

NOVEMBER 2019



Transforming lives since 1975

# PUNLAAN WAVES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PUNLAAN SCHOOL



# Punlaan Alumnae

inspiring the next generation hoteliers



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## Punlaan School

is a project of the Foundation for Professional Training Incorporated.



## 26TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES - GRADUATES, PUNLAAN MANAGEMENT AND STAFF



## INDUSTRY PARTNERS AND SPONSORS




*Standing L-R: Carla Mica S. Honasan, Program Officer, Consuelo Foundation; Ruel Ramirez, Fairmont & Raffles Learning and Development Supervisor; Jeanina Martinez, HR Officer, Ascott Hotel; Karen Diaz, ABS-CBN Integrated Public Service; Jasmine Gonzales, ABS-CBN Integrated Public Service; Higino T. Dungo, Head of Integrated Public Service at ABS-CBN; Ruben Pabustan, Herald Suites General Manager; Liza San Juan, Herald Suites Sales & Marketing Director; Aniceto Sobrepeña, GTFI/Metrobank Executive Director; Ben Lumba Pasto Café HR Manager; Nanette Morano, SEDA Hotel HR Assistant.*

*Sitting L-R: Theresa Nabatar, Punlaan School Vice Director for Student Affairs; Linda Atayde, Executive Director for Education, SM Foundation; Vinda Yoingco, Member FPTI; Mary Grace Dimacali, Café Mary Grace Founder and CEO ( Inspirational Speaker to represent the Industry); Emil Tecson, Assessors Office San Juan City Government ( Representing Keynote Speaker Mayor Francis Zamora); Anne Marie Jacinto, Punlaan School Director; Margarita Cadiente, Punlaan School Vice Director for Academics.*

# THANK YOU!

To the **Hotel and Restaurant Industry Partners** of the 2019 Graduating Class of the Dual Training Program in Hospitality and Culinary Arts

 <p><b>Vanessa Suatengco</b> General Manager <i>Diamond Hotel Philippines</i></p>	 <p><b>Andrea Mastellone</b> Senior Group General Manager <i>SEDA Hotel</i></p>	 <p><b>Laurent Jean Boisdron</b> General Manager <i>Conrad Hotel</i></p>
<p><b>Atty. Eugene Yap</b> General Manager <i>Bayview Park Hotel</i></p> 	<p><b>Werner Berger</b> President <i>Chesa Bianca / I'm Angus</i></p> 	<p><b>Lina Cruz</b> General Manager <i>Annabel's</i></p> 
 <p><b>Mary Grace Dimacali</b> Founder and CEO <i>Cafe Mary Grace</i></p>	 <p><b>Mark Heywood</b> General Manager <i>New World Manila Bay Hotel</i></p>	 <p><b>Frank Reichenback</b> General Manager <i>Marco Polo Hotel</i></p>
<p><b>Philip Moran</b> General Manager <i>Amici</i></p> 	<p><b>Kathrina Abiva</b> General Manager <i>UCC Cafe</i></p> 	<p><b>Dianne Ledesma</b> Owner <i>Mann Hann</i></p> 
 <p><b>Glenda Barretto</b> President <i>Via Mare</i></p>	 <p><b>Lorna Ambas</b> President and Chief Executive Officer <i>LJC Restaurant Group</i></p>	 <p>delightfully yours</p>

# SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Punlaan marks another giant milestone this year as the shell of the new Punlaan building 9-storey concrete structure is about to be completed towering above the temporary 2-storey Punlaan School building at its side.

Turning the focus on the fund-raising efforts for the New Punlaan project, we feature the events spearheaded by the dynamic Punlaan Development Board ladies! The first was the premiere showing of "Guadalupe - the Musicale" held at the Meralco Theater organized by the Punlaan Palmcrest Development Board. The Families In Arts and Culture Inc. also organized The Power Meet Up featuring Hans Sy, Fernando Zobel, Joey Concepcion and Riza Mantaring amongst others all under one roof at the SM Aura. The Punlaan Development Board - South held a dinner featuring Mr. Francis Kong at the Enderun Tent. Punlaan School was also a beneficiary of a fundraising concert featuring the Madrigal Singers at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Congratulations and our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made these events possible!

School programmes went likewise at full blast as this year marks a year of FIRSTS! For the first time, we deployed a total of 116 students for on-the-job training from April to October 2019- the biggest number yet for a single release! We welcome Punlaan's newest industry partners- CONRAD Hotel and New World Manila Bay Hotel.

Another FIRST was the news DepEd San Juan announced that Punlaan garnered 6th place OVER-ALL in the National Achievement Test out of 15 private high schools in DepEd San Juan!

Punlaan is a story of miracles as we see many generous people mobilizing to alleviate poverty and more significantly, to develop the maximum potential of each scholar as a human being with dignity and worth.

Thank you very much to all of you who have made these miracles a reality!

*Anne Marie H. Jacinto*  
**Anne Marie Jacinto**  
 School Director



**NEW!**

## Work in Progress

The shell of the 9-floor New Punlaan Building is to be completed this October 2019 inclusive of Basement Parking and Basement 2 level. Target completion date is December 2020.



**SILVER MEDAL AWARDEES**

## Research Paper Awards

Cherry Mae Sabong, Nicole Morano and Ella Gonzales, Punlaan students received the Silver Medal for the Research Paper Category in the Incontro Romano Awards Presentation on March 2019 at the University of Asia and the Pacific.

Lovely Cajucom, Danica Pura and Mary Joy Soliven bagged the Consolation Prize for their Research Paper "Sweeping For Living: Making the Environment Worth Living In". Ara Haliwanay, Angel Parreñas and Christelle Talavera won the Silver Medal for the video "Marikina Shoe Workers."

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST FOR GRADE 10 (SY 2016-2017)							
School ID	School	FILIPINO MPS	MATH MPS	ENGLISH MPS	SCIENCE MPS	HEKASI MPS	OVERALL MPS
406950	Immaculate Conception Academy	56.57	63.84	73.71	49.04	62.87	62.79
485541	Fountain International School	58.09	56.30	71.11	49.44	56.67	61.74
406954	X						
	<b>Punlaan School</b>	<b>62.25</b>	<b>41.71</b>	<b>62.22</b>	<b>40.55</b>	<b>65.30</b>	<b>55.48</b>
401649	Punlaan School	62.25	41.71	62.22	40.55	65.30	55.48
406958	Dominican College	56.57	43.94				51
406952	O.E. Montessori Center	52.57	49.05				51
			42.20				56
			43.21				58
			36.06				58
			31.15				58
406877	Doro Deuss IS	51.45	30.85				50
406965	Philippine Cheng Kuang IIS	44.70	35.38				50

**TOP 6 IN NAT**

**55.48**  
**OVERALL SCORE**

The Department of Education San Juan announced that Punlaan was Top 6 OVER-ALL out of 15 private schools in DepEd San Juan in the National Achievement Test Results 2017-2018.

# ABS-CBN CHRISTMAS SALU-SALO

Bringing Sponsors and Students/Graduates Together



Since 2017, ABS-CBN Executives through the Integrated Public Service, headed by Mr. Jun Dungo, have sponsored 117 scholars to give them the chance to study, earn and get employed immediately upon graduation. The first six graduates are now employed in Fairmont Hotel, Café Mary Grace and Ascott Hotel amongst others.



The scholars and their families met the ABS-CBN executives at a Christmas Salu-Salo at Annabel's Restaurant on December 14, 2018. Mrs. Emerlita Enfiesta, guardian of Amy Mesias, Punlaan ABS-CBN scholar, related how she took Amy under her care although she herself did not have much means, at the request of Amy's father, a fisherman in Quezon province. Mrs. Enfiesta heard about the scholarship in DZMM offered by ABS-CBN and she rushed to inquire at Punlaan. Luckily, Amy passed the exams and interviews and was given an ABS-CBN full scholarship consisting of FREE food and board for her 2-year stay in Punlaan. After she graduates in October 2019, Amy has high hopes of immediate employment at Café Mary Grace, her present OJT venue. Mrs. Enfiesta and Amy could hardly contain their tears as they thanked ABS-CBN for their help.



Mrs. Gemma Arsua, mother of Grace Arsua, an ABS-CBN scholar and a Punlaan graduate related how their house was always destroyed during typhoons and floods and that they have not been able to afford a TV for more than a decade. Now her daughter is working at Ascott Hotel and just 3 months after graduation, she was able to move her family to a more stable home and was able to buy a TV with her Christmas bonus last year!

Mrs. Arsua said, "Kaya pala gustong-gusto ko noon pa manood ng ABS-CBN kasi ang ABS-CBN pala ang tutulong sa amin!"

The parents and scholars were so happy to personally meet and thank their sponsors!

# Punlaan Alumnae

inspiring the next generation hoteliers



Amalyn Espiritu (left) is working at Marco Polo Hotel Pastry Department. She is a Punlaan graduate who won the bronze medal at the Philippine Culinary Cup 2019. With her is Mary Joy Soliven, Punlaan Trainee.

## AMALYN ESPIRITU

Amalyn Espiritu, Punlaan graduate, won the Bronze Medal for chocolate showpiece at the Philippine Culinary Cup 2019. Mary Joy Soliven, Punlaan trainee at Marco Polo Hotel assisted her during the competition.

Amalyn was abandoned by her parents and grew up raised by a friend of her mother. She had totally lost hope of studying after high school. Luckily her Tita read about Punlaan in the newspaper and brought Amalyn to Punlaan. She graduated last May 2018 and was immediately hired at Marco Polo Hotel where she did her on-the-job training.

Mary Joy Soliven is presently doing her on-the-job training at Marco Polo Hotel and hopes to follow the footsteps of her "Ate" Amalyn!



Standing from L-R: Eunice Ocampo, Vi Armia (Alumnae), Danica Pura, Cherry Mae Sabong and Joe Celine Rosit (Punlaan Trainees)

## VI ARMIA

Vi Armia Serrano's parents were both unemployed so Vi knew her parents could not afford to send her to college. Luckily, she heard about the Punlaan Scholarship and since she loved to cook, she grabbed the chance to study! She was employed immediately upon graduation at EDSA Shangrila Hotel where she did her on-the-job training.

Currently at CONRAD Hotel, Vi is a source of pride and inspiration for the Punlaan students doing their on-the-job training there to whom she gives timely tips and advice on how to be successful in their career and family life.

*"At the EDSA Shangrila Hotel, not only did I learn cooking and baking techniques but also virtues like patience, perseverance, honesty, hard work and most especially love." Love for work is the reason why I enjoy any task, big or small, easy or difficult. Because I do it from the bottom of my heart and that was one of the things Punlaan School taught me. And especially when we sanctify our work, it also becomes a blessing to others. After graduation, I worked immediately in EDSA Shangrila Hotel Pastry Department. Then I was part of the opening team of the 6-star Shangri-La's Boracay Resort. I was sent for training in Switzerland for 5 days. After some years, I got a job at the 7-star Hotel in the world, the Burj Al Arab in Dubai, UAE. Presently, I am happily married with 2 children and currently employed in CONRAD hotel."*

**Vi Armia Serrano**  
Punlaan Alumna - Pastry Chef, Conrad Hotel



L-R: Punlaan graduates now working at Diamond Hotel - Gemma Swisher, Jasmine Rayos, Veronica Lampa, Arielle Casiño and Ragen Rome Vergara. Darlene Lumalang is a Punlaan Trainee.

Standing from R-L: Ragen Rome Vergara, Jenelyn Benedicto - Punlaan Graduates and Francine Gimenez, Nerizza Delos Santos - Punlaan Trainees with Diamond Hotel Supervisor, Ms. Aiko Monma



## ARIELLE CASIÑO

Arielle Casiño, Punlaan Graduate, was a shy student with a warm smile. She bloomed while doing her on-the-job training at Diamond Hotel and was immediately hired upon graduation and is presently the front desk supervisor at the Hotel.

We are proud that she was chosen as a Mabuhay Awardee Candidate to represent Diamond Hotel. With her gentle charm and elegant poise, she delights guests and inspires her fellow Punlaan trainees as well.

## RAGEN ROME VERGARA

Ragen Rome Vergara struggled to go to Punlaan despite her father's kidney ailment, and bringing up three siblings with their families meager income from a small peso net business at home. It was Punlaan that helped fulfill her dreams.

Ragen is the Food and Beverage secretary at Diamond for the past three years and is fulfilling her role as a Punlaan Alumnae by guiding the Punlaan students who are doing their training there.

*"Punlaan School did not only help me academically, the knowledge about cooking, baking and food & beverage services. More than that, Punlaan helped me become more passionate with what I want in life, gave me the freedom to dream big and reach my goals in life. Most importantly, Punlaan gave me the spiritual formation and personal development that I very much needed for my own betterment. I am very grateful that I am an SM Foundation Scholar. SM Foundation made my studies in Punlaan possible. I really studied hard to maintain my good standing in my scholarship. I was employed in Diamond Hotel immediately upon graduation last 2017. I helped send my brother to school and my sister to finish her studies. I am now able to provide for my family's needs."*

**Ragen Rome Vergara**  
Punlaan Alumna - Chef's Secretary,  
Diamond Hotel

# Unparalleled Excellence & Generosity



The Punlaan Palmcrest Development Board brought the premier showing of "Guadalupe, the Musicale" to the Meralco Theater last September 28, 2018 for the benefit of the New Punlaan School Building. The lead star, Cocoy Laurel and the entire cast displayed their extraordinary talents as they sang, danced and acted the story of the Apparition of our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego. Choreography was by Julie and Rose Borromeo. The thunderous applause showed the immense appreciation by the audience for the brilliant performance.

## POWER MEET-UP

Outstanding Captains who successfully sailed their ships through a financial storm and Trailblazers who are navigating their way through the twists and turns of the digital seas gave timeless tips to the Millennials on August 11, 2018 at the SM Aura.

Outstanding Captains included Fernando Zobel de Ayala (President Ayala Corp.), Hans Sy (Chairman of Exec. Committee SM Prime Holdings), Joey Concepcion (Go Negosyo Founder) and Riza Mantaring (Chair, Sunlife Philippines Holding Co.)

Trailblazers were Haidee Enriquez, (GM-PH Countryside SITEL), Stephanie Sy, (Founder Thinking Machine) Paco Sandejas, (Managing Director Narra Venture Capital and Carlo Delantar, (Country Director Waves for Water). Mrs. Vicky Cuisia of Families in Arts and Culture Inc. (FIAT), spearheaded the fundraising project for the New Punlaan School Building.





## A DINNER TO REMEMBER

Inspirational Speaker Mr. Francis Kong gave the Keynote Speech on "Meaningful Pursuits" at a fund-raising Dinner organized by Annie Garcia, President of Punlaan Development Board - South and the ladies of the Alabang and Parañaque areas. Mr. Kong guided the audience to discover meaningful pursuits in one's personal journey through life. He was impressed by the testimonials of Punlaan graduates whom he said had the ability to overcome trials and hardships to become successful in life.

Two graduates, Jazz Marquez who now works at Reservations at the Bellevue Hotel and Nanette Morano, HR Assistant at SEDA Hotel BGC gave testimonials which moved the 400 full packed audience at the BGC Tent. Punlaan students helped in the Reception and service of the delicious dinner!



L-R: Carmen Frim, Angie Martinez (Conti's), Mr. Francis Kong, Annie Garcia (Vivere Hotel) and Lilia Kong



Jazz Marquez  
Punlaan Graduate  
Reservations, Bellevue Hotel

Nanette Morano  
Punlaan Graduate  
HR Assistant, SEDA Hotel

## FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Ambassador John Maisto, President of the US Philippine Society (center seated) and his wife Maria Consuelo (seated 1st from the left), visited Punlaan on March 8, 2019. The Starr Foundation and US PHS Honorary Chair Maurice Greenberg funded the library for the New Punlaan Building through the US Philippine Society. Mrs. Vicky Cuisia (3rd from left standing) and other civic-minded ladies in Manila are on top of the project.



Punlaan School was one of the beneficiaries of a concert "Magic and Miracles" held on September 14 and 15, 2019 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines featuring the multi-awarded, world renowned Philippine Madrigal Singers. The event was well-attended and delighted guests said " It was a great experience and we truly enjoyed!"

# Opening Horizons

## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES



Mr. Harley and Debbie Sy with SM Foundation Scholars

Mr. Harley Sy (Executive Director of SM Investment Corp.) and Debbie Sy (Executive Director –SM Foundation) shared their experiences with 62 SM Foundation Scholars of the Graduating Batch 2019 on September 3, 2019, Tuesday. With them were Linda Atayde (SM Foundation Executive Director for Education) and Lingling Lansang (SMFI AVP for Education). SM Foundation is a major sponsor of Punlaan School.



L-R Seated: Kai Nabatar, Lingling Lansang, Linda Atayde, Debbie and Harley Sy and Nanan Jacinto

## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

YouthWorks PH, a workforce development project of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Philippine Business for Education (PBEEd) partnered with Punlaan School to promote Punlaan scholarship slots for underprivileged young women.

The launch of the recruitment drive was held at the Barangay Loyola Heights, Quezon City on Friday, May 17, 2019.

United States Ambassador Sung Kim led the launch together with PBEEd Chairperson Ramon Del Rosario, USAID office of Education Director Brian Levey, PBEEd Executive Director Love Basillote, YouthWorks PH Chef of Party Karol Mark Yee and Anne Marie Jacinto-Punlaan School Director.



US Ambassador Sung Kim at the Punlaan booth

## INDUSTRY EXPOSURE FOR PUNLAAN SCHOOL FACULTY



SEDA Vertis North Chefs with Margie Cadiente (2nd from the left)- Punlaan Vice Director for Academics, Raquel Montañó - Punlaan Faculty and Bianca Nuñez - Punlaan graduate now working at SEDA Hotel Pastry Department

(L-R) Margie Cadiente, Jeremay Fabellar, Punlaan graduate- SEDA Vertis North Pastry Department employee and Zeny Vivar, Punlaan Faculty

Industry access is a major benefit for the Schools Faculty who had exposure at SEDA Vertis North through the help of Manny San Luis, SEDA Assistant Director for HR, from May 6-16, 2019. Margie Cadiente, Vice Director for Academics was assigned at the Pastry and Hot Kitchen areas; Raquel Montañó, cooking teacher trained at the Cold Kitchen and Zeny Vivar at the Dining and Bar Areas. They had hands-on training in operations learning new techniques, systems and operations. Though it was hard work, they all agreed it was an extraordinary experience for enriched learning!



## Reledev Sponsors Exchange Program in Australia

Maintaining a tradition of exploring new programs, Kai Nabatar, Punlaan Vice-Director for Student Affairs (3rd from left) attended an Exchange Program Seminar in Kenvale College, Australia sponsored by Reledev through the Foundation for Professional Training Inc. Kai Nabatar toured Kenvale College and the Intercontinental Hotel College drawing rich experiences from their high quality courses, methodologies, actual class observations and lectures on Marketing and Promotions amongst others. She went with Mila Araneta, FPTI-Executive Director and Rowena Nazareno, MICARS School Director (3rd and 2nd from the right respectively) from March 2-12, 2019. With them are Kenvale officers and staff.

## AN INSPIRATION <sup>for</sup> FUTURE HOTELIERS



Guadalupe is a name made popular by the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe who appeared to Juan Diego, a simple peasant, in Mexico in 1531. Guadalupe is also the name of a Chemist, Teacher and Youth Education Advocate and a member of Opus Dei who recently was declared a Holy Person by the Church and beatified last May 18, 2019 in Madrid, Spain. She was born in Spain but spent many years in Mexico where she worked as a director of a student residence and taught young people to study seriously and offer their hard work to God. She also taught them not only their duties towards the society but as well as to the Church. Guadalupe also emphasized concern for the poor and the elderly.

Erika Elegado, a Grade 12 student of Punlaan narrated, "Blessed Guadalupe reminds me that I can also be a saint like her with the work that I want to have in the hotel. I can be like the Cactus which was used in the pictures where she appeared. The cactus which represents endurance and strength to survive in different environments. I will also need these virtues for my future work. I also gave the prayer cards of Guadalupe to my family after I have known about her."

## GRADUATES OF THE HOUSECOOKS PROGRAM

SPONSORED BY DIAMOND HOTEL



Batch 15 Housecooks Graduates



Batch 16 Housecooks Graduates with Chef Roland Victoria



## HOUSEHOLD HELPERS PROGRAM

Graduates 2019 and School staff with the Graduation Speaker Mrs. Rica Valdez (seated 1st from Left) and the Punlaan Management, (L-R) Ms. Kai Nabatar-Vice Director for Student Affairs, Anne Marie Jacinto- School Director, Margie Cadiente-Vice Director for Academics.

### ADDENDUM

In the issue of Punlaan Waves 2018 In Memoriam – Aside from the position of Mrs. Luz Filmer as School Deputy Director and CEO (1991-1996) and School Director (1998-2008), she was also the Executive Director and CEO of the Dual Training Program in Food and Beverage Services - Project Westphalia



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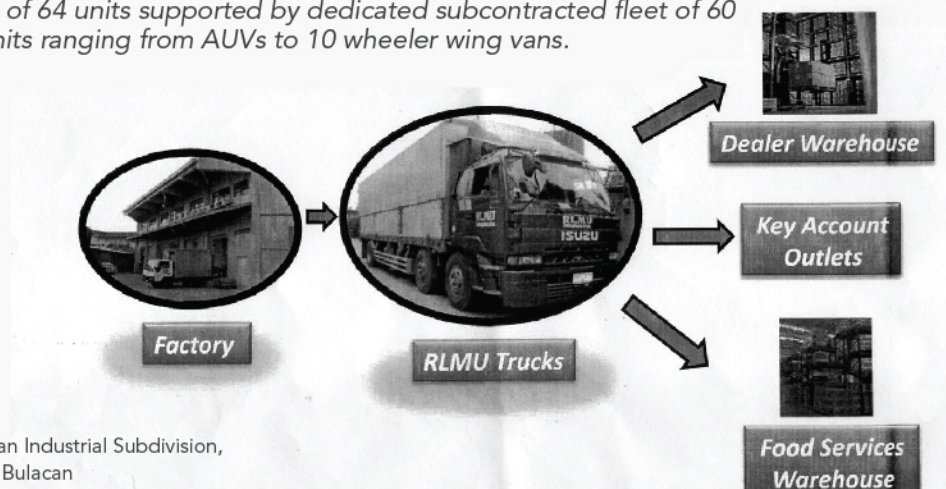
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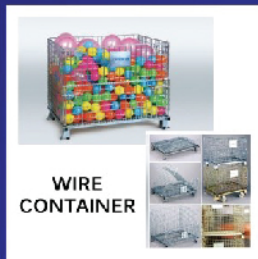
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**PP**

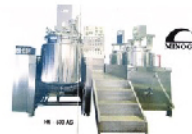


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# 2019 BAKING COMPETITIONS HELD BY PEOTRACO



## BAKERY FAIR 2019 BAKING COMPETITION

From L-R

Chef Michael Giovan A. Sarthou III, Chef Rudolf Vincent Manabar,  
2nd Runner-Up: Lester DeGuzman & Catherine Arica  
Champions: Luis Alfonso Burayag & Janne Michaela Hernandez Vice President of Peotraco: Mrs. Abigail K. See  
Chef Get Bautista Hao 1st Runner-Up: Marie Naven Hipolito, Chef Heinz Pelayo and Chef Jackie Ang Po

## MAFBEX 2019 BAKING COMPETITION

From L-R

Chef. Lara Lopez Dizon, Chef Dante Justino Albalos, Vice President of Peotraco: Mrs. Abigail K. See  
Chef. Penk Ching, 2nd Runner-Up: Suchika Kumar & Vina Marie Belle Go,  
Champions: Yel Mauricio & Enrique Mauricio 1st Runner-Up: Lazel Gem Jacob & Marenelle Gambalan,  
Chef Danilo Basilio, Chef Jackie Ang Po and Chef Heinz Pelayo



## WOFEX 2019 CAKE MY DAY COMPETITION



Participants:

Amiel Geronimo, Angie Jarlos, Marren Gac Austria, Carizza Ballon, Bonnie Velle Vasquez, Helen Cabahug, Kenjie Campat,  
Madellane Madagan, Irene Villeroz, Aldrine Dimaandal, Mariedel Clavo, Charina Cruz, Edilberto Vasquez, Edward Villereal,  
Remyllce Garcia, Judy Ann Ignacio, Lourdes Villareal, Marianne Geronimo, Rosemarie Macceda, Joanne Matig-A,  
Michelle Ramirez, Pamela Iris Jarlos, Marcos Trinidad III, Jo Ann Tuazon.

Vice-President: Mrs. Abigail K. See & Charmaine Tevar



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We, at Mary Grace, are proud to have these bright, hardworking, and skilled ladies in our Family! Ladies who have been invaluable to our growth with their attitude of constant joy, pride, dedication, and love for their work. Everyday they embody how the HAND & HEART go together.

May you continue your mission of molding individuals such as these into truly being the Salt & Light of the World, bringing the meaning of true service to treasured guests after the Heart of Our Lady in Jesus and for Jesus!