



MANO
AMIGA

**THE LATEST AT MANO
AMIGA THIS JUNE 2017!**



Mano Amiga Kindergarten Students On Their Way to the Future

The Kindergarten Moving Up Ceremony was a perfect time not only to prepare the Kindergarteners' hearts and minds for the challenges and adventures that lie ahead, but also to look back at the wonderful year that was.

Last 10th of June, we celebrated the journey of the 13 achievers who were all smiles as they face another chapter of their young lives.

The little kindergartners showed enthusiasm and enjoyed going to school for the past school year. Every day was all about learning while having fun. They displayed great improvement and learned what it meant to sit in a circle, walk in a line, use scissors, tie their shoelaces, and be part of a group. Their unique personalities were honed and displayed exemplary progress in accomplishing challenging tasks.



The students' undeniable excellence in different areas was recognized as they received their prized diplomas and special award certificates. The students who made it to the top, on the other hand, received bronze, silver or gold medals of appreciation for their hard work.

Among the graduates this year, one little girl exhibited outstanding performance and determination as a student. Calleigh P. Gutierrez may be small but she became a great beacon of light to the people around her and was awarded the 1st Honor Principal's Award for Academic Excellence. Words of gratitude flowed as she

said, "I am very thankful for the memories. I am also grateful for the volunteers and sponsors who helped our school, Mano Amiga Academy, and making our dreams come true."

Teacher Sheryll Maquiran, the Kindergarten Adviser, also added, "Along with the commemoration, the time has prompted me to a sudden woe. I sometimes wish for time to slow down just a bit so we could have more time together. I will not be able to see them play, dance, and sing in the small room that became our haven for months."

The world they created for nine months has indeed flourished as if there is no end. There is nothing more gratifying than to see these students develop, whether it be in their height or their wit.

"These children are my 13 wonderful gifts who have marked how fruitful the school year was," said teacher Sheryll.



#WeAre2017: Breaking Through Tradition

Second Batch of Grade 6 Mano Amiga Students Graduate with Pride

The end of a school year marks the beginning of a new phase in the lives of our dear students.

The Grade 6 graduating batch of schoolyear 2016-2017, consisting of 12 girls and 9 boys, were the 2nd batch of graduates of Mano Amiga Academy. "Preparing for an event like this was a challenging and fulfilling experience," says Rebekah Andrea Fullido, our Grade 6 adviser. She continues, "Going around the city to procure materials and other things needed

for the graduation was definitely exhausting but it only strengthened my passion to teach even more. It was a time of challenge but this was when the character trait I have been teaching the kids the whole year was heightened: grit."

Boomie Gesta, one of the graduates and the Apostolic Awardee and Special Citation recipient recalls, "My proudest moment for this year's graduation was when we all received our

diplomas. It was at that moment that we have received the fruit of our hard work, it was truly rewarding.”

This year, Mano Amiga went through a lot of exciting and progressive changes. Thus, the theme was taken from this experience: modern and unconventional. Because of this, we also introduced new awards for the graduating batch.

Character Awards for Grit, Social Intelligence, and Creativity and Resourcefulness were given to students with the highest grade point average in the 3 categories; and the Semper Altius Award was given to the student who has embodied and has improved in all 4 major areas of formation, spiritual, apostolic, human, and intellectual. The Character Awards were given to Reanne S. Jallores for Grit, Dhaniella Joy T. Ungsod for Social Intelligence, and Ma. Franzcheska C. Andes for Creativity and Resourcefulness. While the Semper Altius Award was given to Reanne S. Jallores.



Executive Director, Lynn Pinugu
with Grade 6 graduates



Semper Altius awardee, Reanne
Jallores, with her father



Teachers' Day-Off 2017!

Every year, we gather individuals or organizations that want to teach and share new insights about our world to Mano Amiga students through our annual Teacher's Day Off event. This year's theme revolved around the importance of cultural awareness and sensitivity in the Philippines, which naturally brought a collective feeling of pride and compassion towards the various regions in our country. Instead of our teachers planning for what the lessons would be like, volunteers took their place for a day and taught the wonders of Philippine culture to the wide-eyed kids who were eagerly listening to novel ideas and keenly participating in activities.

The Grade 4 students were taught about the handicrafts industry in the Philippines, particularly in Quezon province. Individual volunteers also came together to present the diversity of the Cordillera region to the Grade 7 students, who then created postcards that displayed how we should be taking care of our indigenous culture.

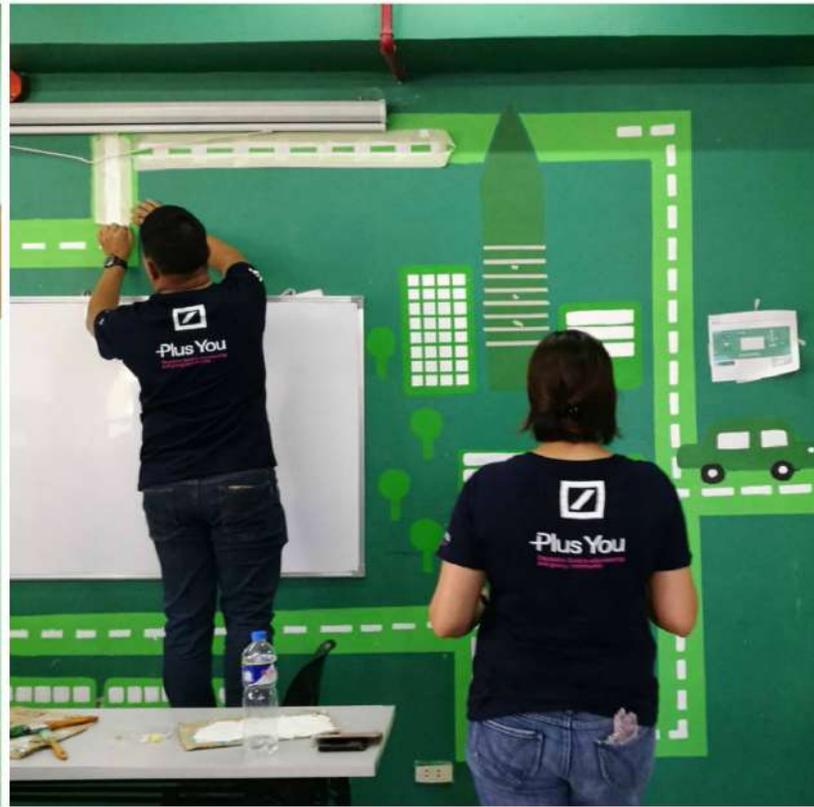
A local from Bukidnon also came to the school to share stories about his own province to the Grade 5 students.

Besides these individual efforts from our volunteers, groups from our partner companies, Globe and Regnum Christi (RC), were also present. Globe shared their time with the Grade 2 students to talk about the various sceneries in Mindanao while RC members engaged the kids in games that the students thoroughly enjoyed.

Right about noon time, the volunteers and children got together to quickly share their reflection about how it is imperative that – even as young people – they be conscious of the diversity of the Philippine culture, as it widens their perspective and inculcates the value of being a Filipino.

If you're interested in volunteering or holding workshops at Mano Amiga, kindly get in touch with Dianne Villaflor at dianne.manoamiga@gmail.com or +63927-3400-0241.

Deutsche Bank Kicks Off Their Volunteer Programs at Mano Amiga



Deutsche Bank kicked off their volunteer activities for Mano Amiga with a whole day painting activity to complete the mural paintings in our Kinder and Grade 7 classrooms. Mano Amiga teachers, students, and staff were all smiles when they saw the amazing work that the volunteers of Deutsche Bank did on the mural paintings.

They had a great eye for precision especially in doing the details of the wall art – from the small trees to the big aircraft designs. The newly colored walls made the rooms of Mano Amiga brighter and better, instantly making it a more fun place for the students to learn. Great work to the volunteer mural artist, Well Rabz, for stenciling Vitamin B's, our partner agency's design, & the volunteers of Deutsche Bank!



A Business That Gives Back

Mano Amiga has been fortunate to partner with a local business that aims to give back this month of June. Mateo's Restaurant Café, spearheaded by Lala Tuazon, signs as Mano Amiga's newest advocacy partner. The Spanish-inspired Filipino fusion restaurant's specialties include Callos a la Mateo's, special Kare-Kare, Spanish Salpicao, and a selection of tapas plates.

This year, the quaint garden café will hold special promotions and events that will help raise scholarships for kids and provide culinary training to mothers of the Bistro Café, Mano Amiga's official food and catering social enterprise. For the month of June and July, there are special menu items with proceeds going to Mano Amiga.

For those looking for a cozy and homey place to spend time with your family and friends, visit Mateo's and ask the waiters on how to donate to Mano Amiga and which menu items are dedicated to raising scholarships for the students! Drop by at 54 N. Domingo Avenue, Barangay Horseshoe, Quezon City, Philippines or reserve by calling (02) 696 3724.

