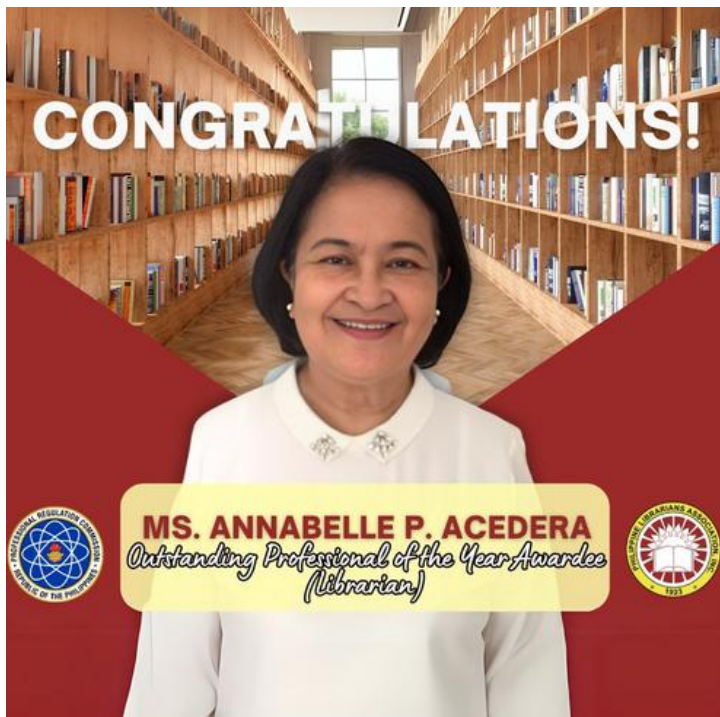


# PLAI NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PHILIPPINE LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION, INC.



## ANNABELLE ACEDERA NAMED LIBRARIAN OPYA 2024

Meet Annabelle Paredes Acedera, affectionately known as "Inday". In this engaging interview, Ma'am Inday takes us through her vibrant journey as a librarian for over 50 years. From her early days as a novice librarian to tackling quirky reference questions, Ma'am Inday shares her colorful journey with us! Dive into the full story, and discover the wisdom and wit of this outstanding librarian.

Continued on page 4.



## DAVAO HOSTS OVER 900 ATTENDEES AT PLAI CONGRESS 2024

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), in collaboration with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCCA-NCLIS), the National Library of the Philippines (NLP), and the Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines, Inc. (MAHLAP), successfully hosted the PLAI Congress 2024 with the theme, "Knowledge Integration: Connecting Minds, Empowering Communities." Held from November 19 to 22, 2024, at the Grand Menseng Hotel, Davao City. The event aimed to retool and empower librarians and library workers across the nation.

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Warm greetings to my fellow members of the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI)!

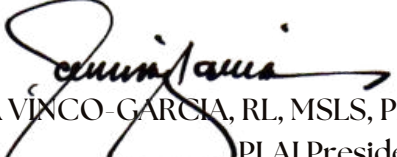
As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the dedication, passion, and active involvement that each of you brings to our profession. Together, we have strengthened the role of libraries as vital centers of learning, collaboration, and community engagement. Through your commitment to PLAI's initiatives and programs, we have made significant strides in advancing librarianship and responding to our communities' evolving needs. It is your continued support that drives our collective success and progress.

Looking ahead, we are committed to providing ongoing support for your professional growth and ensuring that we stay at the forefront of the rapidly changing library landscape. We will continue to build strong partnerships with local and international organizations, creating opportunities for you to access valuable resources and networks. We also remain dedicated to exploring new ways to support your development and ensure that every member is empowered to adapt to new challenges and opportunities.

We encourage and empower each one of you to take an active role in shaping the future of our profession. Your participation is crucial in creating meaningful change and driving the progress of our field. By contributing your knowledge, ideas, and enthusiasm, you help strengthen the fabric of PLAI and libraries across the country. Together, we can inspire others, overcome challenges, and ensure libraries remain essential, relevant, and impactful in our communities.

As we move forward, we urge you to stay engaged in PLAI's activities and initiatives. Your involvement is the key to continued innovation and success in our profession. Let's work together to elevate librarianship in the Philippines and make a lasting difference in the lives of the people we serve.



  
ELISA VINCO-GARCIA, RL, MSLS, PhD  
PLAI President

# Treasurer's Highlights

by Maria Pretty Lay T. Abdala

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) continues to uphold its commitment to transparency and accountability in managing its financial resources. The Treasurer's Report provides a detailed overview of PLAI's financial status, income, expenditures, and initiatives undertaken by PLAI to support its mission of empowering library professionals and promoting literacy across the country.

PLAI has generated income from membership dues, sponsorships, and regional remittances for the fiscal year. These funds have been used to support various programs, such as librarian professional development workshops, outreach initiatives, and advocacy campaigns for library and information services.

Expenditures for the year have been allocated to key projects, including the PLAI National Congress and webinars for LIS professionals. The operational costs have been minimized through efficient resource management, ensuring more funds are directed toward impactful activities.

The organization's financial position remains stable, with a healthy balance carried forward for upcoming initiatives. PLAI remains committed to prudent financial stewardship to sustain its programs and serve the needs of its members and the broader library community.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COM Issuances:</b>	97
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱73,500.00
AD Remittances	₱476,300.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱549,800.00</b>

The Treasurer extends gratitude to all members, partners, and sponsors for their invaluable support. Together, we continue to advance the role of libraries and librarians as catalysts for knowledge and community development.

## PLAI Achieves Accreditation as AIPO for Librarians by Venus Boyer-Oruga

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) has been officially recognized by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) as the Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO) for Librarians, pursuant to Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (PRBFL), Resolution No. 04, series of 2024.

This significant milestone reflects the collective dedication, hard work, and unity of Filipino librarians. With this accreditation, published in Manila Bulletin on December 3, 2024, and effective immediately, PLAI solidifies its role in championing the profession, setting higher standards, and making a lasting impact within the community. This achievement is celebrated as a victory for the library profession, paving the way for a brighter future in librarianship across the Philippines.

## PLAI Hosts Webinar on AI and Data Management by Remedios B. Janier & Elisa V. Garcia



On March 14-15, 2024, the Philippine Librarians Association Inc. (PLAI) conducted the webinar "Unlocking the Power of AI and Data Management for Libraries," which awarded 15 CPD points to its participants. Held via Zoom, the event featured six resource speakers and 10 paper presenters. The webinar aimed to equip participants with a clear understanding of AI applications in libraries, addressing AI implementation's ethical considerations and challenges. It also promoted AI literacy to enable librarians to make informed decisions about AI technologies and explored AI's potential to enhance library services while addressing potential risks.

Additionally, the webinar increased awareness of the importance of data management in libraries, introducing best practices and tools for effective data management and encouraging participants to develop and implement comprehensive data management plans.

The event's success underscored PLAI's commitment to empowering librarians with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate the evolving landscape of library services and data management in the digital age.

# Davao Hosts Over 900 Attendees at PLAI Congress 2024

by Remedios B. Janier & Elisa V. Garcia

The four-day congress showcased a comprehensive program featuring plenary and parallel sessions led by experts, focusing on current trends and innovations that advance the modernization and practice of the library profession. In addition, a vibrant fellowship program provided opportunities for networking and collaboration among the 943 registered participants. This initiative reaffirmed PLAI's commitment to ensuring that Filipino librarians and library workers remain informed, inspired, and equipped to meet the evolving needs of their communities.

These are the activities that transpired during the PLAI National Congress, from day 0 to day 3:

## Day 0 – November 19, Tuesday

Today is the arrival of the participants for their registration. At the same time, the National Book Week Committee officially opened the 90th NBW Celebration together with the PLAI Book Tech Fair. The PLAI Book Tech Fair showcased products and services that our co-event partners and sponsors can provide to libraries, from library resources and technologies to design and many more.

In the afternoon, the PLAI House of Delegates convened at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Building, City Government of Davao, to discuss matters related to the operations and concerns of the organization and the profession.

## Day 1 – November 20, Wednesday

The event began with the formal opening ceremonies that included a Processional March, the Entrance of Colors, the Philippine National Anthem, the Singing of "Tayo'y Davaoeño," the Invocation, and the PLAI Hymn. The Makabayan Dance Troupe from the University of Mindanao presented a captivating Opening Salvo that enhanced the ceremony's vibrancy and significance.

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) dignitaries and the representative of the keynote speaker, Hon. Sebastian Zimmerman Duterte, delivered inspiring messages to the participants.

The plenary sessions commenced afterward.

- *Dreams and Realities: Building a Green Agenda in the Philippine Libraries* by Dr. Brian Poe Llamanzares
- *Keeping up with the SDGs: PH Libraries Edition* by Ms. Sharon Maria S. Esposito-Betan, RL
- *The Role of Librarians in Building Collaborative Partnerships for Knowledge Exchange* by Dr. Maxie Doreen L. Cabarron, RL
- *Harnessing the Power of Community Engagement in Knowledge Integration Communities* by Dr. Anita C. Sornito, RL
- *Libraries' Role in Promoting Information Equity and Inclusion* by Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz, RL

## DAY 2 – November 21, Thursday

On the second day of the PLAI Congress 2024, the event featured parallel sessions where research presenters elaborated on the various themes of the congress. The sessions showcased 27 research presentations, offering in-depth discussions and insights that enriched the understanding of key topics and fostered a dynamic exchange of ideas among the participants.

Later that day, a special oath-taking ceremony was held for the newly registered librarians. It was a momentous occasion where the recent board passers took their solemn oath, officially beginning their professional journey in the field of librarianship.

Afterward, participants enjoyed a magical social gathering through the Fellowship Night-themed "Librarians Outside Their Walls." The evening's activities showcased creativity, camaraderie, and joy.

## Day 3 - November 22, Friday

The morning was filled with informative talks and engaging discussions through the next series of plenary sessions:

- *Breaking Down Silos: Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration* by Ms. Janice D. Peñaflo, RL
- *Overcoming Barriers to Interdisciplinary Exchange in Academic and Research Settings* by Dr. Ronnie V. Amorado
- *Librarians as Catalyst for Social Cohesion and Community Empowerment* by Ms. Annabelle P. Acedera, RL
- *Digital Literacy for All: Bridging the Digital Divide through Technology Education* by Mr. Carlo Zebedee R. Gualvez, RL
- *Participatory Approaches to Community Engagement in Development Projects* by Hon. Pilar C. Braga

The PLAI General Assembly was held in the afternoon, bringing together members for important discussions and updates.

The 2024 PLAI National Congress owes its success to the unwavering dedication and hard work of the National Board of Trustees and the organizing team from the host region, the Davao Region Librarians Council, and the participation of librarians across the Philippines and our event partners.





# Annabelle Acedera Named Librarian OPYA 2024

by Melody R. Agcito



**NAME:** Annabelle Paredes Acedera  
**BIRTHDAY:** January 25, 1948  
**NICKNAME:** Inday  
**FAVORITE COLOR:** Green  
**FAVORITE BOOKS:**  
Heroic Leadership by Chris Lowney  
Future Libraries: Dreams, Madness & Reality by Walt Crawford & Michale Gorman  
**FAVORITE AUTHOR:** Stephen Covey

1968-1970, was funded by the Ford Foundation and hosted by Xavier University Library in Cagayan de Oro City, afforded me the unique opportunity to work alongside renowned library figures of the time. I had the privilege of interacting with luminaries such as Father Joseph Baumgartner, SVD of the University of San Carlos, Ursula Picache of the University of the Philippines, Narcissa Muñasque of De La Salle University, and Gorgonio Siega of Silliman University, to name a few. These individuals, pioneers in the field, oversaw the meticulous selection of books that would enrich college library collections nationwide.

This early exposure to the intricacies of library operations, the importance of quality collections, and the dedication of seasoned professionals ignited a passion within me. It was during this time that I realized my calling to dedicate my career to the world of libraries and information science. The experience laid the foundation for my future endeavors, inspiring me to pursue further education and assume leadership roles within the library profession.

## Can you share a mentor or role model who played a significant role in your professional journey?

I have three important personalities in mind who have significantly influenced my professional journey: Ms. Eva B. Brillo and two Jesuit priests, Rev. Rafael N. Borromeo and Rev. Robert J. Suchan.

Ms. Brillo, was my second library director. She was a highly demanding leader who placed great emphasis on precision and punctuality in all tasks. While her rigorous approach initially posed challenges for me, it ultimately contributed significantly to my professional development. Her insistence on meticulousness and adherence to deadlines fostered a strong work ethic and attention to detail in my work. I am grateful for her commitment to excellence, which inspired me to strive for higher standards in everything I do.

Father Borromeo was my first library director, and he profoundly shaped my understanding of leadership. He emphasized the importance of ethical conduct, empathy, and a servant-leader mindset. One of my most significant experiences under his mentorship was overseeing the distribution of thousands of books acquired through his annual book-begging trips to libraries in the United States. This invaluable opportunity not only allowed me to develop practical skills but also deepened my appreciation for the power of knowledge and education.

The late Father Bob, who served as the Director of Libraries at Ateneo de Manila University from 1952 to 1980, was assigned to Xavier University in 1982. Throughout my tenure as Director of XU Libraries, he remained a constant presence and a guiding mentor, consistently urging me to stay true to my profession and strive for the betterment of libraries. As the founder of the Philippine Library Materials Project (PLMP), he significantly enhanced library collections nationwide. I had the privilege of working with him as a Board Director of PLMP where he continually reminded me to make sound decisions that would benefit member libraries and to persist in my efforts to support other libraries.

Through their mentorship, I learned to balance compassion with firmness, to be both a supportive leader and a demanding one. Their guidance has been instrumental in shaping my career and has empowered me to face challenges with confidence and creativity. I am eternally grateful for their unwavering support and mentorship, which continue to inspire me to this day.

## When you first became a librarian, what was the most surprising thing you learned about the profession?

I was a novice in the library when I was assigned as the Periodicals Librarian in July 1968. Transitioning from clerical work to supervising the Periodicals Section, I took on the role of librarian despite not having the necessary degree, as formal library education requirements were not yet established at that time. Although I had no formal training in library science, I was pleasantly surprised by how effortlessly I felt immersed in my new responsibilities—much like a fish gliding through water.

To my astonishment, the role aligned perfectly with my passions and skills. Just as a fish instinctively navigates its aquatic environment, I found the thrill of intellectual discovery both familiar and comforting. From organizing periodicals to locating essential resources, each task seamlessly integrated into my daily routine. This experience provided me with a profound moment of clarity: I had discovered my true calling—a place where I could genuinely thrive. Being a librarian was not just a job for me; it felt as natural and essential as breathing.

Inspired by this realization, I decided to enroll in the required courses for a major in library science under the Bachelor of Arts program, eager to deepen my knowledge and enhance my contributions to the field.

## What was your first job in librarianship, and how did it shape your career path?

My first job in librarianship was as a clerk for the College Library Book Selection Conference in 1968, right after graduating from college. This experience marked the beginning of my lifelong journey in the field.

Tasked with clerical work, I spent countless hours typing lists of professional books that were deemed essential for college libraries across the Philippines. This project, conducted from

## Can you recall the first book or resource that truly sparked your love for libraries and information management?

While I cannot personally recall the specific books that first ignited my passion for libraries and information management, I can certainly appreciate the profound impact that seminal works like *Philippine School Libraries: Their Organization & Management* by Concordia Sanchez (1972) and *University Libraries for Developing Countries* by M.A. Gelfand (1968) have had on the field. These books provided me with a deep understanding of the role of libraries in society and inspired me to pursue a career in this field.

Concordia Sanchez's *Philippine School Libraries* provided a practical and comprehensive guide to library management, emphasizing the importance of effective organization, collection development, and user services. M.A. Gelfand's *University Libraries for Developing Countries* offered a broader perspective, exploring the role of libraries in supporting research, teaching, and community development. These books not only provided me with the theoretical foundation but also inspired me to envision a future where libraries are essential hubs of knowledge and innovation. These two books, together, solidified my desire to dedicate my career to the world of librarianship.

## What was your first memorable encounter with a library patron that still makes you smile?

The first patron who truly made an impression on me was a male agriculture student from Xavier University. He took the time to approach me at my table and expressed his heartfelt gratitude for helping him locate essential research materials for his assignment. This simple act of kindness left a lasting impact on me. He even remarked that he wished all librarians were as helpful and pretty as I was, which was really flattering given my youth at the time. This encounter served as a powerful reminder of the positive influence librarians can have on students' lives. It was a heartwarming moment that continues to bring a smile to my face, reinforcing my passion for this profession and the meaningful connections we foster with those we serve.

## Can you remember the first library mishap or funny situation you found yourself in? How did you handle it?

Sometime in the late 70's during orientation for new students, I was explaining the library's resources and services. In an attempt to engage the audience, I jokingly mentioned that the library had "everything you could possibly need" to succeed in their studies. To illustrate this point, I added, "The library even has a section dedicated to how to survive a zombie apocalypse!" This remark I made was intended as a light-hearted joke to emphasize the variety of resources available in the library. However, one student took my comment seriously and raised his hand, asking for specific titles and recommendations on survival tactics. Realizing the misunderstanding, I quickly pivoted to address the student's inquiry without breaking the comedic flow. I suggested some popular books on preparedness and survival skills, turning what could have been an awkward moment into an engaging discussion about resourcefulness.

I was able to handle the situation with quick thinking and humor. Instead of dismissing the student's question or clarifying that it was a joke, I embraced it as an opportunity to connect with the audience. By providing actual recommendations related to survival skills, I satisfied the inquisitive student and also fostered a lively atmosphere in the orientation session.

## What was the first piece of technology or library system you learned to use, and how was your experience with it?

My first experience with library technology was with Circulation Plus, a DOS-based library management system introduced at Xavier University Libraries in March 1995. This system marked a significant turning point, automating circulation processes, enabling the adoption of barcodes for books, and automating the processing of library materials. By June 1995, we had fully

integrated this technology, drastically improving efficiency and reducing manual labor, marking a significant shift from manual processes to a more streamlined digital approach.

In parallel, we initiated the transition from a traditional card catalog to an online public access catalog (OPAC). The acquisition of the Catalog Plus module from Follett Software Company facilitated this transformation. Finally, in January 1998, the library upgraded to the Windows version of both modules, enhancing user experience and functionality even more.

My early experiences with Circulation/Catalog Plus were instrumental in shaping my understanding of library technology and its potential to modernize and transform library services.

## What was the first "library hack" or creative solution you came up with that made your job easier or more fun?

One of my earliest and most exciting library "hacks" was the introduction of two online databases at Xavier University Libraries in 2003: Wilson OmniFile Select and EBSCO MasterFile. It was like unlocking a treasure trove of information. Before that, research meant poring over physical books and journals, often limited by our library's collection. With the advent of these 2 databases, a whole new world of knowledge opened up. It was exhilarating to explore articles, dissertations, and other scholarly materials from around the globe, all at the click of a button. I remember spending countless hours exploring these databases, marveling at the sheer volume of information available and the ease with which I could access it. It was a game-changer, and I quickly realized the potential it had to transform both my work and the research experience of our patrons.



## What was the first library program or initiative you spearheaded that you are most proud of?

I am particularly proud of three major initiatives that I spearheaded: the computerization of Xavier University (XU) Libraries, the construction of the annex XU library building, and the transformation of Lourdes College Library into a Learning Commons.

The computerization of Xavier University Libraries was a groundbreaking project that revolutionized access to information. By digitizing our collections and implementing library automation systems, we significantly enhanced the research capabilities of our patrons. This initiative not only improved efficiency but also elevated the library's role as a hub of knowledge and innovation.

The construction of the annex XU library building was another significant achievement. As the Director of Libraries at that time, I was a key participant between 1993 and 1997, in the design and layout process and was able to contribute to the creation of a modern and functional space. This expansion project addressed the growing needs of the XU community by providing additional space for collections, study areas, and specialized services. It created a modern and conducive learning environment that inspired students and faculty alike.

However, the transformation of Lourdes College Library into a Learning Commons was perhaps the most impactful project. By reimagining the library as a collaborative and dynamic space, we fostered a culture of active learning and critical thinking. This initiative involved the integration of technology, innovative furniture, and flexible spaces to accommodate various learning styles. The success of this project was recognized by the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Libraries (PAARL), which awarded it the Most Outstanding Library in 2014.

## What was your first involvement with a professional organization like PLAI, and how did it influence your career?

My earliest involvement with a professional organization was with MISORLA, the Misamis Oriental Library Association, founded in 1974. This association played a pivotal role in shaping my career as a librarian. I was honored to be elected as the second President of MISORLA in 1977, a position that allowed me to lead and contribute to the organization's growth. My subsequent election as President again in 1988 further solidified my commitment to the association and its goals. Through my involvement in MISORLA, I gained invaluable experience in leadership, advocacy, and professional development. It provided a platform to network with fellow librarians, share ideas, and collaborate on projects that advanced the field of librarianship in Mindanao. The knowledge and skills I acquired through my active participation in MISORLA have undoubtedly enriched my career and enabled me to make significant contributions to the library profession.

## What challenges do you think libraries and librarians will face in the next decade, and how can we prepare?

Filipino librarians face myriad challenges. As technology continues to evolve rapidly, libraries must adapt to the changing information landscape. The proliferation of digital content and the rise of artificial intelligence pose both opportunities and threats. Librarians must continue to acquire digital literacy skills and embrace new technologies to curate and deliver information effectively. Additionally, the economic climate and budget constraints may impact library resources and services. To address these challenges, Filipino librarians must prioritize continuous professional development, advocate for adequate funding, and foster strong partnerships with other institutions. By staying informed about emerging trends, embracing innovation, and advocating for the value of libraries, we can ensure that these vital institutions remain relevant and essential in the years to come.

## What do you believe has been your most significant contribution to the field of librarianship?

I believe my most significant contribution to the field of librarianship has been in three key areas: resource acquisition and management, education and mentorship, and leadership development in my dedication to resource acquisition, education, and leadership development. I diligently sought out and secured essential resources for researchers, ensuring access to vital information. As an educator in library and information science, I have dedicated myself to educating future generations of librarians. I have mentored countless thesis writers, guiding them through their research journeys. Beyond education, I contribute to the development of library leaders. By sharing my expertise and experience, I coached librarians aspiring to assume managerial roles. I emphasized the importance of strategic thinking, effective communication, and innovative problem-solving skills. Through workshops, seminars, and one-on-one consultations, I think I have empowered library professionals to become effective leaders and agents of change.

## What legacy would you like to leave for the profession and the next generation of librarians?

I aspire to be remembered as a librarian who dedicated her life to serving others and upholding the noble profession of librarianship. I hope to leave a legacy of a librarian who strived to do her best, to the best of her ability, to be worthy of the name, *librarian*. I want to be remembered as someone who passionately advocated for the power of information, who championed the role of libraries in fostering knowledge and creativity, and who inspired countless individuals to pursue their intellectual passions. I hope to leave behind a legacy of a librarian who, even in her senior years, was committed to lifelong learning and professional development, always seeking to expand her knowledge and skills. I want to be remembered as a mentor who guided and supported aspiring librarians, sharing my experience and wisdom to help them succeed. By staying curious, adaptable, and passionate about the profession, I hope to inspire the next generation of librarians to embrace lifelong learning and to continuously seek innovative ways to serve their communities.

Ultimately, I hope to leave a lasting impact on the field of librarianship by inspiring the next generation of librarians to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. I believe that by fostering a love of learning, promoting critical thinking, and advocating for equitable access to information, we can create a brighter future for all.

## What advice would you give to young people considering librarianship as a career?

My advice for young people considering librarianship as a career is encapsulated in the acronym LIBRARIAN:

Love reading and learning,  
Investigate information sources,  
Build relationships with patrons,  
Respect diverse perspectives,  
Adapt to technological advancements,  
Receive continuous education,  
Inspire lifelong learning,  
Advocate for libraries, and  
Nurture creativity and innovation.

## How does winning the OPYA 2024 impact your perspective on your career and the librarianship profession?

Winning the 2024 Outstanding Professional of the Year Award in the field of librarianship has had a profound impact on my perspective on my career and the profession as a whole. It has solidified my commitment to librarianship and reinforced my belief in the vital role that libraries play in society, and inspired me to continue pushing the boundaries of the field.

Receiving this prestigious award, particularly as a septuagenarian, has been a humbling experience. It is a testament to the enduring value of librarianship and the impact that dedicated professionals can make. This recognition has not only boosted my self-confidence but has also inspired me to continue striving for excellence. It has motivated me to share my knowledge and experience with younger generations of librarians, mentoring and guiding them as they embark on their own careers.

Moreover, this award has significantly elevated my profile within the Philippine librarianship sector. The recognition has garnered widespread attention, positioning me as a respected authority and leader in our field.

As I reflect on this honor, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunities and challenges that have shaped my career. This award serves as a reminder of the positive impact that librarians can make and motivates me to continue striving for excellence. I am committed to continuing to make a positive impact on the field of librarianship, inspiring others, and advocating for the importance of libraries in our ever-evolving world.



# Turning the Page: A Celebration of Reading and Literacy through the 90th National Book Week Celebration

by Karen Cecille V. Natividad

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), in partnership with the National Library of the Philippines (NLP) and De La Salle University (DLSU) Libraries, successfully celebrated the 90th National Book Week (NBW) from November 19 to 29, 2024. Themed "*Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang!*", the celebration honored nine decades of promoting literacy and a love for reading. It paid tribute to authors, educators, librarians, and advocates who have shaped the Philippine literary landscape.

A digital poster-making contest was launched in August to kick off the festivities, engaging students from public and private schools nationwide. The official opening ceremony took place on November 19, 2024, at the Grand Menseng Hotel, Davao City. The event featured a book talk on "*Si Mallaki asta Tarumpu*," the first Bagobo Tagabawa illustrated children's book, and a discussion on The Asia Foundation's "*Let's Read*" campaign.

On November 22, 2024, an outreach program was conducted in the Davao region, benefiting several schools and libraries. Librarians and library personnel learned about community-based programming from Ms. Roana Marie Flores-Solemos, Associate American Corner Librarian of DLSU Libraries. Books and game boards were distributed to participants.

Throughout the celebration, a diverse range of activities were organized to achieve the NBW's objectives:

- Book picnics
- Author visits and workshops
- Literary scavenger hunts
- Reading challenges
- Escape room challenges
- Debate decathlons
- Innovation conventions
- Bookworm Olympics

Several contests were held to encourage creativity and literary engagement:

- Digital Poster-Making Contest
- Book Trailer Competition
- '*Piliing Magbasa, Piliin ang Pilipinas*' Advocacy Video Contest
- Local Witty Lines Contest
- Write Your Own Story Book Contest

The joint Library and Information Services Month (LISM) and NBW closing ceremony was held on November 29, 2024, at the Epifanio delos Santos Auditorium at NLP.



# FOI Workshops for Librarians: Empowering Access to Government Information Across the Philippines

by Mark Andrew D. Bacordo

The Presidential Communications Office (PCO), through the Freedom of Information-Program Management Office (FOI-PMO), successfully conducted a series of four FOI Workshops for Librarians. The workshops were organized in partnership with various agencies and associations, including the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP HL), The Storytelling Project, DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), National Book Development Board - Philippines (NBDB), and the Philippine Librarians Association Inc. (PLAI).

The first session took place on April 19, 2024, at Century Park Hotel, Pasay, with Ms. Venus Oruga, Chair of the House of Delegates, representing PLAI. The second session was held on July 5, 2024, at E-Crown Hotel and Resort, Virac, Catanduanes, with Mr. Kevin Conrad T. Tansiongco, VP for Luzon, as the representative. The third session occurred in the "City of Love" at the Grand Xing Imperial Hotel, Iloilo City, on September 5, 2024, with Mr. Stephen Alayon, VP for Visayas, as the representative. The fourth session took place in the "Tuna Capital of the Philippines" at Eulogia Hotel & Resort Development Corporation, General Santos City, on October 17, 2024, with Mr. Mark Andrew D. Bacordo, VP for Mindanao, as the representative.

Throughout the FOI Workshop, participants explored the FOI Program, learned how to navigate the electronic FOI Portal, and examined the Library Project introduced by the FOI-PMO. The event also featured resource speakers who shared insights into their institutions' campaign initiatives, all supporting the FOI-PMO's mission to promote access to government information across diverse communities and sectors. Additionally, the workshop provided our librarians with valuable knowledge on effectively using the FOI platform as a tool for academic research.

Registered librarians who participated in the workshop earned 5.25 CPD units for the first session and 6 CPD units for the three-leg series upon completion.



FOI Philippines FB Page

# 376 New Librarians Emerge Victorious in the 2024 Computer-Based Librarians Licensure Examination

by Mark Andrew D. Bacordo

The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) announced that 376 out of 771 examinees (48.77%) successfully passed the first-ever Computer-Based Licensure Examination (CBLE) for Librarian conducted by the Board for Librarians (BFL) on September 10-11, 2024, in the cities of Manila, Davao, Legazpi, Lucena, and Rosales. The members of the BFL who administered the licensure examination were Hon. Yolanda C. Granda, Chairperson, and Hon. Lourdes T. David, Member. The results were released on September 12, 2024, a day after the last day of the examination.

A graduate of Bestlink College of the Philippines (formerly Bestlink Institute of Information Technology), Anne Francia Matias Chavez, topped the 2024 Librarians CBLE with a rating of 90.70%. She was followed by Alexis Bellen Obiena from the University of the Philippines-Diliman, who ranked second with a rating of 89.60%, and Jonathan Medrano Ricardo of the University of San Jose-Recoletos, who secured third place with a rating of 88.95%. Additionally, West Visayas State University-La Paz, Iloilo City, was recognized as the top-performing school with a perfect passing rate of 100%, followed by the Philippine Normal University-Manila, which achieved a passing rate of 96.55%. The complete lists of successful examinees, topnotchers, and school performances are available on the PRC website.

These individuals' unwavering commitment and perseverance have borne fruit, earning them a well-deserved place among the officially registered librarians in the Philippines. As of December 25, 2024, there is a total of 11,136 registered librarians in the country.

The face-to-face mass oath-taking ceremony for the new librarians was held on October 14, 2024, at the Centennial Hall, Manila Hotel, Ermita, Manila. Furthermore, a special oath-taking was conducted on November 21, 2024, during the PLAI Congress 2024 at the Grand Menseng Hotel, Davao City. The special oath-taking was witnessed by all the librarians who attended the Congress.



Mr. Kevin Conrad T. Tansiongco



PLAI National Congress 2024 FB Page

# Grants, Growth, and Global Connections: Journey with IFLA Grants

by Roana Marie Flores-Solemos

Opportunities are always present; sometimes, you just need to search for them and work hard in the most genuine and sincere way possible. At times, they will present themselves in the most unlikely and unexpected situations, but if they are truly meant for you, you'll find your way to them.

That unexpected moment happened to me in July 2024 when I came across an email from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) mailing list. It announced a call for applications for the 2024 Information Futures Summit Emerging Leaders Grant. This grant is designed to provide newer professionals with the opportunity to attend and contribute to an international IFLA event, in this case, the 2024 IFLA Information Futures Summit (IIFS), scheduled from 30 September to 03 October 2024 in Brisbane, Australia. Beyond attendance, the grant also aims to help recipients build their professional profiles, engage with other professionals worldwide, and facilitate networking to advance librarianship in their institutions, communities, and countries. I decided to submit my application because I knew right then and there that I needed to be part of this global discussion, motivated by my desire to keep learning. Attending an international conference was not part of my plans for 2024, but it seems the universe had other ideas. Just three days after my birthday, I received a notification email confirming my acceptance. I was over the moon when I read the good news!

This was the fourth grant I've applied for in the last six years and received from IFLA, and I couldn't be more grateful. In 2019, I was awarded an attendance grant to participate in the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Athens, Greece, but unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend. In 2022, I received the IFLA Academic and Research Libraries (ARL) attendance grant to join WLIC in Dublin, Ireland. Then, in 2023, I was given free registration through the WLIC WOW competition to attend WLIC in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Now, I have been awarded the Emerging Leaders Grant to attend the 2024 IIFS in Brisbane, Australia, alongside my colleague-turned-friend, Donna Lyn Gonzaga.

While these opportunities are incredibly exciting, they also come with responsibilities. Grants like these carry expectations and require hard work. You're not just selected to attend, you're expected to immerse yourself and contribute in many ways possible. Along the way, I've also faced my share of rejections. For instance, it took me four attempts to secure the IFLA ARL grant and two attempts for the Emerging Leaders Grant. Why am I sharing this? Because I want you to be the next person to receive a grant whether it's through IFLA or other opportunities. Let me share a few tips and lessons learned throughout my grant application experience.

1. Understand the requirements thoroughly. Before submitting, make sure you have carefully read and understood all the instructions. Make sure that your documents are well-organized and complete, and submit everything on time.
2. Before applying, take a moment to think about why you want the grant and whether it aligns with your career goals. Does this opportunity support the future you're working toward?



3. You need to think differently from everyone else. If you were to be the critic and the one to read your application, are you going to accept it or not? Think critically about how your application will be perceived and find ways to present it with creativity and clarity while maintaining ingenuity.

4. Evaluators can sense whether you're genuinely invested in the opportunity or simply attending for the sake of attending. Your enthusiasm should shine through in your application.

5. Finally, and most importantly, be prepared for rejection. Rejections are part of the process, but they don't define your potential. It's about learning from every experience and continuing to push forward.

My experiences in attending IFLA international events through their grants not only allowed me to explore and expand my perspective on the global library landscape but also provided me with valuable self-reflection on how I can contribute to other people's lives. These experiences have humbled me time and again. Attending the events mentioned has opened doors to countless opportunities, many of which I have been able to share with others. They took me to places I never imagined I would visit in my lifetime. Most importantly, they gave me the chance to meet people from different parts of the world, each with unique backgrounds, advocacies, and beliefs—experiences that have undeniably shaped who I am today. I am still learning, and these are just a few of the many things I am grateful for.

If you find yourself on a similar path, do share your story, as it could serve as an inspiration to others. Take the chance, put your heart into the application, and trust that the right opportunities will find their way to you.

Related Article: The Fourth Attempt: A Chronicle of a Filipina Librarian's WLIC Journey <https://blogs.ifla.org/arl/2022/11/08/the-fourth-attempt-a-chronicle-of-a-filipina-librarians-wlic-journey/>

Join the IFLA mailing lists: <https://www.ifla.org/sign-up-to-a-mailing-list/>

# Stronger Emerging Leaders, Stronger Library Field

by Donna Lyn Labangon-Gonzaga

Joining this year's International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Emerging Leaders is the last chance for me to join as this grant specifically targets emerging leaders in the library field aged 25 – 35. IYKYK. Before you intend to apply, you must be a personal affiliate member of IFLA, staff of an IFLA institutional member, or a member of an IFLA Association member, in this case, my active membership with the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) was enough.

The application process requires you to articulate how your participation will benefit your professional community and share your insights on current challenges facing libraries. Remember, many applicants will apply, make your answers specific, compelling, and authentically your own to demonstrate your unique contributions. You must also secure letters of support from your institution to strengthen your application. The application process itself is straightforward—simply follow the detailed instructions provided on the IFLA website. While applying may seem easy, remember that consistent commitment is key to successfully completing the process.

Upon successful application, the next step involves securing any necessary visas and covering any additional travel expenses beyond the grant. The grant will only cover free registration and a stipend based on the UNESCO scale and IFLA Band. Once travel arrangements are finalized, actively participate in the summit sessions and discussions. Be prepared to share your insights, engage in meaningful conversations with librarians from around the world, and contribute to the dynamic exchange of ideas.

As an emerging leader, your participation is highly valued. You may be invited to share your perspectives on specific topics and contribute to workshops that explore future trends in the library field.

The IFLA Emerging Leaders program offers an invaluable opportunity for professional growth, global networking, and international collaboration. It's a chance to learn from the best and contribute to the future of our profession.

So, keep an eye out for the application call next year! Who knows, you might be the next IFLA Emerging Leader from the Philippines!



In 2024, the National Capital Region Librarians Council (NCRLC) embarked on a year of transformative initiatives, promoting professional development, community engagement, and literacy. Here's a chronological overview of the key events that shaped the year.

### **March 12, 2024: Shelf Harmony Seminar**

The year began with *"Shelf Harmony: Blending Nutrition, Mindfulness, and Spirituality for Librarians,"* in partnership with Regalo Touching Lives (RTL). Held at the SHL Academic Resource Center, Lyceum of the Philippines University in Intramuros, Manila, the workshop attracted 188 online and 62 onsite participants. This event awarded 2.5 CPD credit points and emphasized holistic wellness for librarians through nutrition, mindfulness, and spirituality sessions.

### **April 25, 2024: Pages of Progress Forum**

In partnership with the Academic Booksellers Association of the Philippines (ABAP), the NCRLC hosted *"Pages of Progress: Empowering Filipino Futures Through Literacy and Innovation"* during the Philippine Book Festival at the World Trade Center, Pasay City. This event focused on advancing literacy and innovative practices within the library community.

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**Melanie A. Ramirez**

NCR

# NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL



### August 20, 2024: Collection Development Seminar

The seminar "The Art and Science of Collection Development: Strategies for Building Relevant Collections," in partnership with DOST-STII, featured Ms. Janice Peñaflor, Assistant Director for Operations at De La Salle University. With 30 onsite and 2,707 online participants (2,200 via FB Live and 507 via Zoom), this free seminar provided 4.5 CPD credit points. It covered effective strategies for managing and developing library collections.

### October 22, 2024: Reimagining Library Spaces Seminar

Another significant event was "Reimagining Library Spaces: Designing for Collaboration and Innovation," also in partnership with DOST-STII. With 30 onsite and 2,715 online participants, this seminar awarded 4.5 CPD credit points and explored innovative designs for library spaces to foster collaboration and creativity.

### November 19-22, 2024: PLAI National Congress 2024

NCRLC awarded two members the conference grants for the PLAI Congress 2024 in Davao City. The recipients were Katherine Somera and Avel Andrade.

### November 30, 2024: Book Picnic

The Book Picnic held at Rizal Park Luneta was a delightful celebration, in partnership with the National Parks Development Committee (NPDC), International Board on Books for Young People Philippines (IBBY PH), Vibal Foundation, Manila City Library, C&E Adaptive Learning Solutions, and Asian Institute of Maritime Studies (AIMS). The event was filled with interactive storytelling, puppet shows, and joyous reading.

### Outreach and Sponsorship

NCRLC issued a call for donations to support libraries and librarians affected by Typhoon Carina. Additionally, they created and shared a curated video on rescuing wet books, providing valuable disaster recovery information via our official Facebook page.

### National Book Week Celebrations

The NCRLC celebrated the 90th National Book Week with the theme, "Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang," organizing various activities to promote reading literacy. As part of the Sponsorship Committee, we significantly contributed to the success of the national celebration.

### Campaign & Promotion

A social media campaign was launched with the hashtags #LibrariesCanPH and #LibrariansCanPH to highlight the importance of libraries and librarians. They maintained regular engagement with members through Facebook posts and initiated the "Every Librarian's Family Read" online photo campaign to promote reading within families.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	334
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱19,000.00
Annual Dues	₱213,000.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱232,000.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱125,500.00</b>



# CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | Ifugao Representative<br><b>Maryjane B. Mayam-o</b>       |
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| Public Relations Officer<br><b>John Nigel C. Millare</b> | NOMELEC Member<br><b>Venjo Dongga-as</b>                  |

In 2024, the Cordillera Administrative Region Librarians Council (CARLC) engaged in a series of impactful activities, focusing on professional development, community outreach, and literacy promotion. Here's a chronological overview of the key events that marked the year.

### July 15, 2024: Outreach and Sponsorship Activities

CARLC, in collaboration with the Ifugao State University (IFSU) Library, donated Braille books from the University of the Cordilleras to Isabela State University Library for their BLIS Program. Additionally, CARLC donated books to Laurel Elementary School (LES) Upper Dagsian, Baguio City through Prof. Marilou L. Pasion, reinforcing their commitment to supporting educational resources and literacy.





### August 2024: Seminar-Workshop on Library Services

A significant event was the seminar-workshop on *"Integrating External Policies, AI Tools, and Best Practices in Maintaining Integrity in Library Services,"* which provided 12 CPD units. This workshop equipped participants with crucial insights and strategies for leveraging AI tools and external policies to enhance the integrity and effectiveness of library services.

### September 27, 2024: Webinar and General Assembly

The council held a webinar titled *"Upskilling Strategies for Future Ready Libraries - Series 1"* in conjunction with their General Assembly. This event focused on equipping librarians with advanced skills and knowledge to prepare for future challenges and innovations in the library sector.

### November 2024: PLAI National Congress 2024

CARLC awarded two members conference grants, amounting to ₱5,000 each, supporting their participation in the PLAI Congress 2024 held in Davao City. The council's delegation garnered First Place in the Disney Yell Competition during the congress, showcasing their enthusiasm and collaborative spirit.

### National Book Week Celebrations

CARLC celebrated the 90th National Book Week with the theme *"Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang."* Various activities were organized to promote reading literacy throughout the region, highlighting the importance of books and reading in fostering dreams and celebrating knowledge.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	296
<b><u>Financial Status</u></b>	
Membership Fees	₱1,000.00
Annual Dues	₱72,600.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱73,600.00</b>
<b><u>Remitted to PLAI National</u></b>	<b>₱37,550.00</b>





## REGION I

# ILOCOS REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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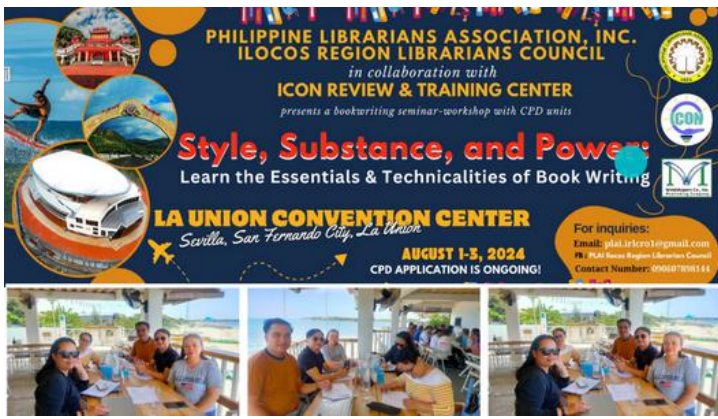
Ilocos Sur  
**Leilani A. Basa**

Ilocos Norte  
**Maybelle R. Perinion**

These events and initiatives reflect the PLAI Ilocos Region Librarians Council's dedication to professional excellence, community engagement, and the promotion of literacy and learning throughout 2024.

### August 1-3, 2024: Seminar-Workshop on Book Writing

In partnership with ICON Review and Training Center, the IRLC held a seminar-workshop titled *"Style, Substance, and Power: Learn the Essentials and Technicalities of Book Writing."* Held in La Union Convention Center, the event attracted seventy-eight (78) attendees who delved into the intricacies of effective book writing, honing their skills and enhancing their craft. This workshop provided invaluable insights and practical knowledge to aspiring and experienced authors alike.

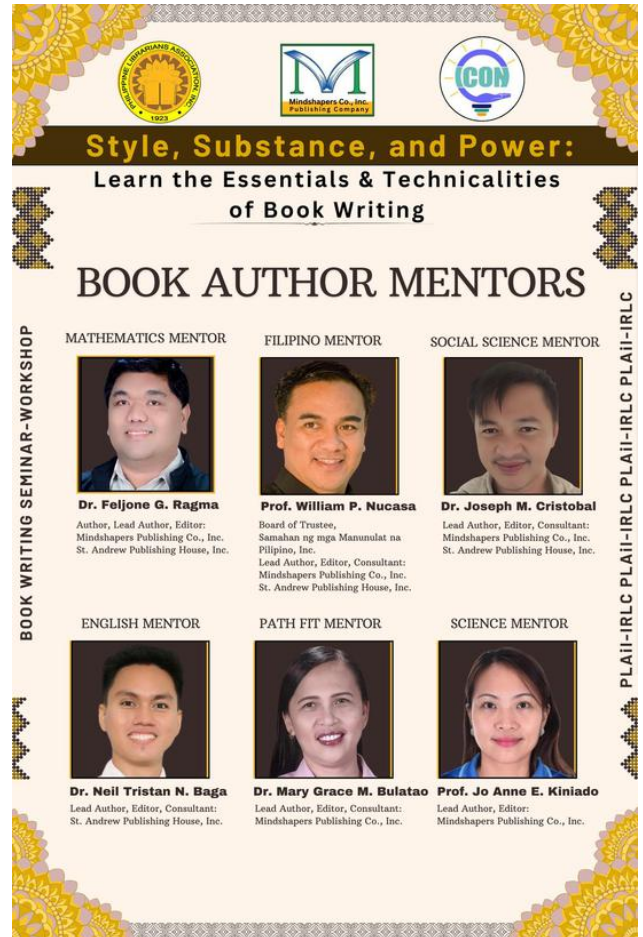
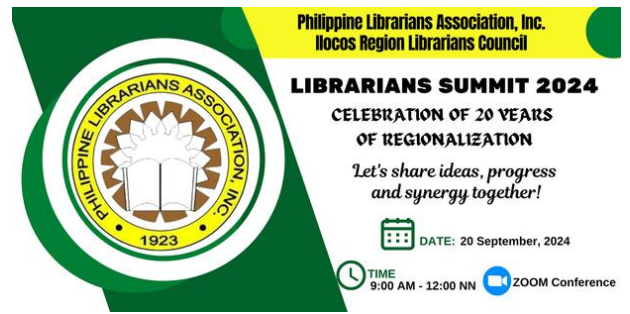


### September 20, 2024: PLAI-IRLC Summit 2024

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of their regionalization, the PLAI-IRLC hosted the PLAI-IRLC Summit 2024 via a Zoom conference. With 186 participants, the summit was a vibrant platform for sharing exciting news and innovative ideas, and fostering progress and synergy within the library community. This milestone event underscored the council's ongoing commitment to advancing library services and professional development in the region.

### 90th National Book Week Celebrations

The IRLC joined the nationwide celebration of the 90th National Book Week (NBW), with the theme "Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang." Throughout the week, the PLAI NCRLC organized a variety of activities aimed at promoting reading literacy across the region. These events not only highlighted the importance of reading but also inspired communities to dream and celebrate through the power of books.



FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	123
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱7,000.00
Annual Dues	₱36,900.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱43,900.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱37,165.00</b>



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The council had an eventful and productive year in 2024. From thought-provoking summits on the role of librarians amidst emerging AI technologies to engaging community outreach programs, CaVRLC demonstrated its commitment to professional development, reading literacy, and cultural heritage. Here's a look at the key highlights from CaVRLC's 2024 calendar.

#### **April 18, 2024: FOI-CSO Hangouts**

The Freedom of Information-Program Management Office (FOI-PMO) successfully conducted the CSO Hangouts at the Luxent Hotel, Quezon City. Mr. Ronaldo P. Sumait, PLAI-CaVRLC President, represented PLAI. The event gathered stakeholders to discuss FOI-PMO's projects, activities, and feedback mechanisms. Key sessions included introductions to FOI-PMO divisions and in-depth discussions on localizing the FOI Program by USAID Philippines and DILG. Additionally, the USAID CHANGE Project unveiled the Handbook on Local Freedom of Information Ordinance to aid LGUs in FOI implementation.

## **REGION II**

# **CAGAYAN VALLEY REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL**



### July 27, 2024: Outreach Activity

PLAI-CaVRLC, in partnership with PLAI-CARLC, conducted an outreach activity. Mr. Ronaldo P. Sumait took part in a meaningful community outreach by donating a wheelchair to the Bambang Sunshine Project Organization, Inc. (BSPOI) last July 27, 2024, in Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya. Under his leadership, the council continues championing initiatives promoting inclusivity and support for individuals with disabilities. The event also welcomed the participation of Dr. Betsie Manaligod-Dela Cruz, former PLAI-CaVRLC President, reflecting the sustained dedication of the council to serving the community. Meanwhile, Dr. Liza M. Tamargo, President of PLAI-CARLC, facilitated the distribution of relief goods to the BSPOI recipients.

### May 29-31, 2024: 2<sup>nd</sup> Librarians Summit

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Librarians Summit, themed *"Responsible Librarianship in the Midst of Emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI)"*, was held from May 29-31 at Go Hotel, Tuguegarao City. The summit hosted 73 participants and provided professional development for librarians and opportunities for LIS students to volunteer and attend. Key discussions included *"Practical Applications of AI in Libraries"* by Mr. Dan Anthony Dorado and *"Where Do We Go From Here: The Role of Librarians in the Midst of Emerging AI"* by Dr. Rhea Rowena Apolinario. Mr. Michael Pinto discussed *"Revisiting the Code of Ethics for Librarians in Relation to Emerging AI Trends."* Mr. Ronaldo Sumait, CaVRLC President, updated attendees on PLAI's upcoming activities. The event concluded with a social fellowship night and a spelunking trip to Callao Cave, where Dr. Armand Salvador B. Mijares discussed the discovery of Homo Luzonensis.

### 90th National Book Week Celebration

The CaVRLC celebrated the 90th National Book Week (NBW) with the theme *"Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang."* Various activities were organized to promote reading literacy throughout the region.

### November 19-22, 2024: PLAI National Congress

A delegation from CaVRLC participated in the PLAI National Congress 2024, held at the Grand Menseng Hotel in Davao City. This event was a significant opportunity for librarians from across the nation to come together, share knowledge, and discuss advancements in the field.

### December 14, 2024: CaVRLC General Assembly and Year-End Celebration

The year concluded with the CaVRLC General Assembly and Year-End Celebration at the Climate Change Center, Isabela State University, San Fabian, Echague, Isabela. This event brought together librarians from Region II to celebrate a year of achievements and camaraderie, reflecting on the blessings of 2024.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	97
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱6,500.00
Annual Dues	₱58,800.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱65,300.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱35,900.00</b>



# CENTRAL LUZON REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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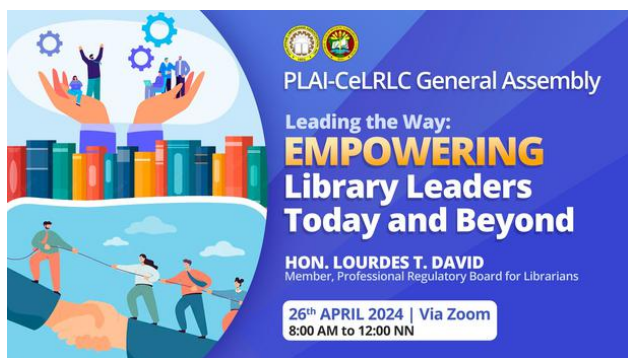
Ex-Officio/ HOD 3rd Member  
**Maria Pretty Lay T. Abdala**

2024 was a year filled with significant milestones and enriching activities for the Central Luzon Region Librarians Council (CeLRLC). Here's a look at the key happenings throughout the year.

## April 26, 2024: General Assembly and Webinar on Library Leadership

The year kicked off with the PLAI-CeLRLC General Assembly and a webinar on Library Leadership, held via Zoom Video Conferencing. This event attracted 266 participants who engaged in discussions and workshops aimed at enhancing leadership skills within the library profession. The virtual format enabled widespread participation and facilitated a dynamic exchange of ideas.





FINANCIAL REPORT	
COGS Issuances:	259
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱10,500
Annual Dues	₱93,000
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱103,500</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>none</b>

### October 4, 2024: 20<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary Celebration

The council celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary with the theme, "Information to Transformation: Celebrating PLAI-CeLRLC's Two Decades of Knowledge-Sharing and Empowering Minds." The on-site event saw 67 participants come together to commemorate two decades of progress. The celebration underscored the council's enduring impact and forward-looking vision.

### Outreach & Sponsorship Activities

In a show of solidarity and community support, the CeLRLC donated ₱5,000.00 to victims of Typhoon Kristine. Additionally, promoting a love for reading, the council partnered with REGALO to donate reading materials to the Library of Sapang Uwak Elementary School on December 14, 2024. These efforts highlighted the council's commitment to supporting affected communities and fostering literacy.

### November 19-22, 2024: PLAI National Congress 2024

A highlight of the year was the participation of the CeLRLC delegation in the PLAI National Congress 2024, held at the Grand Menseng Hotel in Davao City. During the fellowship night, the council was honored with several accolades, including a Plaque of Appreciation received by the 2023 PLAI CeLRLC President Dr. Maria Pretty Lay T. Abdala for being the Host Region of the PLAI Centennial National Congress 2023, the title of Best Disney Inspired Regional Council, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place award in the Disney Yell competition. The congress provided a platform for networking, learning, and celebrating the achievements of librarians nationwide.





## REGION IV

# SOUTHERN TAGALOG REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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NOMELEC Chair  
**Rosena V. Roman**

Ex-Officio  
**Ma. Lindie D. Masalinto**

In 2024, the Southern Tagalog Region Librarians Council (STRLC) embarked on a year filled with significant milestones and impactful activities. From professional development to community outreach, the council's initiatives highlighted their commitment to enhancing the library profession and supporting local communities. Here's a chronological overview of the key events that shaped the year.

### **August 7, 2024: PLAI-STRLC 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference**

The year kicked off with the PLAI-STRLC 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, titled *"Honing the Skillsets and Well-being of Librarians: A Road to Recovery and Discovery."* Held with 60 participants, this event focused on professional development and the overall well-being of librarians, providing a platform for learning, growth, and rejuvenation.

## September 2024: Linkages and Partnerships

STRLC strengthened its network through linkages and partnerships with the Librarians Association of Batangas, Librarians Association of Quezon Province-Lucena Inc., and Samahan ng mga Librarian sa Probinsya ng Laguna. These collaborations aimed to foster unity and enhance the collective efforts of librarians across the region.

## October 13, 2024: Outreach and Sponsorship - 10<sup>th</sup> ZumBook

In support of the 90th National Book Week 2024 with the theme "Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang!", the Librarian Association of Quezon Province-Lucena Inc. (LAQueP-LInc.), in partnership with LIB.COM and PLAI STRLC, organized the 10<sup>th</sup> ZumBook at Sacred Heart College of Lucena City Inc., BED Lounge. ZumBook is a Zumba dance event combined with a book drive aimed at aiding libraries damaged by calamities and helping communities build libraries in Quezon Province. This event not only promoted fitness and well-being but also reinforced the importance of reading and access to books in community development.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	267
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱11,500.00
Annual Dues	₱70,000.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱81,500.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱42,700.00</b>





## REGION V

# BICOL REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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Auditor  
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**Joane Poala C. Tuazon**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Mairen V. Hernandez**

Ex-Officio  
**Antonio L. Morada**

The Bicol Region Librarians Council (BRLC) had an eventful and transformative year in 2024, marked by a series of impactful initiatives aimed at professional development, technological innovation, and promoting literacy. These activities not only strengthened the skills and knowledge of librarians across the region but also fostered a deeper engagement with the community. From virtual forums and comprehensive training workshops to vibrant celebrations of National Book Week, the council demonstrated its unwavering commitment to advancing the library profession and supporting educational growth. Here's a detailed overview of the key events that shaped the year.

### **May 24, 2024: 2024 Librarians Connect Forum and BRLC Online Re-orientation**

The BRLC kicked off its series of events with the 2024 Librarians Connect Forum and BRLC Online Re-orientation via Zoom. This forum served as a platform for librarians to reconnect, share ideas, and update themselves on the latest developments and initiatives within the council. The virtual format enabled wide participation and facilitated meaningful exchanges among members.

## September 25-27, 2024: KOHA Training Workshop

In partnership with Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges (CSPC) and the Council of Deans for Information Technology Region V (CODITE V), the BRLC held a KOHA Training Workshop titled *"Harnessing the Power of Open-Source Library System."* This hands-on workshop provided participants with comprehensive training on the KOHA library system, equipping them with the skills to implement and manage this open-source tool effectively. The event underscored the council's commitment to embracing technological advancements in library management.



## November: National Book Week Celebration

The BRLC celebrated the 90th National Book Week with the theme *"Magbasa. Mangarap. Magdiwang."* Various activities were organized to promote reading literacy across the region, highlighting the importance of books and reading in inspiring dreams and celebrating knowledge. The celebrations included community engagement events, reading campaigns, and interactive sessions aimed at fostering a love for reading among all age groups.



## Featured Librarian of the Week

Throughout the year, the official Facebook account of PLAI-BRLC featured *"Librarian of the Week"* posts. These outstanding individuals were recognized for their remarkable contributions to librarianship in the Bicol Region. Their achievements served both as a promotion of their work and as an inspiration for the community, highlighting the dedication and impact of librarians in enhancing educational and cultural development.



FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	118
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱11,000.00
Annual Dues	₱80,100.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱91,100.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱51,050.00</b>

President	
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Secretary	Capiz
<b>Manuela R. Losañes</b>	<b>Hannah Marie Carmelie P. Rose</b>
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Ex-Officio	Iloilo City
<b>Edmar T. Labrador</b>	<b>Lea Jean M. Cala-or</b>

In 2024, the Western Visayas Region Librarians Council (WRLC) conducted a series of events and initiatives to foster librarians' professional development, community engagement, and cultural preservation. Here's a brief overview of the key happenings throughout the year.

**February 1, 2024: New Librarians Oathtaking at WVSU**

The year began with the oathtaking ceremony for new librarians at West Visayas State University (WVSU) in Iloilo City.

**June 22, 2024: Community Outreach at Barotac Viejo**

In partnership with the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), this initiative aimed to engage with the local community, promote reading, and provide library services to underserved areas, strengthening the council's commitment to community involvement and support.

**August 23, 2024: Istoryafest at Robinson's Place Jaro**

August saw the celebration of Istoryafest 2024 with the theme "*Mga Sugidanon sang Iloilo: Tales from our Heritage*". The event showcased the rich cultural heritage of Iloilo through storytelling, fostering a deeper appreciation of local history and traditions. This is in partnership with the Iloilo City Public Library

**REGION VI**

# WESTERN VISAYAS REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL



**September 5, 2024: 2024 FOI Workshop for Librarians**

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Workshop for librarians was held at Grand Xing Imperial Hotel. This workshop focused on the importance of transparency and access to information, equipping librarians with the knowledge and skills to manage FOI requests effectively.

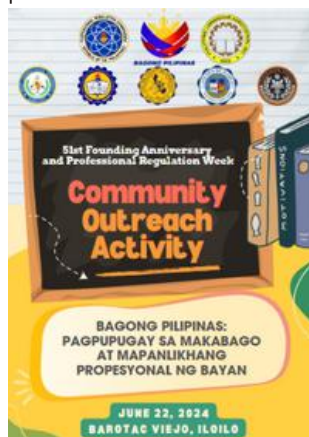
**October 29, 2024: The Storytelling Project (TSP) Storytelling Workshop**

The WVRLC held a storytelling workshop, "Discovering the Storyteller in You", in partnership with Rey S. Bufi of The Storytelling Project. With over 100 participants, including Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS) faculty and students in the region, this workshop aimed to develop storytelling skills and celebrate the art of storytelling as a powerful tool for engagement and education.

**November 25-26, 2024: Seminar-Workshop on Library Resources and Services**

The council conducted a seminar-workshop on "Reporting, Promoting, and Branding Library Resources and Services," in partnership with ISAT U, initially scheduled for October 28-29. The event provided librarians with practical strategies for enhancing the visibility and impact of their library services, fostering innovation and excellence in the profession.

FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	96
<b><u>Financial Status</u></b>	
Membership Fees	₱10,000.00
Annual Dues	₱51,300.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱61,300.00</b>
<b><u>Remitted to PLAI National</u></b>	<b>₱35,650.00</b>





## REGION VII

# CENTRAL VISAYAS REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

President  
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Vice President  
**Kyzyl Elny Yap**

Secretary  
**Dinah Gomez**

Treasurer  
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Public Relations Officer  
**Irish Concepcion**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Daisy Grace Molina**

Ex-Officio  
**Mark Francis Onde**

The year 2024 has been a momentous one for the PLAI-Central Visayas Region Librarians Council (PLAI-CeVRLC). From welcoming new leaders to hosting inspiring events, the council has truly lived up to its mission of empowering information professionals and advancing the field of librarianship in Region 7. Here are some highlights from this remarkable year:

### **Board of Trustees for 2024-2025**

The new set of officers took their oath on November 19, 2023 at the Cebu Institute of Technology - University during the Cebu Librarians Association, Inc. (CLAI) Forum.

### **March 9, 2024: Virtual Kamustahan with Bingo**

In March, the council hosted a lively Virtual Kamustahan event with the theme "*Rediscover. Reconnect. Relax.*" Participants enjoyed an engaging online Bingo game, where six lucky librarians took home cash prizes. The event fostered camaraderie and a refreshing sense of connection among the members.

### April 17-19, 2024: PGLL Summer Conference

The Philippine Group of Law Librarians, in partnership with PLAI-CeVRLC, hosted a Summer Conference with the theme, "Legal Evolution in the Digital Age: Navigating Changes, Ensuring Access, Adopting Realities." Attendees also shopped PLAI-Region VII librarian merchandise including T-shirts, pins, and bookmarks—celebrating their pride in librarianship while supporting the council's initiatives.

### July 17-18, 2024: ALBASA Book Fair Participation

The colorful array of merchandise offered by the council was also present at the ALBASA Book Fair at Cebu Ocean Park in celebration of the vibrant library culture while fostering connections with book enthusiasts.

### September 12, 2024: Webinar-Workshop: "Power Up Your Publications"

86 participants joined the enlightening webinar-workshop focused on enhancing research writing and academic publishing using AI tools. Led by Mr. Christler Aaron T. Miranda, participants explored generative AI applications like ChatGPT and Google Gemini, crafting research titles and concept papers with efficiency and creativity.

### November 19-22, 2024: PLAI Congress 2024: Davao City

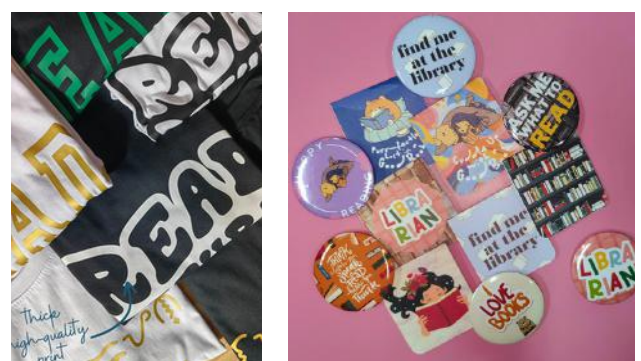
Around 50 librarians from Region VII joined the PLAI Congress in Davao City. Francis Riscel Padin and Jolo Van Clyde Abatayo represented the council with their research presentations. Abatayo also won Best Disney-Inspired Outfit (Men's Category) during the Fellowship Night. The council showcased their creativity by winning 2nd place in the Disney Yell competition with a strategic and artful presentation.


### December 22, 2024: Winter Wonderland Christmas Party

PLAI-CeVRLC partnered with the Cebu Librarians Association, Inc. (CLAI) for a festive Winter Wonderland-themed Christmas party, an evening of camaraderie and celebration among Cebu librarians.



FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	105
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱9,000.00
Annual Dues	₱113,000.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱122,000.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱65,550.00</b>





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These events underscore the EVRLC's dedication to professional excellence, community support, and the promotion of cultural heritage in 2024.

### **January 2024: New Officers Assume Office**

The EVRLC officers assumed their new roles in January 2024 after taking their oath in December 2023. This transition marked the beginning of a year filled with significant activities and initiatives aimed at enhancing library services and professional development across the region.

### **February 2024: Visayas State University Learning Commons-Library Filipiniana Resources Project Kickoff**

In February, the Visayas State University Learning Commons-Library officially launched its Filipiniana Resources project, funded by the NCCA-NCLIS. This project aims to enrich the library's collection of Filipiniana materials, promoting cultural heritage and academic research.

## **REGION VIII**

# **EASTERN VISAYAS REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL**



## March 22, 2024: Oathtaking Ceremony for New Registered Librarians

An oathtaking ceremony for newly registered librarians was held on March 22 at LNU House. This event welcomed new professionals into the field and celebrated their commitment to advancing library services and literacy.

## June 2024: Seminar Workshop for Librarians

For the second quarter activity, the council sponsored a seminar workshop in June, which saw participation from around fifty librarians representing academic, school, and public libraries. The workshop provided an opportunity for professional growth, networking, and the exchange of innovative ideas.

## September 2024: 6th EVRLC Summit and Fellowship Night

September marked the 6th EVRLC Summit, held at Hotel Alejandro in Tacloban City. This annual event, similar to the PLAI Congress, catered to those unable to attend the national congress due to financial challenges and conflicts in work-related schedules. The summit, which included a seminar workshop on *"Cultivating Professional Excellence through Mental Health and Personal Growth"* from September 18-20, 2024, also offered CPD units and a chance for librarians to socialize and upgrade their skills.

## Fund Drive for Typhoon Kristine Victims

Throughout the year, the EVRLC conducted a fund drive to support fellow librarians in other regions affected by Typhoon Kristine. This initiative demonstrated the council's solidarity and commitment to helping communities rebuild and resume library services.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	77
<b><u>Financial Status</u></b>	
Membership Fees	₱11,500.00
Annual Dues	₱48,900.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱60,400.00</b>
<b><u>Remitted to PLAI National</u></b>	<b>₱29,400.00</b>



# NIR NEGROS ISLAND REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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Negros Occidental Representative  
**Sheila M. Dela Cruz**

Negros Oriental Representative  
**Sharmaine L. Galapate**

These key events and initiatives highlight the Negros Island Region Librarians Council's commitment to advancing library services, supporting affected communities, and fostering a culture of continuous learning and innovation.

## **Council Board of Trustees Meeting**

The CBOT of the Philippine Librarians Association Incorporated - Negros Island Region Librarians Council (PLAI-NIRLC) convened on February 10, 2024 at Kabankalan, Negros Oriental. The meeting focused on strategic planning and setting goals to enhance library services and collaborations across the region.





### Call for Donations for Librarians Affected by Typhoon Kristine

In a concerted effort to support the restoration of library services in areas affected by Typhoon Kristine, the Council launched a call for donations. With the objective of mobilizing financial resources, the campaign successfully raised P8,300.00 to aid in rebuilding and resuming operations of the damaged libraries.

### National Book Week 2024: "Magbasa, Mangarap, Magdiwang"

The NBW 2024 featured a Digital Poster Making Contest aimed at high school students and college-level artists across the Negros Island Region (NIR). This event highlighted the importance of reading and creativity in fostering a vibrant literary culture.

### June 26-28, 2024: Seminar on "Unbound and Unstoppable Libraries"

The De La Salle Philippines (DLSP) Library Commission, in partnership with the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. Negros Island Region Librarians Council (PLAI-NIRL), organized a seminar from June 26-28, 2024. Themed "Unbound and Unstoppable Libraries: Reimagining Access, Embracing Innovation," the seminar brought together library professionals to explore innovative strategies for enhancing library services and embracing new technologies.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

COGS Issuances: 66

### Financial Status

Membership Fees ₱10,500.00

Annual Dues ₱57,300.00

**Total Collection ₱67,800.00**

**Remitted to PLAI National ₱39,150.00**



## REGION IX

# ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

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**Carmelita T. Agustin**

Vice President  
**Mark Andrew D. Bacordo**

Secretary  
**Carl Joseph C. Burlat**

Treasurer  
**Lynnie M. Calingacion**

Auditor  
**Jeany Alabata**

Public Relations Officer  
**Katherine Joy S. Enriquez**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Elisa Montecillo**

The Zamboanga Peninsula Region Librarians Council (ZPRLC) had a transformative year in 2024, filled with events that emphasized professional development, community engagement, and technological advancement in library services. The council's commitment to fostering a supportive and innovative environment for librarians was evident through a variety of impactful gatherings and initiatives. Here's a chronological overview of the significant happenings throughout the year.

### **March 13, 2024: PLAI-ZamPen's Zoomustahan and CPD Updates with Hon. Lourdes T. David**

The year began with the PLAI-ZamPen's Zoomustahan, an online gathering held on March 13, 2024. This event featured Hon. Lourdes T. David, who provided valuable updates on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for librarians. The session served as an excellent opportunity for members to connect, exchange ideas, and stay informed about the latest developments in the field.

## October 28-30, 2024: ZPRLC and ZSCMST Host Seminar-Workshop on AI and Safe Spaces and Book Fair 2024

In partnership with Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology (ZSCMST), the ZPRLC conducted a three-day regional seminar-workshop titled "Modern Library Environment: Fostering Safe Spaces and Harnessing Artificial Intelligence." The event, held from October 28 to 30, 2024, at the Octagon Hall, ZSCMST, brought together library professionals to explore the integration of AI in library services and the creation of safe, inclusive spaces. The invited speakers included Sheila L. Tiong, Juanito M. Calingacion, Jr., Dr. Monaliza M. Senining, RL, and Josefina B. Malindog, RL. Participants engaged in discussions and workshops covering topics such as quality assurance, social media marketing, cybersecurity, resilience, disaster preparedness, and updates on regional and national library initiatives. Participants engaged in discussions and workshops on quality assurance, social media marketing, cybersecurity, resilience, disaster preparedness, and updates on regional and national library activities. Concurrently, the Book Fair 2024, held at the Learning Resource Center, featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony marking its start, with enthusiastic participation from ZSCMST faculty, staff, students, and fellow librarians. The fair provided a vibrant space for book exhibits, fostering a love for reading and literature among attendees.

### October 29, 2024: Fellowship Night

A lively Fellowship Night was held on October 29, 2024, at the Octagon Hall in Zamboanga City. Attendees enjoyed the "Search for the Best Actor/Actress" contest, games like "Name That Movie," and a trivia quiz, adding excitement and fun to the night. The program culminated in an awards segment, celebrating participants and fostering a spirit of camaraderie and community among librarians.

### October 30, 2024: General Assembly 2024

The year concluded with the General Assembly on October 30, 2024, where key updates and plans were discussed. Additionally, throughout the year, the council conducted five regular meetings and one special meeting, ensuring continuous engagement and effective planning.

FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	60
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	-
Annual Dues	₱18,000.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱18,000.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱9,000.00</b>



President  
**Melody R. Agcito**

Vice President  
**Remedios B. Janier**

Secretary  
**Vergemarie N. Abragan**

Treasurer  
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Auditor  
**Chorieta L. Valerio**

Public Relations Officer  
**Rodelia T. Arancon**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Rule P. Redondo**

Special Committee for Membership  
**Chandrani Yves E. Estrada**  
**Monaliza M. Senining**

PLAI-NMRLC had an outstanding year in 2024, marked by various significant activities and events that contributed to the enhancement of library services and professional development in the region.

### **February 21, 2024: Webinar on Digital Transformation in School Libraries**

In partnership with the Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP) - Region 10 and Lourdes College Learning Commons, PLAI-NMRLC conducted a webinar on "*Digital Transformation in School Libraries*" via Google Meet. The resource speakers were Ms. Annabelle P. Acedera, Ms. Melody R. Agcito, and Ms. Remedios B. Janier. A total of 145 participants attended the webinar, gaining valuable insights into the digital evolution of school libraries.

### **May 9-11, 2024: Seminar-Workshop on Libraries as Community Hubs**

In collaboration with the Academic Libraries Information Network, Inc. (ALINET), PLAI-NMRLC organized a Seminar-Workshop on "Libraries as Community Hubs" held at Capitol University, Cagayan de Oro City. The event featured resource speakers Ms. Annabelle P. Acedera, Ms. Richel I. Pajara, and Mr. Jolo Van Clyde Abatayo, and was attended by 110 participants. The seminar-workshop focused on the role of libraries in fostering community engagement and support.

## **REGION X**

# **NORTHERN MINDANAO REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL**



### June 2024: Thanksgiving Mass

To celebrate the 51st PRC Founding Anniversary and PRC Week, PLAI-NMRLC attended the Thanksgiving Mass sponsored by PRC-Region 10. Represented by Board of Trustees Melody R. Agcito, Remedios B. Janier, and Chorieta L. Valerio, along with librarians Ms. Leonita L. Sumalinog and Mr. Lino L. Babaran, the council joined in the celebration and reflected on their shared accomplishments.

### August 18-24, 2024: 3rd Refresher Program for LLE

PLAI-NMRLC conducted the 3rd Refresher Program for the Librarian Licensure Examination (LLE) at USTP-CDO, CEA Library. A total of 15 participants attended the refresher program, with 8 successfully passing the licensure examination, reinforcing the council's commitment to professional development.

### September 25, 2024: Webinar and General Assembly

A webinar and general assembly themed *"Digital Responsibility: Empowering Librarians against Cyber Libel and Upholding Ethical Standards"* was held via Zoom. Resource speakers included Atty. Gladys B. Villanueva, Ms. Annabelle P. Acedera, Ms. Melody R. Agcito, and Ms. Remedios B. Janier. The event, attended by 117 participants, focused on equipping librarians with knowledge and skills to navigate digital responsibilities and ethical standards.

### November 2024: PLAI National Congress 2024

The PLAI-NMRLC Board of Trustees proudly represented Northern Mindanao at the PLAI National Congress 2024. With the theme "Knowledge Integration: Connecting Minds, Empowering Communities," the congress provided a platform for gaining insights, fostering collaborations, and championing initiatives to empower libraries and librarians nationwide.

### December 6, 2024: Librarians' Forum and Oath-Taking Ceremony

Held at the City College of Cagayan de Oro Audio Visual Room, the Librarians' Forum and Oath-Taking Ceremony explored vital topics such as integrating the SDGs in libraries, supporting mental health and wellbeing, and guiding policies for growth. The event concluded with the PRC Requirements Forum and the oath-taking of new officers, marking another milestone for PLAI-NMRLC.

### December 2024: 4th Quarter and Year-End Meeting

The 4th Quarter and Year-End meeting focused on key initiatives, including partnerships with the City College of Cagayan de Oro and the National Library of the Philippines, reviews of training and seminar evaluations, and planning for 2025 activities. The meeting highlighted the council's dedication to shaping the future of librarianship in Northern Mindanao.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**COGS Issuances:** 65

### Financial Status

Membership Fees ₱4,000.00

Annual Dues ₱78,300.00

**Total Collection ₱82,300.00**

**Remitted to PLAI National ₱43,450.00**



President  
**Garry L. Bastida**

Vice President  
**Salome M. Enoc**

Secretary  
**Khristine Brylle B. Mancao**

Treasurer  
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Auditor  
**Jeffrey E. Santiago**

Public Relations Officer  
**Rodrigo Jr. B. Sumuob**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Jan Mariel A. Duyo**

Ex-Officio  
**Brigida E. Bacani**

The Davao Region Librarians Council (DRLC) had an extraordinary year in 2024, marked by significant events and initiatives that showcased the council's dedication to professional growth, community support, and technological advancement.

### February 16, 2024: Call for Donation

The PLAI-DRLC members generously contributed to the recent cash assistance drive for the victims of natural calamities in the Davao Region. The collective effort and compassion displayed by each member have made a significant impact on the lives of those affected. There was a successful turnover of ₱7,000.00 to the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) XI. The generosity and support shown by all members exemplify the true spirit of community and solidarity.

## REGION XI

# DAVAO REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

-  Davao de Oro
-  Davao del Norte
-  Davao del Sur
-  Davao Occidental
-  Davao Oriental



**Philippine Librarians Association, Inc.**  
**Davao Region Librarians Council (PLAI-DRLC)**



• Davao Occidental

STAYING **D**YNAMIC AS WE **R**EVITALIZE OUR **L**INKAGE AND **C**ONNECTION

 **CONTACT US**   
plaidrc.official@gmail.com

**May 8, 2024: Virtual Orientation Program Librarian Leaders Unite: PLAI-DRLC's Virtual Orientation Sparks Knowledge Revolution!**

In an era marked by the rapid evolution of information and technology, staying connected and informed is paramount for any organization aiming for resilience and growth. Understanding this necessity, PLAI-DRLC conducted its Virtual Orientation under the theme *"Pakighimamat: Staying Connected, Keeping Informed for a Stalwart Council"*. Part 1 delved into fundamental topics such as the PLAI Vision-Mission-Goals-Objectives (VMGO), Amended By-laws, council membership, dues and fee structures, and essential council affairs including general assemblies and annual conventions. Ms. Duyo also shed light on the benefits of PLAI Membership, underscoring the value of active participation and engagement within the association. Part 2 of the orientation elaborated on the council's Committees and Resource Sharing Program, and unveiled the eagerly anticipated calendar of activities for 2024. The event saw 167 participants come together via Zoom.

**September 4-6, 2024: Seminar-Workshop on Tomorrow's Libraries**

"Tomorrow's Libraries: Navigating the Waves of Change in the VUCA World" aimed to equip library professionals with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in quality assurance, social media marketing, cybersecurity, resilience, one-minute management, disaster preparedness, and updates on CHED XI activities. Held from September 4-6, the event attracted 84 participants, who gained valuable insights and strategies to navigate the challenges and opportunities in today's volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) world.

**November 19-22, 2024: Host Region for PLAI Congress 2024**

The PLAI Congress 2024, hosted in the Davao Region, was a success, owing much to the relentless dedication and tireless efforts of the CBOT officers and volunteers. Their unwavering commitment, showcased through countless days and nights of meticulous planning and coordination, ensured the execution of this prestigious event. The remarkable teamwork and selfless contributions of these individuals were instrumental in creating an enriching and memorable experience for all attendees.

FINANCIAL REPORT	
<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	181
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱4,500.00
Annual Dues	₱137,858.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱142,358.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱68,129.00</b>





## REGION XII

# SOCCSKSARGEN REGION LIBRARIANS COUNCIL

President  
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Vice President  
**Ellen E. Esmeres**

Secretary  
**Kristel Mae S. Hablero**

Treasurer  
**Emelyn B. Catulong**

Auditor  
**Nenita P. Non**

Public Relations Officer  
**Noel P. Lacaba**

NOMELEC Chair  
**Ariel P. Arrogante**

Ex-Officio  
**Arvin M. Tejada**

The year 2024 was marked by a series of important meetings and events for the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. – SOCCSKSARGEN Region Librarian Council (PLAI-SRLC), each contributing to the growth and progress of librarianship in the region.

### **January 27-28, 2024: Oath-Taking and Strategic Planning**

The year began with the Oath-taking, turnover of responsibilities, and strategic planning for the Region XII CBOT at Domesville, Tupi, South Cotabato. PLAI President, Dr. Elisa Garcia, presided over the swearing-in of the new officers, encouraging them to lead with commitment and compassion. The outgoing president shared his accomplishments, expressing continued support for the association. The new leadership collaboratively developed plans for 2024-2025, assigning committee chair roles to foster active participation and ensure the successful implementation of the 10-Point Agenda. The event concluded with a fellowship dinner, strengthening bonds within the group.

### March 1, 2024: 1st Quarter CBOT Meeting

On March 1, the 1st Quarter PLAI-SRLC CBOT Meeting was held online. Plans, programs, and activities for PLAI XII and JLOS were presented and finalized. Updates from PLAI NBOT were provided, along with the presentation of the 2022-2023 financial report and the Treasurer's report. Other relevant matters were also discussed, setting the stage for the year's initiatives.

### May 27-28, 2024: 2nd Quarter CBOT Meeting

The 2nd Quarter PLAI-SRLC CBOT Meeting took place at the Britanikka Golf Course, Linan, Tupi, South Cotabato, hosted by SEAIT President Engr. John Paul Tamayo. The agenda covered various topics, including committee proposals, finalization of plans and activities for PLAI XII and JLO, updates on PLAI NBOT & NCCA programs, and a review of the financial reports for 2022-2023.

### September 5, 2024: 3rd Quarter CBOT Meeting

The 3rd Quarter PLAI-SRLC CBOT Meeting, held online, focused primarily on discussing and finalizing plans for the upcoming PLAI XII Seminar-Workshop, an important event in the region's professional calendar.

### September 18-20, 2024: Annual Seminar-Workshop and General Assembly

PLAI-SRLC hosted its Annual Seminar-Workshop, General Assembly, Book Fair, and JLOS Summit 2024 at Matutum Seaview-Cronasia Foundation College, General Santos City. The event, themed "Empowering Modern Librarians: Technology, Management, and Well-being," explored the integration of AI in library services, enhanced financial literacy, and promoted holistic wellness. A keynote address by Atty. Cyd Charisse Non-Dizon discussed balancing technology with the human touch in libraries. The Junior Librarians Organization in SOCCSKSARGEN (JLOS) actively participated, benefiting from insights shared by experienced professionals. The 20th Regionalization Activity featured a publication exchange and a fellowship night, fostering camaraderie among participants. This event also highlighted the awarding of the Pillars of the Association, recognizing the invaluable contributions of key individuals to the organization. PLAI XII expressed deep gratitude to its partners, sponsors, and attendees, whose support made the event a success and reinforced the region's commitment to a progressive future in librarianship.

### November 5, 2024: 4th Quarter CBOT Meeting

The year ended with the 4th Quarter PLAI-SRLC CBOT Meeting, held online. The evaluation of the PLAI Seminar-Workshop and JLOS Summit took place, along with the presentation of the 1st to 3rd quarter financial reports, and strategic planning for the year-end evaluation and thanksgiving schedule. Other matters discussed included National Book Week activities, PLAI Congress updates, nominations for PLAI awards, and providing financial assistance to librarians affected by Typhoon Kristine.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	74
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱8,000.00
Annual Dues	₱36,000.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱44,000.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱29,500.00</b>



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PLAI - CarRLC had an impressive year in 2024, marked by a series of significant achievements and community-focused initiatives. Here's a look at their major accomplishments in chronological order.

### **February 8, 2024: Book Donation Drive and Pabasa Program**

In partnership with the 2003rd Ready Reserve Brigade and the 1502nd Ready Reserve Infantry Battalion of the 1502nd Community Defense Center of Agusan del Sur, PLAI - CarRLC held a Basic Life Support and Fire Drill Workshop at Dasagan Elementary School. The event, represented by the council's first President, Dr. Ma. Teresa P. Baylon, included a Book Donation Drive and a Pabasa Program for non-reader learners, fostering literacy and emergency preparedness.

### **June 19, 2024: Community Outreach**

PLAI - CarRLC, in collaboration with the Butuan City Public Library, brought joy to the less fortunate children at Balay Silonganan through a Puppet Show as part of the PRC's Anniversary Outreach Program. The event, filled with toys, laughter, and delicious snacks, was celebrated with warmth, love, and hope, highlighting the resilience and strength of these gifted children.





**June 19, 2024: 51st PRC-Butuan Founding Anniversary Council Involvement**

The council, represented by Ms. Marieta Antone-Jabalde, participated in the 51st PRC Butuan Founding Anniversary's week-long activities. The council played a role in the outreach program, sharing plans and programs for 2024-2025.



**July 22, 2024: Book Donation Drive**

The council conducted the "Adopt a BCCI Library: An Extension Project of the Council and Other Partner Institutions" at the Butuan City Colleges, Inc. This donation aimed to foster creativity and academic advancement.

**October 22, 2024: Oath Taking Ceremony**

The oath-taking ceremony for the new set of officers was conducted by Dr. Elisa V. Garcia, President of PLAI. This event marked the beginning of a new chapter for the council's leadership.



**November 9, 2024: Professional Development**

Dr. Liza Tamargo, HOD Vice President, led a seminar-orientation titled "Duties and Beyond: Empowering CBOT Accountability," empowering council members with enhanced professional skills.

**November 11, 2024: Virtual Kapehan**

A virtual coffee session, "Kapehan with Ma'am Alma," was held for the officers to discuss the council's plans and programs.

**November 15 & 29, 2024: Storytelling and Puppet Show**

Aligned with the Library and Information Services (LIS) Month celebration, PLAI - CarRLC, in partnership with Butuan City Public Library and Cabadbaran City Library, offered a show to over 1,630 children, including Indigenous Peoples (Mamanwa) children. The event included a distribution of stuffed toys to the IP children.



**November 19, 2024: PLAI-CarRLC and BCPL Children's Festival**

In celebration of National Children's Month, the City Education Development Department and Butuan City Public Library, in partnership with PLAI-CarRLC, organized a Children's Festival, Storytelling, and Puppet Show at VCDU Prince Hotel, Butuan City. The event catered to disadvantaged children, bringing joy and educational entertainment.

**November 28, 2024: LIS Congress**

The LIS Congress, held at Butuan City Public Library, gathered Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLIS) students from four Higher Education Institutions. The event included a motorcade, school chants, a quiz bee, essay writing, and a storytelling contest, engaging fifty-seven BLIS students and seventeen librarians.

**December 5-6, 2024: Library Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Planning Workshop**

A two-day seminar-workshop at Caraga State University - Cabadbaran Campus focused on developing and implementing disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) plans for libraries. The workshop, attended by forty licensed librarians and other participants, emphasized practical tools and collaboration among library professionals in the Caraga Region. Resource speakers included Ms. Marie Jane P. Mansalay and Dr. Ma. Teresa P. Baylon.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b>COGS Issuances:</b>	42
<b>Financial Status</b>	
Membership Fees	₱3,000.00
Annual Dues	₱20,400.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>₱23,400.00</b>
<b>Remitted to PLAI National</b>	<b>₱13,200.00</b>

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PLAI-BARMMLC had a remarkable year in 2024, marked by a series of significant events and initiatives that highlighted their dedication to professional development, community engagement, and the promotion of gender equity and inclusion.

### **January 19, 2024: Induction and Oath Taking of Newly Elected Officers and General Assembly**

The year began with the induction and oath-taking of the newly elected PLAI-BARMMLC officers, followed by a General Assembly. The event featured an inspirational message from Dr. Marianita D. Dablo, setting a positive tone for the council's activities for the year.

### **February 7, 2024: Orientation on RA No. 11313 and Peacebuilding Lecture**

PLAI-BARMMLC conducted an orientation on RA No. 11313, also known as the Safe Spaces Act, and other related laws protecting women. This was coupled with a lecture on peacebuilding as a primary concern for women in society. The event took place at the MSU Pavilion and aimed to educate and empower attendees on these crucial topics.

**BARMM**

# **BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO LIBRARIANS COUNCIL**



### March 8, 2024: Herstory Writing Exhibit

To celebrate International Women's Day, PLAI-BARMMLC organized the "Herstory Writing Exhibit" which saw 89 participants. This essay writing contest provided women with an opportunity to share memoirs that highlighted their significant contributions and achievements, empowering women from all walks of life.

### March 15, 2024: Barakah Table for Ramadan

In celebration of Ramadan, PLAI-BARMMLC hosted the "Barakah Table". This initiative, which had 177 participants, allowed students to access food as needed, promoting the spirit of generosity and community support during this holy month.

### March 24, 2024: Lectures on Gender Biases and Women's Rights

As part of the 2024 National Women's Month celebration, PLAI-BARMMLC, in partnership with the MSU-Center for Women Studies, MSU Main - National Service Training Program, American Corner Marawi, and MSU-Marawi Scholarship Center, held lectures on "*Understanding Gender Biases and Discriminatory Stereotypes amongst Women*" and "*Recognizing the Status of Women in Society: Their Rights and Privileges.*" The event aimed to increase awareness among young women about issues affecting them and inform them about their rights and benefits under the legislation. It attracted 123 participants.

### Echo Seminar Series

Part 1 of the 2024 Echo Seminar Series began on May 29, 2024, with 37 participants. The seminar, themed "*Inspiring Change through Shared Ideas and Insights,*" covered Basic Customer Service Skills and Crafting Dynamic Library Programs and Services. Part 2 attracted 63 participants. The topics included "*Artificial Intelligence and Filipino Academic Libraries: Perceptions, Challenges and Opportunities*" and "*Streamlining Library Operations through Emerging Tools and Techniques,*" further empowering library staff with valuable knowledge and skills.

### August 13, 2024: Digital Poster Making Contest

In celebration of the 90th National Book Week, PLAI-BARMMLC organized a Digital Poster Making Contest at the American Corner, MSU University Library. The contest, themed "*Magbasa, Mangarap, Magdiwang,*" aimed to enhance the talents of participating students. Six high school participants and one college student showcased their creativity in this event.

### September 20, 2024: PLAI-BARMM General Assembly

The PLAI-BARMM General Assembly provided updates and plans for the upcoming grand reunion. This assembly served as a platform for members to discuss current issues and future directions for the council.

### September 25-26, 2024: PLAI-BARMM Summit 2024

With 109 participants, the summit focused on developing skills in building collections within a diversity, equity, and inclusion context; creating library events through this framework; enhancing strategies in organizing libraries; and fostering a culture of dialogue through research sharing.

### November: National Book Week

BARMM librarians and their patrons actively participated in various activities, including in-house and national contests for November, the Library and Information Services Month.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**COGS Issuances:** 32

### Financial Status

Membership Fees ₱3,000.00

Annual Dues ₱12,300.00

**Total Collection ₱15,300.00**

**Remitted to PLAI National ₱15,050.00**





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# PLAI NEWSLETTER

## 2024 issue



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