the portal
VOL. 18 ISSUE NO. 1

THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL PUBLICATION OF CONPEREY INTEGRATED LEARNING SCHOOL INC.
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DROWNING IN CORRUPTION:

Flood Control Projects in the Philippines

"Ghost" flood control projects posed risks to the lives of Filipinos

Philippine President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. delivered his fourth State of the Nation Address on July 28th, claiming more than 5,500 flood control projects had been completed nationwide.

Given the Philippines' vulnerability to tropical storms, the government must have successfully implemented enough of these projects to combat disasters.

Wrong..... Continue reading on Page 4

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Unsung Heroes



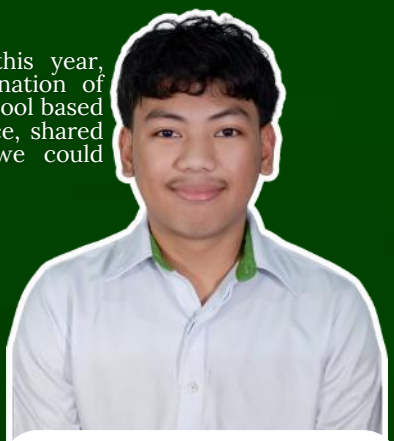
I'MPERFECT' SHINES BRIGHT AT MMFF 2025, MAKING HISTORY WITH INCLUSIVE TRIUMPH

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Portal has grown remarkably this year, shaped by the dreams and determination of every club staffer. What began as a school based initiative evolved through perseverance, shared purpose, and confidence in what we could achieve together.

Before, our work remained within the school. Now, we carry our institution's name beyond its walls, competing, representing, and establishing our presence outside the community. Each step forward reflected our growth as writers, editors, and as one united team.

Today, we reach a significant milestone as we prepare to release the first official school paper of both the school and The Portal.



Christian P. Dela Torre
The Portal Editor-In-Chief

the Portal

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CILS PRINCIPAL RECEIVES OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF AKLAN 2025 AWARD IN EDUCATION

BY **Ollie Joelle T. Cahilig**

Conperey Integrated Learning School Inc. (CILS) is proud to announce the success of their School Principal, Ms. Almera A. Manalili was the Outstanding Youth of Aklan 2025 in the field of Education,

as per the Aklan Provincial Youth Development Office (PYDO) recognition given on 5 December in Hall 2 of the GCLCTTC (Aklan Training Center), New Buswang, Kalibo, Aklan.

This prestigious award is given to the young Aklanons who are the most devoted, resilient, and passionate among the youth. Ms. Manalili's acknowledgment is a testament to her solid leadership and her deep concern for the promotion of quality education and youth development.

Ms. Manalili, a native of Nabas, Aklan, has been an exemplary leader as the Principal of Conperey Integrated Learning School Inc. (CILS). She has not only supported the implementation of the K-12 Program but also has effectively extended the DepEd's Brigada Eskwela in her school to create a collaborative community, based learning environment where the students' academic, moral, and social leadership skills would be developed.

The whole community of Conperey Integrated Learning School Inc. (CILS) is sending their warmest congratulations to Ms. Almera A. Manalili for this great achievement. Her success is a source of motivation to the youth and educators of Aklan and it reaffirms the crucial role of education in a better tomorrow.

CILS Students Win Multiple Awards at Pagwaragwag Cuatro

BY Allysa **BARLASS**

Students from Conperey Integrated Learning School (CILS) earned multiple awards at Pagwaragwag Cuatro, held on

November 19–20, 2025, at the Review Center of Aklan State University–Banga Campus.

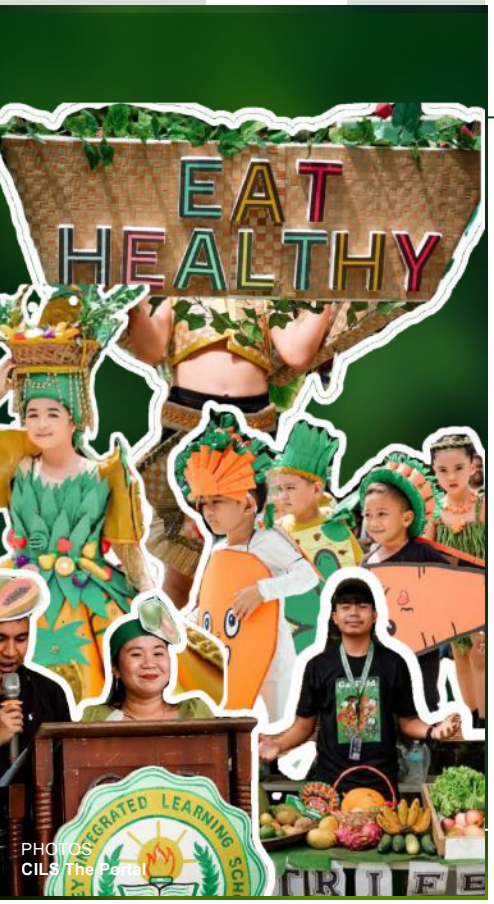
Representing the school, CILS student journalists showcased strong writing and visual storytelling skills across several categories. The participants were accompanied by The Portal Adviser, Teacher Gerina R. Resco, and Co-Adviser, Teacher Michael Rei Gumban.

Christian Dela Torre secured 1st Runner-Up in the Photojournalism category under the guidance of Teacher Michael Rei Gumban. Alyssa Barlass placed 4th Runner-Up in the Science and Technology Writing category. In Editorial Writing, Sherly Gregorio earned 6th Runner-Up, while Janelle Dionne Gantang placed 9th Runner-Up, both coached by Teacher Almera A. Manalili.

These achievements highlight the school's continued excellence in campus journalism and its strong performance among participating schools.



PHOTO BY:
Christian P. Dela Torre



PHOTOS
CILS The Portal

CILS Wraps Up Nutrition Month 2025 Celebration

BY: Ollie Joelle T. **CAHILIG**

Conperey Integrated Learning School, Inc. (CILS) successfully concluded its Nutrition Month 2025 celebration on July 30 through a series of health-centered and engaging activities

spearheaded by the Technology and Livelihood Education (TLE) Department in collaboration with the Supreme Secondary Learners Government (SSLG).

The culminating activity opened with an energetic wellness dance, followed by a lively parade of elementary pupils clad in vegetable-inspired costumes, highlighting the importance of healthy food choices in a fun and creative way. The colorful opening set the tone for a day dedicated to promoting proper nutrition and healthy living among learners.

Students from Grades 7 to 12 actively participated by presenting nutrition-themed booths that emphasized balanced diets, food groups, and practical tips for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. These booths showcased the learners' creativity, teamwork, and understanding of nutrition concepts.

Several competitions further energized the celebration, including fruit and vegetable carving, bouquet making, experimental dish tasting, and the Go, Grow, Glow Grazing Board Contest for the elementary level. Each activity highlighted the nutritional value of food while encouraging innovation and hands-on learning.

The program concluded with the awarding of winners and the distribution of certificates, recognizing the efforts and talents of the participants. More importantly, the celebration.reinforced the significance of proper nutrition and healthy habits as essential foundations for learners' growth, development, and overall well-being.

NEWS

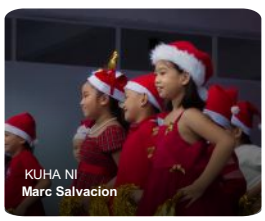
CILS Celebrates Family Day, Christmas Party 2025

BY: Ollie Joelle T. **CAHILIG**

Conperey Integrated Learning School, Inc. (CILS) successfully marked its Family Day and Christmas Party 2025 on December 18 in their respective classrooms, bringing together students, parents, and school staff. The event featured opening remarks by the school principal, Ms. Almera A. Manalili, Christmas presentations from Kindergarten to Grade 12, as well as special performances by the SPTA and faculty, highlighting the spirit of unity and blazes of joy throughout the celebration of the holiday season.

Following the opening program held at the CILS court, the festivities continued on to Christmas parties per classroom that included prepared games, a buffet of food, gift exchanges, and other activities. With each grade level hosting diverse themes, the day created lasting memories and reflected the true spirit of Christmas - love, generosity, and togetherness - strengthening the bonds of the Conpereynian family.

And the school year of 2025 comes to an end with Family Day and Christmas Party 2025, officially the last school day this year. Students say goodbye with wishes of a happy holiday to enjoy a blissful two-week Christmas Break. Amid Christmas presents, delicious food, and no homework, let us remember - Jesus is the reason for this season. Enjoy the holidays, take a rest, and spread the Christmas spirit.



KUHA NI
Marc Salvacion

CONPEREYNIANS, IPINAMALAS ANG TALINO AT MALIKHAING KAKAYAHAN SA BUWAN NG WIKA

NI OLLIE JOELLE T. **CAHILIG**

Ipinamalas ng mga mag-aaral ng Conperey Integrated Learning School (CILS), na kilala bilang mga Conpereynians, ang kanilang talino at malikhaing kakayahan sa iba't ibang patimpalak at gawaing pangkultura bilang bahagi ng pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika noong Hunyo 15, 2025. Isinagawa ang selebrasyon sa temang "Paglinang sa Filipino at Katutubong Wika: Makasaysayan sa Pagkakaisa ng Bansa."

Kasama rin sa pagdiriwang ang panunumpa ng mga opisyal ng School Parent-Teacher Association (SPTA) at mga lider-mag-aaral mula sa iba't ibang organisasyon. Ang okasyon ay pinangunahan ni Mayor Frolibar S. Bautista ng Bayan ng Malay, na nagbigay-diin sa kahalagahan ng pagtutulungan ng paaralan at pamayanan sa pagpapaunlad ng edukasyon at kultura.

Kabilang sa mga isinagawang gawain para sa mga mag-aaral sa elementarya at mataas na paaralan ang Tagisan ng Talino, pagsulat ng tula at sanaysay, katutubong kulinarya, likhang-awit, at iba pang patimpalak.

Ang mga ito ay nagsilbing plataporma upang maipakita ng mga mag-aaral ang kanilang husay, talento, at pagpapahalaga sa wikang Filipino.

Bilang pagtatapos ng programa, itinampok ang rampa ng mga mag-aaral na suot ang kasuotang kumakatawan sa iba't ibang rehiyon ng Pilipinas. Ipinamalas nito ang yaman ng kulturang Pilipino at pinatingkad ang diwa ng pagkakaisa sa gitna ng pagkakaiba-iba.



KUHA NI
Christian Dela Torre

CONPEREY INTEGRATED LEARNING SCHOOL, INC., NAKIBAHAGI SA MAGKASANIB NA PAGTATANGHAL NG PISIKAL NA KALUSUGAN SA CATICLAN FIESTA 2025

NI ALLYSA **BARLASS**

Lumahok ang Conperey Integrated Learning School, Inc. (CILS) sa Joint Physical Fitness Presentation noong Disyembre 8, 2025, sa Caticlan Civic Center bilang bahagi ng taunang pagdiriwang ng Caticlan Fiesta. Pinagsama-sama ng kaganapan ang mga mag-aaral, guro, at miyembro ng komunidad upang bigyang-diin ang kahalagahan ng kalusugan at pisikal na kagalingan sa pamamagitan ng magkakaugnay na mga demonstrasyon ng ehersisyo.

Sa pagtatanghal, ipinakita ng mga kalahok mula sa Caticlan Daycare, Caticlan Elementary School, at CILS ang iba't ibang programang pampisikal, kabilang ang Zumba dances, majorette and band performances, at mga sayaw sa tema ng fiesta. Ang magkakaugnay na galaw, lakas, at koordinasyon ng mga kalahok ay sumasalamin sa masigasig na paghahanda para sa espesyal na okasyon.

Ang Magkasanib na Pagtatanghal ng Pisikal na Kalusugan ay nagsilbing plataporma para sa mga paaralan at komunidad upang itaguyod ang aktibong pamumuhay. Ipinahayag ng CILS ang kanilang pagmamalaki sa pakikilahok, na nagpapakita ng kanilang patuloy na pangako sa paglinang ng parehong akademikong at pisikal na pag-unlad ng mga mag-aaral.

CILS Brings Faith, Future, and Wellness Together in Campus-Wide First Friday Mass, Career Fair, and Mental Health Program

BY: Ollie Joelle T. **CAHILIG**

Conperey Integrated Learning School, Inc. (CILS) brought together students, teachers, and administrators in a day of shared reflection, career exploration, and wellness during its First Friday Mass, Career Fair, and Mental Health Program held on November 7, 2025, at the CILS Grounds.

The event opened with a First Friday Mass at the main campus court, presided over by Rev. Fr. Adonis Remano. The celebration provided the school community an opportunity to reflect and seek guidance as they prepare for their future paths.

Following the Mass, the Career Fair 2025 commenced with the theme "Bridging Dreams and Reality: Designing a Life That Matters." The activity aimed to help learners understand their aspirations, connect dreams with real-life opportunities, and gain insight into the world of work beyond school.

One of the highlights of the fair was the "Dream Profession" activity, where students dressed as their desired future professions. This activity encouraged self-expression while motivating learners to visualize and pursue their career goals.

Alongside the Career Fair, the Mental Health Program was organized by the Office of the Guidance Counselor in collaboration with the Supreme Secondary Learners' Government (SSLG). Students participated in talks, game-based activities, and group exercises that focused on emotional well-being, stress awareness, teamwork, and positive coping strategies.

The program emphasized the importance of mental health and self-care, especially as students face academic pressures and make decisions about their future careers. By integrating career guidance with mental health awareness, CILS demonstrated its commitment to the holistic development of its learners.

The day-long event, held from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., successfully encouraged students to dream big, plan wisely, and build a future grounded in purpose, balance, and well-being.



LITRATO
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DROWNING IN CORRUPTION:

Flood Control Projects in the Philippines

According to Finance Secretary Ralph Recto on September 3rd, the Philippines has lost an estimated 118.5 billion pesos every year to these substandard flood control projects, mockeries to Filipinos living in flood-prone areas.

President Marcos Jr. even said, “Walang ginawa kahit isang araw hindi nagtrabaho. Kahit puntahan niyo, wala kayong makikita na kahit ano. Pero ito ang ginagawa nila, talagang nakakapinsala pa sa mga local residents. So yes, I'm not disappointed. I'm angry,” after finding out about a river wall costing 55 million pesos that was never constructed, less than a month after his State of the Nation Address.

Efforts made by whistleblowers to shine light on these issues were met with direct threats to their lives, an example being Niruh Kyle Antatico, who was shot and killed in his car after exposing the National Irrigation Administration about their “ghost” irrigation projects in Lanao del Sur; Filipinos are left with the possibility of harm, either done by the floods that plague the country or by the censorship of corrupt officials running the government.

During Typhoon Fung-wong (locally known as Super Typhoon Uwan), some parts of Central Luzon flooded, leaving thousands of people displaced. At least 33 people are said to have died during this time, including one who drowned in Catanduanes. Some of these casualties could have been fewer if the proposed flood control projects had existed or had been up to standard.

On December 5th, charges against contractor Cezarah “Sarah” C. Discaya and nine others were filed over the flood control projects, but this does not mean an overall victory for the Philippines. We have lost billions of public funds and, more importantly, the safety of Filipinos into the hands of those with higher power.

As investigations into the “ghost" projects come to an end, Filipinos must live with hope through the current issues in the Philippine government. Previous oppressors, like former President Ferdinand Marcos Sr., have yet to extinguish the flame that is our resilience during major political issues. Public awareness and social justice are the necessary seeds for change, so the sacrifices of our fellow Filipinos are not in vain.

May death never stop us Filipinos in a conflict against our government, even if we are all drowning in corruption.

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₱500 PARA SA NOCHE BUENA:

NOCHE BUENA NGA BA O LETCHE BUENA?

Tuwing Pasko, muling nagliliwanag ang Pilipinas—hindi lamang dahil sa makukulay na parol at dekorasyon, kundi dahil sa pag-asa, pananampalataya, at pagsasama-sama ng pamilya. Sa gitna ng selebrasyong ito, ang Noche Buena ang nagsisilbing puso ng pagdiriwang—isang hapunang hindi lamang tungkol sa pagkain, kundi sa sama-samang pasasalamat matapos ang isang taong puno ng pagsubok.

Kaya naman hindi nakapagtataka ang matinding reaksiyon ng publiko nang ipahayag ni Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Cristina Roque na maaari raw magkasya ang ₱500 para sa isang "basic" na Noche Buena ng isang maliit na pamilya.

Bagama't ipinaliwanag na "basic" lamang ang tinutukoy, maraming Pilipino ang nakaramdam ng lungkot at pagkainis. Hindi maikakaila na ang presyong nakapaloob sa DTI price guide ay malayo sa aktuwal na presyong nararanasan ng mga mamimili sa palengke at supermarket—lalo na sa mga malalayong probinsya. Ang ₱500 na sinasabing sapat ay tila nakabatay sa itinakdang presyo sa papel, hindi sa tunay na presyong kinakaharap ng mga ordinaryong mamamayan araw-araw.

Ayon sa DTI, kabilang sa listahan ang hamon (500g) na nagkakahalaga ng ₱170, spaghetti noodles sa ₱30, at spaghetti sauce sa ₱48.50. Maaari pang idagdag ang macaroni salad, keso, at mayonnaise, at kung kakayanin ng badyet, luncheon meat o corned beef. Para kay Secretary Roque, ito ay "pasok" na raw para sa isang pamilyang may apat na miyembro.

Ngunit ang tanong: sapat ba ito para sa tradisyunal na Noche Buena na matagal nang bahagi ng kulturang Pilipino?

Hindi.

Hindi naman hinihingi ng mga Pilipino ang engrandeng handa o mamahaling pagkain. Hindi rin sukatan ng saya ang dami ng nasa hapag. Subalit hindi rin makatarungang gawing pamantayan ang isang badyet na kapos na kapos, lalo na kung ang hangad lamang ng bawat pamilya ay isang disente at masayang pagsasalo sa gabi ng Pasko.

Kapag sinabing sapat na ang ₱500, para mo na ring sinasabing sapat na ang kakarampot na pag-asa—na tila ba dapat masanay ang mamamayan sa kakulangan sa halip na sikaping gawan ito ng solusyon.
Sa patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng bilihin at nananatiling mababang sahod ng maraming Pilipino, malinaw na hindi talaga kasya ang limang daang piso para sa Noche Buena. At habang ang Pasko ay panahon ng pag-asa, hindi dapat ipikit ang mata sa katotohanang maraming pamilya ang hirap ipagdiwang ito dahil sa kakulangan sa kita.

Ang tunay na diwa ng Pasko ay hindi matatagpuan sa presyo ng handa, kundi sa malasakit—lalo na mula sa mga may kapangyarihang gumawa ng konkretong hakbang upang maging tunay na masaya at makabuluhan ang Pasko para sa lahat.

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FROM LOSS TO LEGACY: THE COURAGE OF TEACHER ANDREW MERENCILLA DELA PAZ

By Precious Zarena **SALAZAR**

Photos from: Teacher **Andrew Dela Paz**

At just 23 years old, Andrew Merencilla "Pogi" Dela Paz of New Washington, Aklan stands at the front of a classroom—not merely to teach Mathematics, but to bear witness to a life shaped by resilience. Teaching was not the dream he sought. It wasn't the path he chased with youthful certainty. Instead, it became the dream he chose to carry—like a torch passed through grief, guarded with purpose, and offered to others.

From the beginning, Andrew's life read like a promise fulfilled. A Magna Cum Laude and batch valedictorian, he was a student whose future seemed to be written in bold. Expectations pressed upon his shoulders, and he accepted them willingly, vowing to devote every waking hour to preparing for the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET)—the gateway to the profession that would define his worth in the eyes of many.

Yet destiny, as it often does, whispered before it roared.

Long before tragedy intervened, Andrew once posted a casual Facebook poll, asking friends which career suited him best. Teaching won. He laughed, dismissed it as online noise, a fleeting moment of amusement. That poll, though, however unremarkable at the time, quietly planted a seed that would later bloom under the harshest of storms.

Just three days after graduation, Andrew's mother was rushed to the ICU. For one and a half months, his world shrank into narrow hospital hallways and dog-eared review notes. By day, he memorized formulas; by night, he counted heartbeats and whispered prayers. He studied with one eye on his books and the other on a monitor that held his breath hostage. He taught himself equations while begging the universe for mercy.Her passing split his world in two.

In the weeks leading up to the LET, Andrew became a master of quiet suffering. He answered practice questions with trembling hands, read notes through blurred vision, and feigned composure while grief hollowed him from within. His mother had once been an education student herself—a dream left unfinished, a story paused mid-sentence. That unfinished dream became Andrew's anchor. To stop would be to let it fade. To continue was to let it live.

So, he took the exam—heart heavy, soul bruised, and spirit uncertain. And against every doubt, he passed.

Alongside his academic honors, Andrew earned a title forged not in comfort, but in endurance: Licensed Professional Teacher (LPT). It was not merely a personal triumph; it was a shared victory, etched with his mother's sacrifices and sealed by her memory. In that moment, loss did not defeat him—it crowned him.

Yet hardship, like a stubborn shadow, refused to loosen its grip. Andrew later lost one of his closest friends, Angelo, a fellow teacher. Grief returned, this time with a quieter voice but heavier weight. Once again, the thought of leaving crept in—not out of weakness, but weariness. But wisdom found him through a professor's words:
"Mahirap magpaalam. Kasi ang pinapaalaman mo, hindi lang ang mga estudyante, kundi pati ang sarili mo mismo." For Andrew, teaching has never been about applause or praise.

"As teachers, we don't really care if students appreciate us or not," he shares. "Our main goal is for them to learn. But when they do appreciate us, it fills our heart—it keeps us going."

Still, he does not romanticize the profession. Teaching, he admits, can drain the soul dry. "We love teaching, but sometimes we get tired—not to the point of giving up, but to the point where we need to rest. At the end of every class, you ask yourself, 'Did I do my best? Nagawa ko ba yung kailangan kong gawin?'"

And yet, despite the grief, fatigue, and expectations, Andrew continues to show up. Day after day, he chooses the classroom. He teaches for his students. He teaches for his late mother. He teaches for his fallen friend. And he teaches for the younger version of himself—the one who once stood at a crossroads, unsure, and afraid—searching for purpose.

In celebrating this years' Teacher's Day, we honor educators like Andrew Merencilla Dela Paz—those who carry more than lesson plans. They carry dreams left unfinished, sacrifices unseen, and a love that refuses to fade.

His story reminds us that greatness is not measured by medals or titles alone, but by the courage to keep walking when the road demands everything and gives little in return.

Because teaching, as Andrew proves, is not merely a profession. It is a calling—born of pain, strengthened
by purpose, and sometimes ignited by the most unexpected spark… even a silly Facebook poll that changed a life.



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The boy who documented miracles, became one

BY Kent A. **CAHILIG**

In his home in Milan, a little boy—only 11 years old—began researching so-called "Eucharistic Miracles," with the use of technology, he plans of displaying his research through a website he would make himself. Born in 1991 in England, he had a largely ordinary childhood. He'd play video games on his PlayStation. He'd even dress in Spider-Man costumes. He was Carlo Acutis, and as of 7 September 2025—Saint Carlo Acutis, as recognized by the Catholic Church.

By all means, Carlo was not only an ordinary boy. At only 7 years old he would make his First Holy Communion, even writing "To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan." But he would not stop here. He would continue to attend mass regularly, and he'd even go home early just to pray. Carlo would follow his faith with works, he regularly gave to the homeless around his church, providing them with food and blankets—using his own money, not even sparing himself enough to buy toys. He even pushed his mother to buy a sleeping bag for a man he saw sleeping on cardboard. For Carlo, even the smallest of deeds would not go undone, walking through the town of Assisi just to return 20 cents to an ice cream vendor. Friends, teachers, and others would see him for who he was, a kind—faithful boy.

Carlo was born to a well-off family, this is no secret, but he used his family's wealth for charity. He wore simple clothes, tracksuits, jeans, and Nikes, and he willingly chose to do so. Despite his simple clothes, Carlo's ambitions were anything but ordinary; he looked for ways to extend his faith beyond everyday acts of charity.

Carlo wanted to reach his fellow youths; he had a mission. In his room, lined with books on faith and technology, he spent hours studying. He wanted to inspire young people and share his faith in Christ and the Eucharist. Determined, he resolved to master the web, creating websites for his local parish and volunteer projects. Immersed in his work, he would often say, "I don't have time to rest. I worry about the world."

His goal was to document Eucharistic miracles from around the world, using his research to share his faith and show others the love of Jesus. Concerned for the world and eager to spread compassion where it was needed most, Carlo traveled the world with his family, photographing the sites where the miracles he researched had occurred.

Carlo's dedication to documenting miracles and sharing his faith came to an abrupt end in 2006, when he passed away at just 15 years old from leukemia. Even in his final days, he remained serene, often offering comfort to friends and family who visited him in the hospital.

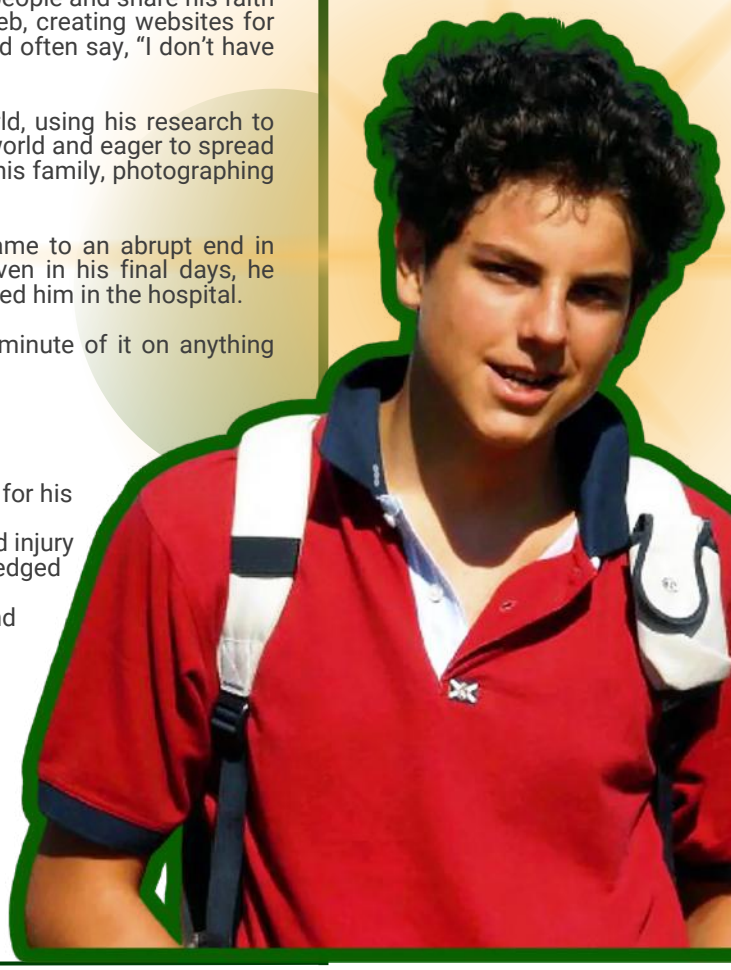
"I am happy to die because I lived my life without wasting even a minute of it on anything unpleasant to God."

Yet his story did not end there.

After praying for Carlo's intercession, a Brazilian boy with a serious pancreatic condition recovered miraculously in 2013, opening the door for his beatification. Carlo was canonized on September 7, 2025, after Valeria Valverde, a Costa Rican student, recovered from a potentially fatal head injury under similar circumstances years later in 2022. The Vatican acknowledged this miracle. Despite his short life, many young people and believers worldwide are still motivated by Carlo's devotion, documented work, and now acknowledged miracles

Carlo Acutis was, by all accounts, an ordinary boy with extraordinary devotion. He played video games, dressed as his favorite superheroes, and lived the everyday life of a teenager—but he also saw a mission in the world around him. Through his curiosity, faith, and mastery of technology, he documented miracles for others to see, building a digital bridge between belief and the modern age.

And so, the boy who once researched miracles became one himself, now recognized as a saint by the Catholic church.



When Space Becomes Crowded: The Threat of Space Debris

BY ALLYSA **BARLASS**

Many of us experience slow Wi-Fi, dropped connections, or signal lags in our daily lives, often without realizing that satellites play a key role in maintaining these services.

Started with Sputnik in 1957, the first satellite launch, space debris became a major problem due to increasing launches, satellite explosions, and anti-satellite (ASAT) tests. This created dangerous space clutter that put essential service at risk. It also indirectly affects GPS and navigation systems, mobile phone networks, weather forecasting, television and radio broadcasting, emergency and disaster response systems, banking and financial systems, and other services, including WiFi.

Space debris, also known as space junk, orbital debris, space pollution, space waste, cosmic debris, or MMOD (Micro Meteroids and Orbital Debris), in simple terms, refers to objects made by humans that have remained in orbit around Earth. Although we do not see it in the sky because it is above the clouds, the debris enters low Earth orbit (LEO) which is an orbital space junk yard.

According to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), millions of pieces of debris is flying in LEO. Most of the junk is made of man-made objects including, spacecraft pieces, tiny flecks of paint from a space craft, rocket parts, broken satellites, or explosions of objects in orbit that flies around space at high speeds. These debris move very fast in space, reaching speeds of 18,000 miles per hour. Think of the speed of a bullet, seven times faster.

Due to this speed and the amount of debris in LEO, current as well as future space-based service, explorations, and experiments risk the safety of the people and property both on space and on Earth. Since no international space laws mandate the clean up of debris in our LEO, NASA states the low Earth orbit is now viewed as the world's largest garbage dump.

With close to 6,000 tons of materials in LEO, the problem of space junk is huge, as well as the expenses to remove them from LEO. Minimizing space debris involves prevention strategies for new missions and the development of active removal technologies for existing junk including; End-of-Life (EOL) Disposal, Spacecraft Passivation, Design for Demise, Minimizing Mission-Related Objects, Collision Avoidance, Robotic Capture, Nets and Harpoons, Space Tugs, Laser Ablation, and more.

Though most actions are governmental, individuals can also contribute simply by supporting sustainable practices, advocating and educating, as well as staying informed on the progress of space agencies like NASA and the European Space Industry. So the next time you lose signal, have slow WiFi, or experience frequent outages, blame the space debris that affects satellite connection. The space around our planet is increasingly filled with human-made debris, therefore it is time to take out the trash, strengthen WiFi signal, and clear the air.

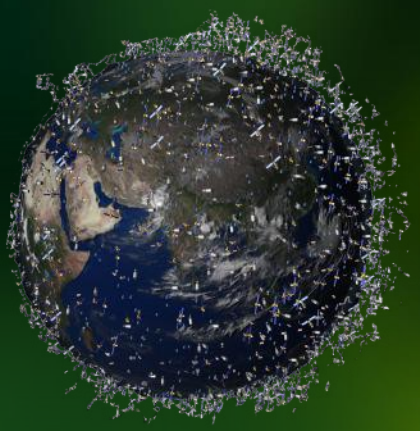


PHOTO FROM
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC.COM

BATTLE BETWEEN GENERATED VS. GENUINE: THE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

BY ALLYSA **BARLASS**

The internet has countless images, videos, and media online that when or if ever an imposter shows up, even IT experts found it difficult to catch.

Whether seen in memes, content, copied from other sites, or more - if viewers can not see the difference between genuine or AI generated work, false information can spread. But even if computer professionals may not notice anything, thanks to Professor Subrahmanian, there's an easy solution.

Artificial images or videos are also known as a deepfake, generated by "deep" learning which is a special kind of machine learning. Often created with the intention to deceive or entertain viewers, deepfakes are progressively becoming harder to detect as technology improves. Driven by technological revolution, this can lead to "fake news" or misinformation and disinformation. As more and more people of all ages frequently use social media, the amount of data shared and processed by algorithms changed the ways news is created and viewed.

To understand more about deepfakes, the system that generates it, deep learning, is similar to any kind of machine learning. Also the same way humans learn, for example; a baby eating random objects discovers what is or is not edible, likewise an algorithm is fed examples and learns to produce outputs that resembles the examples it learned from. Nevertheless, the use of deepfakes is not entirely negative as it can be used to create entertaining and engaging educational experiences that enhance learning outcomes and broaden access. Language learning tools, historical reenactments videos, and more can provide easy-to-create visuals that human explanations couldn't achieve.

However, deepfakes lean to a more negative impact as 46% of fraud experts have encountered synthetic identify fraud, 37% voice deepfakes, and 29% video deepfakes. It also influences the economy as according to UNESCO, the Generative AI market is expected to grow 560% between 2025-2032, reaching $442 billion. And according to a survey from Science Direct, 2023, even IT experts incorrectly perceived 62% of AI-generated content as being created by humans.

Fortunately, technology can combat technology as it can be used to detect deepfakes and enable authentication of genuine media. More recently, Professor Subrahmanian led the development and launch of the Global Online Deepfake Detection System (GODDS). Over 70 journalists have used this service, including reporters from CNN, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Time, Agency France Presse, and more as it provides an audio, video, and image deepfake detection service pro bono for journalists. These detection technologies aim to identify fake media without needing to compare it to original, unaltered media.

So the next time you are scrolling and come across a video you suspect to be AI generated, don't spread fake news and use a deepfake detection. Do something that even IT experts could not manage.



BATTLE BETWEEN GENERATED VS GENUINE

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CILS INTRAMURALS 2025



CILS Pahampang 2025: Fuerza Alab Dose Crowned Secondary Overall Champion

By Shanin **CABULAR**

The awarding ceremony for CILS Pahampang 2025 was held on September 30, 2025, at the Conperey Integrated Learning School Inc. court.

The program recognized the achievements of the participating teams, with students, teachers, and school officials present to witness the event.
Fuerza Alab Dose was declared Secondary Overall Champion after delivering consistent performances across multiple events, securing the top spot over other teams.

As the event concluded, the victory of Fuerza Alab Dose highlighted the competitive spirit of this year's Pahampang. Their success also reflected the strong support of their peers and mentors, making the championship a collective accomplishment for the team and their community.



Malay District Meet 2025: CILS Athletes Advance to Unit Meet

BY OWEN **DEL MONTE**

CILS athletes delivered strong performances at the Malay District Meet 2025 held across Mainland Malay, Manoc-Manoc NHS, and City Mall Boracay, earning multiple victories and securing spots in the upcoming Unit Meet.

The CILS girls' 3×3 basketball team advanced after showcasing disciplined teamwork and determination, while the boys' 3×3 team claimed victory through smart plays and efficient shooting.

In badminton, the CILS boys' first singles player earned a decisive win through strong net control. The girls' first and second singles players dominated their matches with convincing 30–10 and 30–5 victories to secure the championship.

CILS also posted impressive results in table tennis, where the first and second singles players swept their opponents with straight-set wins, 3–0 and 3–0.

The taekwondo team capped the meet with an overall championship, displaying precision, discipline, and power in their performances.
In athletics, John Joseph Villaresis secured a silver medal in the boys' high jump after a strong showing.

Meanwhile, Alejandro Noel C. Casidsid claimed the chess championship with sharp strategy and composure under pressure. Reflecting on his win, Casidsid said, "Handling pressure is hard, so I focused, calculated every move, and avoided mistakes."

With these victories, CILS athletes earned the right to represent the Malay District in the Unit Meet, carrying forward the school's competitive spirit and sportsmanship.

SCI-TECH

Battle Between Generated Vs. Genuine



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EDITORYAL

Drowning in Corruption:



PAGE 05

the Portal

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AKLAN PAAM 2024

CILS ATHLETES GOING FOR GOLD; Qualifies for the WVRAA

By **Owen Del Monte**

CILS Athletes Casidsid and Vanrooij Strikes Gold in their respect competitions, Chess and Swimming

at the Aklan Provincial Athletic Association Meet (APAAM) 2025 held at Makato and Kalibo Pilot Elementary School, Qualifies for the Western Visayas Regional Athletic Association (WVRAA) 2026.

Striking the king, Casidsid with his clever analysis, tactics, and strategy on the board owned the opponent, takes the gold medal.

Meanwhile, Vanrooij with her swift, stout, skillful, and elegant strokes nips the competition.
Casidsid and Vanrooij efforts were not in vain and proved that their preparation paid off showing how dedicated, skillful, and resilient they are.

Victoriously taking the gold medal for Chess and Swimming at Aklan Provincial Athletic Association Meet (APAAM) 2025, Casidsid and Vanrooij achieves qualifications for the Western Visayas Regional Athletic Association (WVRAA) 2026.



UNIT IV ATHLETIC MEET

PHOTOS
CILS The Portal Facebook Page



Unit Meet 2025: CILS Athletes Dominate Podium

BY SHANIN **CABULAR**

CILS athletes delivered a dominant performance at the Unit IV Athletic Meet 2025 held in Tangalan and Makato, Aklan, from November 15–20, capturing multiple gold, silver, and bronze medals across various events.

Swimmer Van Rooij led the medal haul after winning gold in the 50m and 100m Backstroke and silver in the 1500m Freestyle and 50m Breaststroke. Her performance placed her among the Top 3 High School Girls swimmers of the meet.

In table tennis, Dolola claimed silver in the twice-to-beat championship, winning matches 3–2 and 3–1. Despite falling short of a Provincial Meet berth, she expressed gratitude for her final high school competition, calling the experience "bittersweet."

CILS also made its mark in chess, with Casidsid securing silver on Board 1 through strong tactical play and consistency.

On the court, the girls' 3×3 basketball team earned silver after displaying disciplined defense and composure in tight situations. The boys' 3×3 team, meanwhile, powered their way to gold with strong rebounding, teamwork, and timely execution.

"Wag mawawalan ng pag-asa habang may oras pa," one player said.

Taekwondo capped CILS' successful campaign as the team collected multiple gold and silver medals in both Poomsae and Kyorugi, helping Team Malay secure the Overall Champion title in the sport.
CILS athletes closed the meet with a strong showing across disciplines, highlighting preparation, teamwork, and competitive consistency throughout the week-long competition.

AKLAN PAAM 2025

CILS Athletes Clinched Multiple Medals at APAAM '25

By **Shanin R. Cabular**

CILS athletes clinched medals across all events, showcasing skill and teamwork in basketball, swimming,

chess, and taekwondo at the Aklan Provincial Athletic Association Meet (APAAM) 2025, held December 15 –17 across venues in Malinao, Makato, and Kalibo.

Across various venues, CILS athletes made emphatic performances in all competitions. The 3×3 basketball boys' team fought hard to secure a bronze medal, while Van Rooij, who qualified for the Western Visayas Regional Athletic Association (WVRAA) Meet 2026, added multiple medals to the school's tally, making a strong mark in the swimming competitions.

CILS athletes also made their presence felt in chess, strategically controlling the board at Kalibo Pilot Elementary School, and excelled in taekwondo at Bliss Poblacion Kalibo Covered Court, where their performances were well-orchestrated from start to finish. Across all events, their results highlighted both individual talent and a coordinated team effort, reflecting the dedication and skill of CILS athletes.

Through their dedication and teamwork, CILS athletes delivered strong performances at Aklan Provincial Athletic Association Meet '25 (APAAM), leaving a positive impression and highlighting the school's active participation in provincial sports competitions.

Striking the king, Casidsid with his clever analysis, tactics, and strategy on the board owned the opponent, takes the gold medal.

Meanwhile, Vanrooij with her swift, stout, skillful, and elegant strokes nips the competition.
Casidsid and Vanrooij efforts were not in vain and proved that their preparation paid off showing how dedicated, skillful, and resilient they are.

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The Last Dawn of Prayer

By Ollie Joelle T. **Cahilig**

**They say a wish is heard in prayer
on Simbang Gabi's final air,
when night begins to lose its hold
and candle flames still burn in gold.**

**For nine early mornings, I return,
sleepy with hope my heart must learn,
holding one wish, quiet and true,
a whispered dream I never knew.**

**I sit as prayers begin to rise,
asking heaven with tired eyes
how long a heart is meant to wait,
how many dawns decide our fate.**

**When songs grow soft, the silence stays,
the altar glows in gentle rays;
I leave my wish where faith can see,
not asked in word, just trust in Thee.**

**And if Simbang Gabi still gives grace,
if miracles can find their place,
of all the gifts my heart could choose,
I pray it leads me straight to you.**

Beyond the Final Whistle

By Aleah Kate **Apellido**

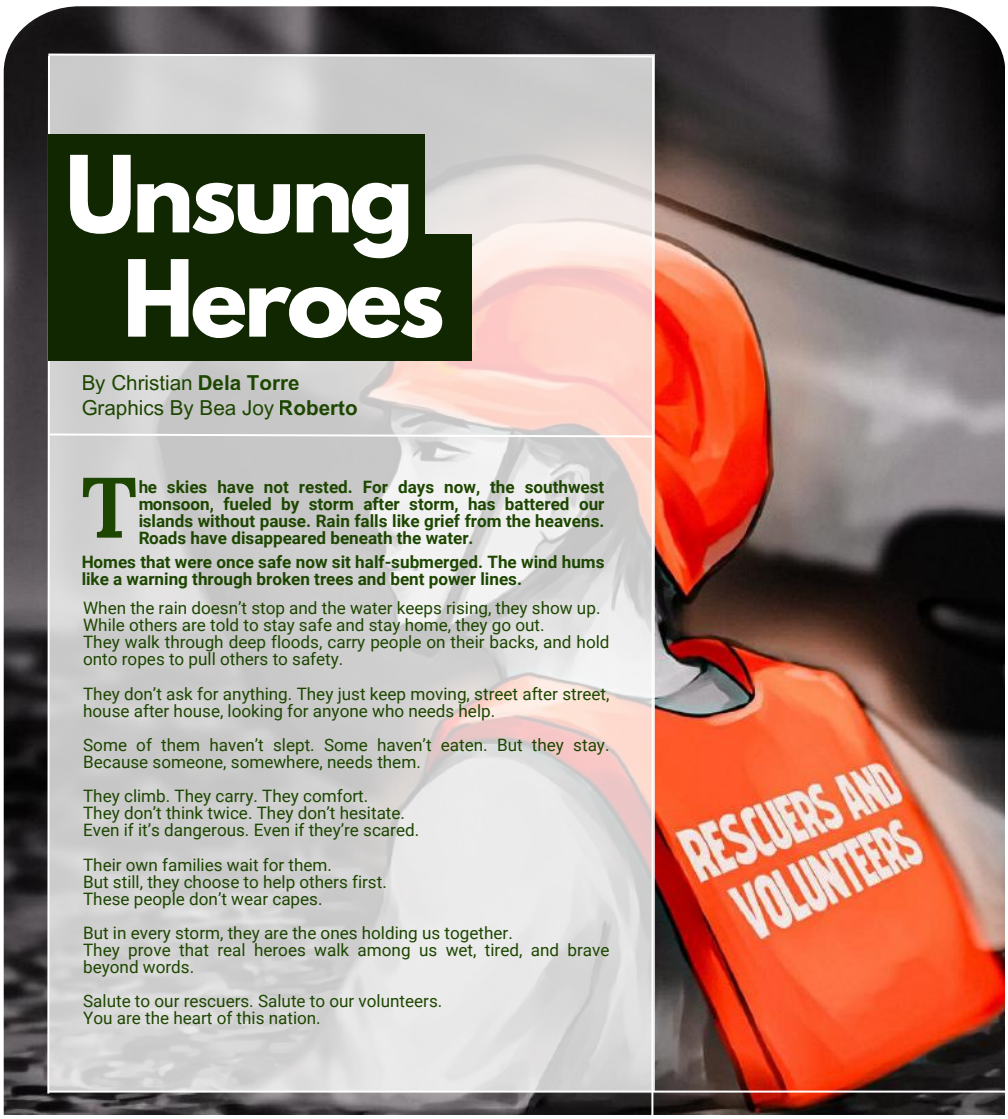
The field's a canvas, green and wide, Our bodies paint with every stride. Each pass, each throw, a stroke so bold, A living story, yet untold

**The ball's a compass, wild and free,
It points to dreams we're meant to see. It rolls through losses, leaps through gain,
A sun that shines through sweat and rain.**

**Our shoes are ships on stormy seas,
They sail through trials, bend with ease. The whistle's wind, the crowd's the tide, Yet still we row, with hearts as guide.**

**Each match's fire refines the soul,
Defeat's the ash that makes us whole. Like iron struck, we spark, we gleam, Forged in the furnace of a team.**

**And when the game fades into night,
We carry torches burning bright. For sports are not just games we play,
But metaphors for life each day.**



Unsung Heroes

By Christian **Dela Torre**
Graphics By Bea Joy **Roberto**

The skies have not rested. For days now, the southwest monsoon, fueled by storm after storm, has battered our islands without pause. Rain falls like grief from the heavens. Roads have disappeared beneath the water.

Homes that were once safe now sit half-submerged. The wind hums like a warning through broken trees and bent power lines.

When the rain doesn't stop and the water keeps rising, they show up.
While others are told to stay safe and stay home, they go out.
They walk through deep floods, carry people on their backs, and hold onto ropes to pull others to safety.

They don't ask for anything. They just keep moving, street after street, house after house, looking for anyone who needs help.

Some of them haven't slept. Some haven't eaten. But they stay.
Because someone, somewhere, needs them.

They climb. They carry. They comfort.
They don't think twice. They don't hesitate.
Even if it's dangerous. Even if they're scared.

Their own families wait for them.
But still, they choose to help others first.
These people don't wear capes.

But in every storm, they are the ones holding us together.
They prove that real heroes walk among us wet, tired, and brave beyond words.

Salute to our rescuers. Salute to our volunteers.
You are the heart of this nation.

To the quietly weary — may today brings you softer pace

By Christian **Dela Torre**

The morning arrives softly, mindful of hearts still learning how to rise. Light filters through the window in quiet threads, offering warmth without insistence. For those who have endured long nights, dawn is not a promise but a gentle reminder — you made it here.

There are struggles that leave no bruises, no bandages, no visible trace. They live in the pause before speaking, the silence after a deep breath, the weight carried behind a steady smile. These battles are fought in hallways, classrooms, bedrooms — in every space where a person chooses to keep going despite the heaviness only they can feel.

A single step forward. A single task finished. A single moment of calm. These are triumphs too — though they whisper instead of roar. And sometimes, surviving the day is the kind of victory that deserves the loudest applause, even if no one hears it but you.

May today settle lightly upon your shoulders. May it offer rest where yesterday offered struggle, and comfort where last night held ache. May you find one thing — no matter how small — that feels like peace.

There is no race to win, no finish line to chase. Healing, surviving, growing — all of it happens slowly, invisibly, and quietly. And that is enough. You are enough.

I'MPERFECT' SHINES BRIGHT AT MMFF 2025, MAKING HISTORY WITH INCLUSIVE TRIUMPH

By Christian **DELA TORRE**

The 51st Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) Gabi ng Parangal was a celebration of bold storytelling, technical excellence, and social relevance, but one film stood above the rest. I'mPerfect emerged as the night's biggest symbol of progress after winning First Best Picture, marking a historic victory for inclusive Filipino cinema.

While Manila's Finest and Unmarry dominated the awards tally with multiple wins, it was I'mPerfect that captured hearts and headlines. The film, which features a cast of actors with Down syndrome, also received the newly created Jury Prize for Best Ensemble, underscoring its collective strength and authenticity.

At the center of I'mPerfect's success was Krystel Go, who won Best Actress in one of the festival's most competitive categories. She prevailed over seasoned performers Nadine Lustre, Angelica Panganiban, and Bianca de Vera—an achievement that drew a standing ovation from the audience.

A Breakthrough Moment for Krystel Go

Krystel Go's Best Actress win is widely regarded as one of the most significant moments of this year's MMFF. Before I'mPerfect, Krystel was relatively unknown to mainstream audiences. Her journey into acting began through theater workshops and advocacy-driven projects that focused on self-expression and confidence-building for persons with disabilities.

In I'mPerfect, Krystel delivers a performance praised by critics for its emotional honesty and natural charm. Rather than relying on dramatic exaggeration, her portrayal is grounded, heartfelt, and quietly powerful—allowing the character's humanity to take center stage. Film reviewers noted that her performance avoided stereotypes and instead presented a fully realized character with agency, humor, and vulnerability.

During her acceptance speech, Krystel tearfully thanked God, her family, and the film's creators, saying, "Salamat Lord at natupad ang pangarap namin maging artista." Her words resonated deeply, reflecting not only a personal triumph but also a long-overdue recognition of actors with disabilities in Philippine cinema.

A Festival of Meaningful Wins

Other award recipients included Love You So Bad, Bar Boys: After School, and Shake, Rattle & Roll: Evil Origins. Meanwhile, Rekonek, the lone Christmas-themed entry, failed to secure a win despite multiple nominations.

The evening also honored industry icons Judy Ann Santos and Ericson Navarro, who were inducted into the MMFF Hall of Fame, while emerging stars were recognized in the fashion awards.

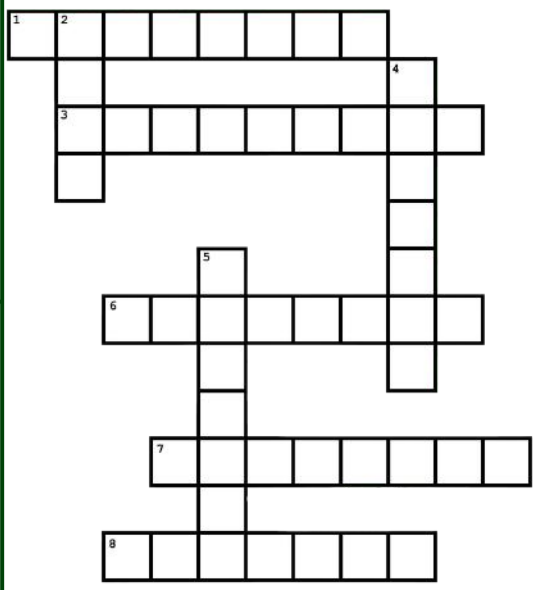
More than just a competition, the 2025 MMFF Gabi ng Parangal proved to be a statement—one that celebrated diversity, challenged norms, and reminded audiences that powerful stories come from voices that deserve to be seen and heard.



I'M PERFECT SHINES BRIGHT

PHOTO FROM
Nathan Studios Inc.

CROSS WORD PUZZLE



GUIDE QUESTIONS:

HORIZONTAL

1. The first private school in the mainland of Malay, Akan

3. It is select suitable candidates, maintain standards, promote diversity, and prepare students for future success.

6. A person formally engaged in learning.

7. Name of the German Shepherd dog owned by the school owner.

8. It is an intense desire, love, or enthusiasm for something.

VERTICAL

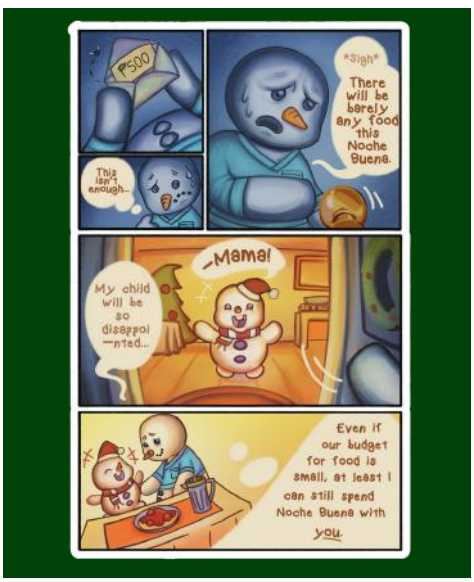
2. A verbal test that everyone is scared of?

4. A fundamental moral virtue meaning to be truthful, sincere, and fair.

5. Work + Prayer = ?

COMIC

BY Jandi **GANTANG**



The Portal

Editorial Staff

School Year 2025-2026



























































