). When the smoke cleared, the Nursing Service, was awarded the overall winner with a cash prize of P10,000.00. Second place with a cash prize of P7,000.00 went to Medical/ETRS, and third place with a cash prize of P5,000.00 was won by the Hospital Support Services. Consolation prizes of P2,000.00 each were awarded to Allied Medical/Surgical Services, the Director's Office, and Outsourced Personnel.

The audience was enthralled with the performances of each band, showcasing their vocal versatility and showmanship as doctors, nurses, office clerks, and workers were transformed into superb vocalists, guitarists, bassists, drummers, keyboard artists, and a cellist.

The Board of Judges was composed of Ms. Luzviminda Piedad, acting as chair of the board, Mr. Joshua Nubla, and Mr. Nikz Berame, all talents of GMA Network. Ms. Piedad and Mr. Nubla rendered intermission numbers before announcing the winners.

Truly, it was a fun-filled and exciting afternoon to cap the Anniversary Week celebrations! Surely the PCMC Family will have more of these activities in the future. Our sincerest appreciation to the Employees' Program Committee, the Physical Arrangements Committee, the 43rd Anniversary Organizing Committees, and the hospital management for making this event possible.



The different bands in action.



PCMC employees enjoy nostalgic and fun-filled activities

By Eljane Del Rosario | Co-chair, Sports Committee, 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebrations



Participants with PCMC Executive Director Sonia B. Gonzalez and 43rd Anniversary Organizing Committee Over-all Chair Dr. Randy P. Urtula wave before the camera after the fun-filled event held at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center on April 25, 2023.



PCMC Employees participating in the fun run bond together with their co-workers.

To promote healthy physical activity among the employees and bring back memories of the good old days of their childhood as they cherish cultural treasures, the Sports Committee for the 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebration spearheaded fun-filled activities on April 25, 2023, at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center.

The employees assembled at the venue at 6:30 in the morning and joined the "Fit to Serve" Fun Run and "Palarong Pinoy" afterwards.

The Committee organized a friendly classic game competition among four (4) teams consisting of DO-HSS, Medical-ETRS, Allied Medical, and the Nursing Services. It also designed a unique and exciting relay race with a twist, wherein for each leg of the race, the participants will perform sipa, piko, sack race, luksong lubid, and tumbang preso. Classic games like Kadang-kadang sa Bunot, Batuhang Bola, and Patintero were also part of the activities.

Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez and the overall chairperson for the 43rd PCMC Anniversary, Dr. Randy P. Urtula, awarded the winners with cash prizes. The DO-HSS bagged first place and received the P5,000 cash prize right after the event.

All the employees from different teams enjoyed the fun run and gave their best efforts to compete in various traditional Filipino games.

The PCMC management and the organizers expressed gratitude to the administration of the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center for accommodating the event free of charge. They also thanked the generous sponsors HydroAid and Vivalyte for keeping the participants hydrated throughout the activities.



Participants enjoy playing "Patintero."

The Sports Committee proposed the said nostalgic and fun-filled activities to indulge the PCMC health workers, who joined the event with a carefree vibe and a short break from work.

PCMC Arts and Crafts Day

By Dianara Anna Marrie Ebe, OTRP | Children’s Program Committee

The Children’s Program Committee of the 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebration Organizing Committee conducted an “Arts and Crafts Day Activity” for the patients and dependents of hospital employees on April 25, 2023, at the PCMC Multipurpose Hall.

Ms. Rajawen Africa, Chair of the Children’s Program Committee, said that the activity aims to improve the well-being of every participant by engaging them to use arts to express themselves.

The event featured a painting activity facilitated by the members of the FEU League of Advertising Students (FEU-LOADS) and an on-the-spot painting contest helmed by International Contemporary Artist Migz Salazar.

Volunteer facilitators also attended the event. Participants, consisting of patients and dependents of hospital employees’ ages 6 to 18, enjoyed the activity, where they had an opportunity to unleash their creativity and imagination.



International Contemporary Artist Migz Salazar presents the chosen winner during the on-the-spot painting contest.

The children’s paintings were showcased at the hospital’s business center.

“John Wick 4” movie block screening a success

By Manuelito A. Madrid, MD | Chair, Ways and Means Committee



PCMC 43rd Anniversary Organizing Committee Overall Chair Dr. Randy P. Urtula together with Radiology Staff pose beside the tarpaulin of John Wick Chapter 4 during the block screening held on March 26, 2023.

The Ways and Means Committee of the 43rd Anniversary Celebration of the Philippine Children’s Medical Center (PCMC) organized a movie block screening event on March 26, 2023, in Cinema 1 at Trinoma Mall in Quezon City.

As an initial project, the PCMC Anniversary Organizing Committee Overall Chair Dr. Randy Urtula felt a movie screening would generate a considerable amount of funds in just one event, and this money will be available to support the various activities of the hospital’s anniversary month.

The committee members, in coordination with the Executive Committee, chose “John Wick 4” for the movie block screening.

The group was organized and tasked with supporting the various programs, activities, and causes of the different anniversary committees by raising funds. These funds will complement the allotted budget for the anniversary. Proceeds and surplus will also be used for some projects, donations, or charities.

The bulk of the proceeds are earmarked for the benefit of Adopt-An-Orphanage Project 2.0

Promoting Primary Prevention

By Fatima I. Gimenez, MD | Chair, Scientific Committee, 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebration



Dr. Fatima I. Gimenez, Chair of the Scientific Committee for the 43rd PCMC Anniversary explains the importance of vaccines in saving lives, saving money and protecting the vulnerable ones.

The Scientific Committee for the 43rd PCMC Anniversary Celebration was given the task of complementing the annual activities, which serve not only to celebrate but also sustain and preserve the spirit and vitality of the institution.

This year, the initial kickoff was providential as it coincided with World Immunization Week. Both on a global and national scale, the disruption of delivery and access to health services as an offshoot of the pandemic has greatly impacted immunization coverage rates, leaving a lot of children vulnerable to vaccine-preventable diseases.

The brief town hall meeting that was held on May 26, 2023, was the perfect avenue to reinforce the value of vaccination and the need to catch up. Following the rule of three (3), key core messages were shared. First, vaccination saves lives. Second, vaccines save money, and third, vaccines protect those who are vulnerable.



PCMC Executive Director Dr. Sonia B. Gonzalez and Scientific Committee Chair Dr. Fatima I. Gimenez pose beside the tarpaulin of the activity as a sign of support.

In promoting a safe and healthy environment, participants were also shown the number of employees vaccinated and the number of patients served. At the end of the program, a call to support the Department of Health`s supplemental immunization activity in May was also made.

PCMC is quite fortunate to be able to provide vaccines beyond the expanded program of immunization. This is proof of the institution`s commitment to champion primary prevention.

On this note, the Committee fully intends not only to promote immunization but to embark on several activities that would provide possibilities for self-improvement, such as maximizing educational opportunities and rehabilitation ergonomics, to name a few.

Watch out for it.



The 26 new internal auditors receive their certificate during the recognition and awarding ceremony held on April 3, 2023 at the Sto. Niño Atrium.

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