



SPU Manila INTER-OFFICE BULLETIN

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COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND THE PERFORMING ARTS OPENS DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The ST. PAUL COLLEGE OF MANILA CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC (now, St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts) turns 70 this year, 2010. The CONCERT AT THE PARK at 5:00 P.M. on 17 January 2010 opens the Concert Series lined up for this year to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Conservatory of Music.

you are
THE
BIRTHDAY!

Concert at the Park
Sunday, Jan. 17, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

*Launching a Concert Series
celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the
St. Paul University Manila
College of Music and the Performing Arts
(1940-2010)*

Featuring:
The Paulinian Strings and Guitar Ensembles
Piano; Voice Ensemble
The St. Paul University Manila Chorale

FREE ADMISSIONS

To open the Celebration for the 70th Anniversary of the College of Music and the Performing Arts, the college will sponsor the Noon Mass on 12 January 2010 in the Chapel of the Crucified Christ. It will also serve as a Memorial Mass for the music graduates who have gone ahead of us, like Corazon Vizcarra-Nelson (who passed away in December 2009), Mrs. Stella Goldenberg-Brimo, Mrs. Mercedes Agravante-Isleta, and many others.

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The St. Paul College of Manila Conservatory of Music was opened in 1940, but with World War II reaching the Philippines, schools were closed in 1941. After Manila was liberated in 1946, a period of reconstruction began. With the title "Conservatory of Music" granted by the Bureau of Education, it started development and expansion: physical, academic, cultural, and spiritual.

The St. Paul College of Manila Conservatory of Music pioneered in various musical genres and music methodology and was a proponent of the following:

- 1) Choral Music and organization of a Girls' String Orchestra in the 1950's,
- 2) Broadway Musicals directed by Father James B. Reuter S.J. in the 1960's which merited for the Fleur-de-Lis Auditorium its sobriquet "Broadway on Herran",
- 3) Ward method and Kodaly choral methodology.

Although constantly beset by struggles for survival and financial difficulties for the past 70 years, aggravated by the closure of the St. Paul College of Manila Basic Education Departments, the Conservatory of Music has not only managed to stand on its feet, but has sprung up to surprise its audience with awe-inspiring and highly acclaimed performances on several significant occasions. St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts has remained committed to its goal of discovering and honing the skills of talented Filipino youth and of developing the aesthetic aspect of the human person, which will enable him to perceive the reality that cannot be perceived by the eyes and that leads to the ultimate beauty--God. The motto that impels us to move on is CARITAS CHRISTI URGET NOS.

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The Concert at the Park program will feature the Paulinian Chamber Orchestra, the Paulinian Guitar Ensemble, some of the gifted Voice and Piano students, and the St. Paul University Manila Chorale.

THE PAULINIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA and THE PAULINIAN GUITAR ENSEMBLE

The PAULINIAN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA started as an off-shoot of the Instrumental Ensemble Classes. Though majority of the members are not string majors, or even minors, they get a thorough training in the first two years under Ms. Marian Olga Elloso. About three years ago, under the guidance of Ms. Felicitas Ronquillo, the more advanced students ventured into more advanced repertoire. Finally, a chamber group emerged and performed in school related activities.

The **PAULINIAN GUITAR ENSEMBLE** began as a duet, playing popular arrangements of Maestro Jose Valdez. Earning popularity with the student populace, the duet evolved into an ensemble. They have performed in St. Paul University Manila Founders' Hall and Paco Park Presents. The members are all guitar majors of the SPU Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts under the guidance of respected classical guitarist and music educator, Jose Valdez.

In March 2009, both were featured in the concert entitled **GLIMPSES** held in the Fleur-de-lis Theater of St. Paul University Manila. In September 2009, in PACO PARK PRESENTS they played together for the first time, the arrangements of Filipino guitar virtuoso, Jose Valdez, for combined Strings and Guitar Ensemble.

VOICE ENSEMBLE

Featured in this concert are five voice students of well known tenor, Prof. Ronan Ferrer. All of them are taking up Bachelor of Music in Music Education, major in voice, and are members of the St. Paul University Manila Chorale. They have performed as soloists, vocal ensemble or members of the

chorale in Paco Park Presents, Concert at the Park, Philamlife Theater, Manila Cathedral, to name a few.

FIONA ELENI D. GALLANO, soprano, from San Pedro, Laguna, enjoys the privilege of being one of the first scholars of the *Klassical Music Foundation*, chaired by Mr. George Yang. She has been regional winner and finalist in NAMCYA Competitions and has performed in concerts organized by Mr. Yang.

REGINE T. GARABILES, soprano, hails from Candon, Ilocos Sur. She was soloist of the outreach concert of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra held in Candon, Ilocos Sur in 2009.

MICHELLE JEAN A. VALERIANO, a budding mezzo soprano from Bocaue, Bulacan is the current president of the Music Council of St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts. She was one of the finalists of the Jovita Fuentes Vocal Competition.

RUSSEL M. INDAB, tenor, from Dumaguete City whose love for music led him to take a second course in music. He was one of the finalists of the Jovita Fuentes Vocal Competition.

CARL L. TRAZO, tenor, is a Filipino whose parents reside in Fiji. He is one of the first six scholars of the *Klassical Music Foundation*, chaired by Mr. George Yang. He has performed in the concerts of Mr. Yang with the other scholars.

PIANO

Four pianists from different levels will be featured tonight: one freshman, two sophomores, and a recent graduate of the St. Paul University Manila College of Music Graduate School. All of them are students of acclaimed assisting artist and solo performer, Prof. Najib Ismail.

FRANCIS BENEDICT TAMIO hails from San Miguel, Bulacan, a freshman student in St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts taking Bachelor of Music in Music Education, major in Piano. Francis participated in the Paulinian Piano Festival in December 2007 and 2008 and has performed in Paco Park Presents.

LUCKY ISAAC S. SORIA, III started formal piano lessons last year under Prof. Myra Bartolome in Philippine Women's University. He is now a sophomore student in St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts taking Bachelor of Music in Music Education. He participated in the Paulinian Piano Festival in December 2008 and has performed in Paco Park Presents.

JOEL A. DAQUIOAG, JR. graduated high school from St. Paul University Philippines, Tuguegarao City. At the age of eight, he started his formal piano lessons with Mrs. Linda Guzman Ocampo, an alumna of the Conservatory of Music, St. Paul University Manila. His love for playing the piano and other musical instruments led him to take music as a degree. He is now a sophomore student in St. Paul University Manila College of Music and the Performing Arts, taking up Bachelor of Music in Music Education. He participated in the Paulinian Piano Festival in December 2008 and Paco Park Presents.

MELISSA G. TAQUEBAN was graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and Piano, *cum laude*, from St. Paul University Manila. She has been a participant in various piano festivals and competitions sponsored by St. Paul University Manila, the Piano Teacher's Guild of the Philippines, and the National Music Competitions for Young Artists. She performed as a soloist of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra on 29 March 2009 in Candon City, Ilocos Sur. She has had master classes with Mariel Ilusorio, Fr. Manuel Maramba, Victor Asuncion, Roberta Rust, and Charisse Baldoria. Melissa won 1st place in the PTGP Romantic and Filipino Piano Competition, Category C, held at the Philamlife Theater on 28 September 2008. Under the tutelage of Prof. Najib Ismail,

Melissa has earned her Master's degree in Piano, *cum laude*, in the St. Paul University Manila College of Music Graduate School. She is at present a faculty member of the College of Music and the Performing Arts of St. Paul University Manila,

ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY MANILA CHORALE

The present set up of the St. Paul University Manila Chorale is relatively new. Organized by Sr. Maria Anunciata Sta. Ana, SPC, in 2005 as a chorus class of the College of Music and the Performing Arts with majority of its members coming from the College of Music, it has grown into a more significant group. Various performances, in-campus and off-campus, paved the way for the group to become a Chorale, different from the chorus class.

Barely a year after they came out in public, the group sang for the Anniversary of the St. Paul University System in February 2006; for the Launching of the Social Concerns of the Church in the Manila Cathedral in connection with the 31st ITI-UNESCO WORLD CONGRESS; for the World Leaders' Forum with the Manila Symphony Orchestra and eight choral groups at the Fiesta Pavilion of Manila Hotel in May 2006.

In 2006, they got an invitation to perform for the 10th Anniversary of the Zhaoqing Business and Technological College in Guangdong, China. While in China, they performed in two places in Guangzhou City and two places in Guangdong.

The Chorale premiered "MISA FILIPINA" by Kristina Benitez, a pioneering Catholic Mass composition using ethnic musical instruments. The concert celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Sunday Mass of Kristina, the first Mass in the vernacular after Vatican II that was sung all over the country. The said concert, "GONG FIESTA" was held at the Fleur-de-Lis Theater participated in by the Gong ensembles of PWU, Sta. Isabel, Assumption and St. Paul, trained and supervised by Dr. Felicidad Prudente and Dr. Kristina Benitez.

From their concerts in China, the St. Paul University Manila Chorale performed in various places such as Philamlife Auditorium, Francisco Santiago Hall in BDO Makati, Senate of the Philippines, Robinson's Place Manila, the Baywalk, Paco Park Presents, and Concert at the Park. They also had out of town concerts in Ilocos, Bulacan, and Cavite,

They served in the Mass of the 50th Anniversary of the Order of Malta at the Arzobispado; the SPC Educators' Congress in Pasig; during the Tribute to Daisy Hontiveros Avellana, National Artist for Theater in 2007; for the big affair in St. Paul University Manila in 2007 when the Chapel of the Crucified Christ was declared a HISTORICAL SITE, the unveiling and blessing of the Historical Marker.

They participated in the 30th anniversary of the Concert at the Park; the Tribute to National Artist Lucrecia Kasilag. They serenaded the President of East Timor at the crypt of Cardinal Sin; and in the Alliance Française, they sang in the joint celebration of European Countries.

The Chorale has served as lead choir in the Manila Cathedral, in the Holy Spirit Masses of Catholic Education Association of the Philippines (CEAP), the launching of the Pauline Year in the Manila Cathedral with the Pauline Family Choirs and Fr. Manuel Maramba, OSB at the pipe organ; at

the closing celebrations of the Pauline Year; and the Mass celebrating the Year of the Priests. The Chorale was at the helm of the big celebration of the Pauline Year in the Araneta Coliseum in January 2009.

Because Stella Goldenberg Brimo was very much a part of St. Paul, the Chorale was happy to serve at her funeral Mass at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes. They also had the privilege to be the choir for one of the masses at the wake of Cory Aquino in the Manila Cathedral.

For two years now, they performed with the joint choirs organized by Ms. Amelita Guevarra of the Santuario de San Antonio parish--the ORATORIO OF ST. PAUL by Mendelssohn held at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish and the CHRISTMAS CONCERT in the Manila Cathedral with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. Both concerts were with an orchestra conducted by Austrian Conductor Ernest Hoetzl.

SPU MANILA GUITAR ENSEMBLE JOINS 1ST PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL

The Cultural Center of the Philippines and The Guitar Friends will hold the 1st Philippine International Guitar Festival 2010 on 28-31 January 2010 in the Cultural Center of the Philippines. With the objective of promoting the classical guitar, the festival offers exciting musical performances by outstanding guitarists from the Philippines and abroad.

Maestro Jose Valdez, who is considered to be one of the best guitar teachers in the country, is the director of the festival. Valdez, who has 35 years of teaching experience, is a lecturer and professor at the University of the Philippines, Philippine Women's University, St. Scholastica's College, Philippine National University, La Concordia College and St. Paul University Manila. The CCP Encyclopedia of Philippine Arts ranks him as one of the pioneers of classical guitar in the country.

The SPU Manila Guitar Ensemble will be featured during the festival and will play the following:

I Want To Spend My Lifetime Loving You	(Theme from Zorro)
Star Wars	J. Williams

The SPU Manila Guitar and String Ensemble will interpret:

Somewhere in Time	J. Barry
Mutya ng Pasig	Dr. N. Abelardo

Looking Back ...

SPU MANILA DELEGATES ATTEND NATIONAL SUMMIT ON COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICES OF PHILIPPINE HEIS

Dr. Elizabeth Ramos and Ivy Coronel, Quality Assurance Director and Institutional Planning and Research Coordinator respectively, attended the Summit on "Exploring Research Frontiers to

Strengthen Community Extension Services of Philippine HEIs: Towards Implementing Appropriate Programs and Projects” organized by the Association of Behavioral Scientists, Teachers, Researchers and Community Trainers (ABSTRACT) and held in Baguio City on 23-25 November 2009.



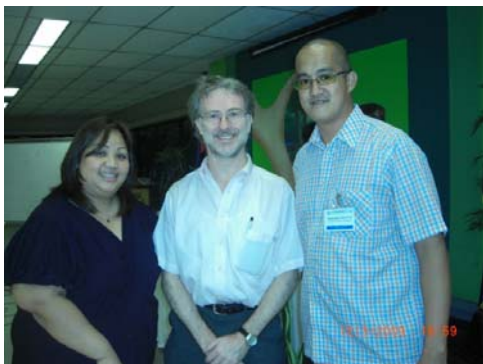
As an offshoot of their attendance to the said conference, Ramos and Coronel intend to come up with a research study on “Community Extension Service or Environmental Concern.”

Coronel and Ramos with one of the Paper Presentors, Mr. Henry Galuba of Lorma Colleges

SPU MANILA REPRESENTED IN UNESCO WORKSHOP

Ivy Coronel, SPU Manila Environmental Stewardship Coordinator, attended a joint UNESCO-Miriam College Workshop on “Environmental Ethics Education for ALL” held at Miriam College on 2-3 December 2009.

The workshop was about sharing of experiences on environmental ethics education in different settings (formal and informal education) with a range of goals. The materials and discussion (output) will be used to develop the report on Environmental Ethics Education under the framework of the working group in the Ethics and Climate Change in Asia and the Pacific (ECCAP) project coordinated by UNESCO Bangkok.



Dr. Darryl Macer, Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and Pacific, UNESCO Bangkok; Dr. Ngo Thi Tuyen from the Center for Education Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam; and Dr. Donna Paz Perez, Executive Director of the Environmental Studies Institute of Miriam College, were present to guide the participants in the discussion.

Coronel said she learned a lot from the sharing and commits to

duplicate some of the best practices by the other schools as part of our environmental protection campaign.

Above : Coronel with Dr. Darryl Macer and Romualdo Seneris II (SPU Dumaguete)...

Right : ...with the other delegates.



ALUMNI NEWS

COMMERCE ALUMNI GEARING UP FOR GRAND REUNION

The Core Committee for the Commerce Grand Reunion had a meeting on 9 January 2010 in the Meeting Room to update the planning for the event.

Mrs. Mina Reyes-Dilag, Chairperson, reported on the progress of the ticket sales and solicitation for raffle prizes.

Mrs. Enriqueta Villaluz-Doble updated the group on the souvenir program. The group also discussed details of the registration, Mass, dinner and program.

The committee will be meeting every Saturday until the grand reunion on 30 January 2010.

Mina Dilag points out a detail of the program to the committee ...



MORE HOLIDAY PHOTOS FROM ALUMNI



LEFT:

Bubut Gamboa-de los Santos, with husband Polly and the large brood.

BELOW:

Annabelle Tan-Amor with husband Bobby and their brood.



BATCH PARTIES



**High School 1965, College 1969
Christmas Party
5 December 2009
Beth Sison-Tagle's residence**

**High School 1964, College 1968
Post New Year Party
9 January 2010
Lydia Yabut-Ochoa's residence**



CONDOLENCES

As members of one Paulinian Family, we share the sorrow of our sisters and condole with:

- the family of Corazon Vizcarra-Nelson, former teacher in the St. Paul College Conservatory of Music.
- the family of Adoracion Lapig-Mauricio who died on 21 November 2009, a week after her husband passed away on the 14th. She was the niece of our beloved Sr. Victor.
- Estela Perlas-Bernabe (HS 1968, BSC 1972) on the death of her mother.