



SPU Manila INTER-OFFICE BULLETIN

Vol. V-13

30 January 2012

SPU MANILA CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS: A JOYOUS EVENT

The centennial celebrations of St. Paul University were a glorious, fun-filled, magnificent event—truly a one-in-a-hundred-year landmark in the history of the school.

On 25 January 2012, the motorcade signalled the start of the festivities as it wound along the route lined with banners announcing the centennial, courtesy of Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim. The Manila Cathedral was filled to capacity with special guests, St. Paul Sisters from different SPC schools, SPU Manila administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, and students. Distinguished guests included Mayor Lim, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Philippines Nguyen Vu Tu, Ambassador to Chile Ma. Consuelo Puyat-Reyes, former Ambassador to the Vatican Cristina Castañer-Ponce Enrile, Supreme Court Associate Justice Estela Perlas-Bernabe, former DOJ Secretary Agnes Torres-Devanadera, and heads of CEAP and SMI-IC schools.

The principal celebrant of the Thanksgiving Mass was Manila Archbishop Luis Antonio Tagle, who delivered an inspiring and challenging homily. Concelebrating the Mass were former Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales and over 40 bishops, monsignori, and priests.

Highlights of the Eucharistic Celebration were the introduction by Sr. Lilia Thérèse L. Tolentino, SPC, University President; offering of lamps and symbols of the 10 decades of the school; centennial message of Sr. Zeta Caridad R. Rivero, SPC, Provincial Superior of the St. Paul Sisters; and Tribute to the Blessed Mother. The Mass was rendered more solemn by the participation of the SPC Chamber Orchestra and the SPU Manila Chorale conducted by Sr. Ma. Anunciata Sta. Ana, SPC, Dean of the College of Music and the Performing Arts.

A festive lunch was served in the school after the Mass for all the guests, faculty, and staff, alumni and students.

At 2:00 P.M., Fr. Francis Salcedo officiated at the blessing and grand opening of the St. Paul University Manila Museum and Archives. The ceremony included a proclamation of the word by Sr. Ignatius Tal Placido, SPC; cutting of the ceremonial ribbon by Sr. Zeta Caridad R. Rivero, SPC and Sr. Merceditas Ang, SPC, Provincial Assistant for Education; blessing of the museum; words of thanks and official declaration of the opening of the museum by Sr. Lilia; and museum tour.

Immediately after the blessing of the museum were the unveiling and blessing of the centennial commemorative historical marker and the unveiling and blessing of the centennial sculptures, executed by noted sculptor, Ms. Julie Lluch in the centennial garden, landscaped by Mr. Noel Gatus, who is also the museum architect.

Pictures of the 25 January 2012 activities are not available yet except this one of the centennial garden.



For the information of the school community, we are sharing a resume of the artist behind this magnificent tableau:

Julie Lluch is one of the foremost exponents of terracotta in the Philippines today. Her highly personal art finds perfect expression in Philippine indigenous clay, to which she refers as a most "sensuous and pleasurable" feminine medium. She also does sculpture in stoneware, ceramics, and bronze and has held several solo exhibitions.

She held her first one-woman show at *Sining Kamalig* in 1977. Ensuing exhibits were held in venues like Galerie Bleue, the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the Metropolitan Museum of Manila, and Liongoren Art Gallery. Her 1997 show, *Art and Faith*, was held at Galleria Duemila. She also joined numerous international group exhibits, such as in Fukuoka, Brisbane, Tokyo, Jakarta, and Bangkok.

Ms. Lluch has also done public sculptures in bronze, such as the monument to Arsenio Lacson, the Filipino Seafarer, Ninoy Aquino, and Evelio Javier, among others. In 1990, she received the CCP Thirteen Artists Award.

In 1997, she won the *Araw ng Maynila* award for Sculpture. She has also won awards for her work as a set designer and as an experimental filmmaker. She produced and acted in the prize-winning short film "Yuta, Earth Art of Julie Lluch-Dalena."

This renowned sculptor is not new to St. Paul as she executed the sculptures for the Heritage House in Antipolo.

Her inspired six piece bronze tableau is living testimony to her faith and her genius.

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Accounts and pictures of the activities of University Week have not been submitted yet and will be included in next week's IOB.

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The Grand Centennial Alumni Homecoming held in the SMX Convention Center yesterday, 29 January 2012 can be said to have been a resounding success. Nearly 2000 alumni, Sisters, past and present faculty and staff, and graduating students gathered in Function Rooms 4 and 5 of the convention center for the event.

The celebration started with a Thanksgiving Mass, concelebrated by CBCP Secretary, Msgr. Pedro Quitorio, and Fr. Larry Tan, SDB, and expertly coordinated by the High School Golden Jubilarians, Batch 1962.



Fr. Tan and Msgr. Quitorio



Batch picture taking and fellowship followed the Mass and preceded part one of the program, which included the welcome address of SPMAFI President, Mrs. Sherry Lara-Alingod; the centennial message of Sr. Lilia Thérèse L. Tolentino, SPC; and the launching of the coffee table book, *A Hundred Thousand Miracles*, by its editor, Mrs. Marionette Ocampo-Martinez.

Mrs. Martinez presents the book to Sr. Lilia

After the launching, Mrs. Martinez presented to Sr. Lilia the following centennial gift-givers: Mrs. Cristina Castañer-Ponce Enrile, represented by her daughter Katrina, who gave a personal donation of P100,000.00; the Golden Jubilarians, HS 1962, represented by Grace Eusebio-Torres and Suzzette Bagaybagayan, who gave Sister a check for P500,000.00 to start a professorial chair; a group of US-based alumnae, who raised nearly a million pesos for scholarships and were represented by Maria Cariaga-Banatao and Theresa Cardoso-Dwyer; and Dado and Maria Banatao, (shown above with Sister) who are donating a professorial chair for excellence in education in honor of the late Congresswoman Estelita G. Juco.



Mother Gabriel and some old-timers

Special guests who were acknowledged were Mother Gabriel Marie McGrath, SPC, former superior of the SPC Manila community and econome of the school from pre-war years to 1959, who flew in from London to attend the homecoming; Angelita Martinez-Florio, former drama teacher and director, who came from Mexico for the event; Mr. Onofre Pagsanghan, drama teacher in the 1950s; former Ambassador and DFA Secretary Domingo Siazon; former Ambassador & present DFA Undersecretary Laura Quiambao-del Rosario; and Supreme Court Justice Estela Perlas-Bernabe

Likewise acknowledged were the principal sponsors: ABS-CBN through its President and COO Charo Santos; (AB 1977); BDO through Vice-President and Treasurer Marilyn K. Go (BS Math 1974); Ambassador Ma. Consuelo Puyat-Reyes (AB 1957); Mina Lara-Armstrong (HS 1954); and the family of the late Bibiano L. Reynoso, represented by his daughter, Carmelita (HS 1954); and principal donors: JAKA through Katrina Ponce-Enrile (HS 1977) and Pepsi Cola.

Charo Santos with "star-struck" fellow Paulnians



A fun contest on giving original slogans for the acronym MMK generated a lot of creative ideas during dinner. Winning slogans were "Make More Kids" and "Minsan May Kirod."



The after-dinner show, hosted by Edu Manzano and alumna, Frida Nepomuceno, showcased production numbers by the jubilarian clusters and the present faculty and students; solo numbers by AB alumnae, EJ Mercado, Annabelle Abrigo, and Janet Basco; *Sound of Music* medley by the SPU Manila Chorale; and of course, the singing of the Paulinian Hymn.

**Frida and Edu
doing a great hosting job**



**Letting their hair down...
former SPU Manila President,
Wynna Medina...**



**EJ (far left)
Annabelle (center)
and Janet (right)**



**...and Supreme Court Justice
Estela Perlas-Bernabe**

Some random group shots...



**Oldest jubilarian class
Diamond-HS 1952**

**Midway jubilarians
Pearl-College 1982**



**and the youngest...
College 2012**



**Vietnamese
Sisters**

