



O.B. MONTESSORI CENTER

COSMIC JOURNAL

The Pride of OB Montessori Center

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Metamorphosis

► By Megan Antonio (12 Jose)

Adhering faithfully to Dr. Maria Montessori's education methods for more than 50 years, OB Montessori Center has continued to give rise to independent yet disciplined and productive students.

Starting with children as young as two-and-a-half to three years old, OBMC already begins teaching them Cultural Arts, Language, Mathematics, and Practical Life in the Casa (Preschool) Program. Centering on the philosophy "Help the Child Help Himself," OBMC introduces the children to the concept of numbers, the expanse of the world and culture, and caring for self and the environment.

To further their growth, OBMC's Grade School utilizes the Cosmic Curriculum. Here, the young learners are taught different facets of history, geography, botany, and zoology using hands-on materials to help them understand new concepts. The students are also introduced to new subjects like Agriculture, Home Arts, and Character Education that allow them to learn more about life.

Along with these subjects, the grade schoolers participate in activities such as the Poetry Festival, Scouting Investiture, Barn Dance, and Formal Dining to complement

their learning and strengthen their confidence.

Throughout the Professional High School program, OBMC provides its students with the necessary tools to become versatile and creative young professionals in the ever-changing workplace. Subjects like Social Studies, Citizens Advancement Training, Technology, and Livelihood Education, Computer Education, and Communication Arts support their emotional, psychological, and social transformation. They become

increasingly aware of social issues and become more skilled in expressing themselves.

Activities such as Public Speaking, Entrepreneurial Fair, Formal Dining, and Joint Camp-Out teach the students the managerial and practical skills needed to survive in the world outside of OBMC's four walls.

OB Montessori Center is truly the cocoon that envelops its students, transforming them into "self-developing individuals undistorted by fear" to spear through life.



■ FEATURES

Accounting + Entrepreneurship + Economics + Management = ABM

► By Cahrlo Evangelista (12 Tinio)

The Accountancy and Business Management (ABM) class is a staple among the subjects offered by the Senior High School curriculum of OB Montessori Center. Offering a leg up on competition, the class teaches a wide variety of skills under accounting, entrepreneurship, economics, and management, each taking up one whole semester.

Accounting gives the tools necessary for the students to be able to manage, record, and interpret finances. Entrepreneurship, on the other hand, enables the students to think like a businessman. Meanwhile, Economics teaches the students how to analyze the various factors that affect markets, and Management gifts the student with the know-how on putting together a team and leading them to accomplish an objective as efficiently as possible.

These lessons are not only observed within the classroom but are applied outside of it, as well.



The Entrepreneurship Club is an extracurricular organization that takes what students learned in the class and applies it to real projects and competitions.

With organized events on the horizon, the club members also join international competitions such as the International Trade Challenge. In this FedEx-sponsored competition, the participants apply all the lessons learned from the ABM class



to create an eco-friendly product based on the country assigned to the team. Factors like budgeting (related to accounting), creativity (related to entrepreneurship), knowledge of the country's economy (related to economics), and cooperating with your teammates (related to management), must all be taken into consideration.

What better way is there to gain an advantage other than taking an ABM class?

COSMIC JOURNAL
The Voice of OB Montessori Students

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■ FEATURES

Uncovering Lantad:



► By Ashley Esguerra and Andrea Garfin (10 Ruby)

With every new school year comes a new champion for CineSophia, OB Montessori Center's annual film festival that challenges the Grade 12 students to create short films centered around prevailing societal issues by applying what they have learned from their Philosophy and Media Literacy classes.

With *kahilwayan* or freedom as

the theme, *Lantad* took the crown not only by winning first place, but also by garnering the most awards out of all the entries. The title, meaning "to expose," was inspired by the production team's goal to reveal the underlying truth behind the Philippine justice system.

"It took us around a month of just figuring out what we wanted to do,"

It's All About Art

► By Michelle Santos (12 Tinio)

Art class is the most recent subject that has just been added in Grade School starting with Primary in SY 2017–2018, and now in the High School curriculum this school year 2019–2020. The main objective of the art classes is for students to be capable of appreciating art from different perspectives by gaining knowledge about the identities of Filipinos from different communities through their art, culture and language through the years.

The Grade 1 to 8 students take the subject for one quarter every school

year. They do six art activities for the subject, which varies from different grade levels according to the capacity of the students at a given age.

For the senior high school curriculum, Grade 12 students take up the course HUM 2 (Contemporary Philippine Arts from the Regions) during their second

semester as their art subject. As part of the subject, the students visited the National Museum to expose themselves to different indigenous and contemporary art in the Philippines and critically reflect on the backgrounds.

It is important for individuals to apply higher order thinking skills which include critical, creative, caring, and reflective thinking. These art classes help the students to develop creative thinking skills, that allow them to express themselves uniquely and provide fresh resourceful ideas and ways to get things done. Not only does being creative helps to develop other skills for overall self-improvement, but also relieve stress from the other theoretical subjects.



The Champion of CineSophia 2019

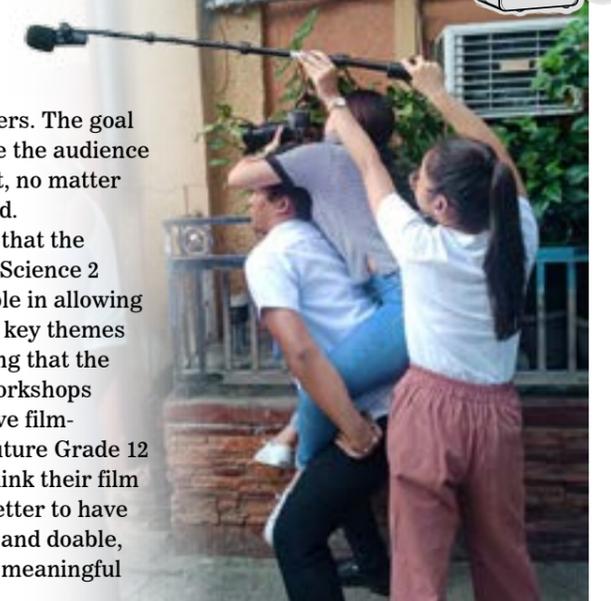


relatable so as to leave a lasting impression on the viewers. The goal of the film is to motivate the audience to fight for what is right, no matter who they are, she added.

Aquino also shares that the Philosophy and Social Science 2 classes played a big role in allowing them to formulate the key themes within their film, adding that the school provided them workshops that taught them effective film-making. Her advice to future Grade 12 students is not to overthink their film concepts, "It's always better to have a concept that is simple and doable, but portrays a good and meaningful message."

said cinematographer Amira Aquino. "My group and I knew that we wanted something relevant with what's currently happening, so we chose something from the drug war, specifically Kian delos Santos' story."

The protagonists were presented as students to make the film more



FEATURES

Up Close and Personal with Matthaaios



► By Francesca Dipos (10 Emerald)

You may have encountered this one song on Spotify with a catchy beat and lyrics that goes like this, *I love*

the way she makes me smile, she makes me smirk / Yes, sir. Sounds familiar? Did you know that the artist behind this song is no other than

an alumnus of OB Montessori Center-Las Piñas?

Jun Matthew Brecio, popularly known as Matthaaios, graduated in OBMC LP in 2018 and is now a second year game development major at the College of Saint Benilde.

Brecio recalled how OBMC helped him improve his character. "I have many memories in OBMC, mostly involving incident reports," he jokingly said. "To students, they might feel suffocated by the rules of the school but it is what it is. If they go to college, they will understand why they're being



disciplined," he added.

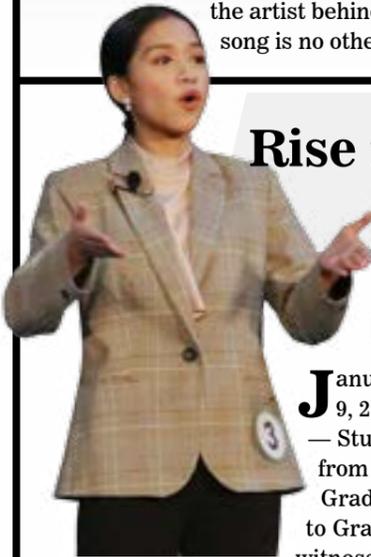
Brecio also shared one piece of advice for aspiring artists, "Stay in school and balance studies. Treat your artistry as a passion and never stop making art."

When Brecio was a student, he remembered visiting the conference room with his parents and his adviser because of incident reports. Now that he has become successful, he enters the conference room recognized by the school for his achievements.

His song "Catriona" has over 60 million views on YouTube and he has debuted in shows in some parts of the country. "Popularity is still new to me and I'm not used to it because it was unexpected, but it's fun."

Rise for Our Rights, Rise to Fight

► By Zafina Tenorio (9 Emerald)



January 9, 2020 — Students from Grade 9 to Grade 12 witnessed the

Senior High School Elocution 2019. This annual event is part of the OB Montessori Center's Poetry and Public Speaking Festival of the Senior High School Department. The said activity was spearheaded by the English and Social Sciences Department. The participants presented their own speeches patterned after the research paper on human rights they submitted in Social Science class. This year's elocution comes with the hashtag *Paglaum* or "hope" in Cebuano.

The competition brought out each contestant's inner creativity as they wrote and recited speeches worthy of winning. With strong delivery and clever writing, the contestants recited speeches that intrigued

and enlightened the audience with pressing issues on human rights. Topics presented ranged from war on drugs, women's rights, to farmer's rights. Each speech was passionately delivered to convey the contestant's message. Among the six contestants that stood onstage, Nicole Gandia from 12 Tinio won first place with her speech entitled, "Bangsak"—a combination of "bang" and "saksak"—which pondered on the infamous war on drugs by President Duterte.

This competition serves as an avenue for OBMC students to inform and to be informed about the current status of the different aspects of our society. It also teaches students the value of research in molding well-informed citizens. As OBMC students, the word "fight" is no stranger to us. Our school teaches us to "fight for the right without question or doubt," and this competition is an embodiment of that value imprinted in our uniforms and in our hearts.



Law on Persons: A Subject for Our Future

► By Ciara Russegger (9 Emerald)
Artwork by Meg Villanueva (11 Amorsolo)

Law is the foundation of society. Everything on Earth is governed by laws: life itself is a legal human right. It is therefore fundamental that students know the law and exercise these principles in real settings—especially in today's sociopolitical climate, where authoritarianism destroys rule of law. Thus, OB Montessori teaching Law on Persons (LOP) for a semester of Grade 9 is understatedly important.

With LOP lessons, students recognize their rights and condemn widespread violations thereof. They learn about the Bill of Rights. Assignments include listing down constitutional rights violated by Duterte's war on drugs—students of LOP can readily name the right to life, and the right to due process, among others.

Thus, the educated youth is unimaginably powerful. An in-depth knowledge of law and human rights

The Senior High School Curriculum of OB Montessori Center is a comprehensive take on the standardized edition of the Department of Education, wherein it teaches as many topics as it can within a short time frame using the General Academic Strand (GAS) while also teaching topics not usually

tackled on until later in college. GAS, unlike its counterparts, incorporates all of the specialized strands into a more streamlined and general outlook.

Madeline Avila, an alumna of OBMC Las Pinas who is currently studying at the College of Saint Benilde, says that because of GAS

she finds herself better equipped to handle the subjects in her freshman year. She also said that many of her colleagues in her batch had taken up the Huma-

nities and Social Sciences Strand (HUMMS). They are now having a difficult time handling or tackling the subjects related to ABM, which gave her a better advantage.

Joel Alzate, a former SHS student who is currently studying at Ateneo de Manila University, says that GAS is a good way for students to become exposed in different subjects to help them decide what they want to take in college.

Daniel Ruy Quilantang, also a former student of OBMC's SHS now studying at the University of the Philippines Diliman, states that GAS helps expose students to a variety of academic fields.



OPINION

WW III

► By Alliyah Beloso (12 Jose)



Three days into 2020, news broke out that Major General Qassem Soleimani of Iran was killed in an air strike ordered by United States President Donald Trump. With this development, people speculated that a third world war may happen. But, fellow students, did you know that the conflict between Iran and the United States is far from being called a "world war"?

One reason is that Europe has invited the Iranian Foreign Minister for talks on the crisis but it is unlikely that Iran will strike back despite having nuclear reserves. Striking back could mean US retaliating harder, it is also unclear whether or not US would bring their allies into the conflict.

In Philippine Governance and Politics class of Grade 11, lessons regarding international relations are being discussed. The subject teaches the students different types of approaches to power, legitimacy, and international relations, which are applicable to situations such as Soleimani's assassination.

If one were to analyze the conflict, you would find that the US exerts its hard power (the military) onto Iran, due to the fact President Donald Trump stated that Soleimani had "plans" to attack the US. This can be seen through the Realism approach, one of the three International Relations Approaches, wherein states are seen as self-centered and aims to maintain the power it has. To conclude, we have nothing to worry about as a war between Iran and the US may not happen any time soon.

NEWS

Building Confidence Through Poetry

► By Christine Manansala (10 Ruby)

The second semester of SY 2019–2020 gave focus to the art of poetry and elocution in the entire OB Montessori Center. The Poetry and Public Speaking Festival has allowed students to bond while practicing creativity and building confidence.

In the Intermediate Department, these results come in Francesca



Leoine Kendra Lee

Monique Azul, who won first place with her poem “A Psalm of Life,” followed by Leani Columna in second place with her poem “Footprints on the Sand,” and Katie Rhian Dela Calzada with “The Late Passenger.” The advanced level produced impact and confidence

beyond their years. In the junior level, Art Villanueva won first place with his poem “The Solitary Reaper,” followed by Samantha Grace Prowel with her poem “Family,” and Rojni Marize Espina won third place with “Build Me a Son.”

The Grade 6 Declamation Contest was filled with determined contestants. All of them exhibited the grace and fortitude the *ates* and *kuyas* of Intermediate were supposed to have. Leoine Kendra Lee won first place with Og Mandino’s “I am Nature’s Greatest Miracle,” followed by Rhianna Jatena Reburiano with “The Masks We Wear,” and finally, Alastaire Mateusz Sulit with the “The Good Thief” by fr. James Moran.

The Junior High School chorale competition



Rhianna Jatena Reburiano

classes stepped on stage with their own literary interpretations, each class having choreographed and discussed every move. In the lower division, 8 Ruby won first place with their poem “The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers,” followed by 8 Emerald with “The Kingdom Within,” 8 Sapphire with “Campbell.” In the upper division 10 Ruby won first place with the poem “The Christian Life,” followed by 9 Emerald with “They’re All Gone,” and 9 Ruby with “The City in the Sea.”



Alastaire Mateusz Sulit

NEWS

Parent-Child Connection To A Higher Level

► By Alastaire Mateusz Sulit (6 Venus)

The Grade 6 students and their parents attended a seminar aimed to strengthen their relationship with each other last January 20 at the Multi-Purpose Hall.

Staying true to the event’s name, “Can We Connect?” provided discussions on how to strengthen the bond between the parent and the child with Mr. Alex Araneta as the guest speaker.

Mr. Araneta, a parenting expert, pointed out that parents should monitor their children’s activities online and they should manage their time with their children.

“Rules without relationship leads to rebellion,” he said.

In order to process everything that he discussed, activities were done. Parents chose five questions out of 20 and asked their children.



Afterwards, parents got the chance to share their children’s answers and how they felt towards them.

The next activity was the Motivation Cards where the children picked five card which contains motivators from the most important to the least important. There were tears of joy from the parents as their children shared their answers. The activity ended with Mr. Araneta discussing the eight things parents should always remember to have a good and healthy relationship with their children.

It was an experience the students and parents will never forget as they got to form a bond and know each other deeper.



NEWS

Science Outside of the Four Corners of Our Classrooms

► By Gabbie Jagunap and Christian Manansala (8 Sapphire)



The OB Montessori Center Science Club participated in the National Civil Engineering Summit held at the University of the Philippines Diliman last September 28, 2019.

The event was composed of a bridge building competition, a laboratory tour, and a high school career talk. Philipe Castellvi, Alfonso Dy, and Ethan Taleser of 8 Sapphire joined the competition.

The creativity and coordination

of the participants were challenged when they were asked to build a small but durable bridge that could withstand a weight of 16 kilograms, using only simple crafting materials such as barbecue sticks and glue.

“It was somewhat stressful,” Castellvi stated. “And although we didn’t go to the next round, it enhanced our team building capabilities and it was truly an honor to represent our school.”

During the Laboratory Tour, Pocholo Catoto and Antonio Almero of 8 Ruby were introduced to the different sectors and machinery used in civil engineering. They admitted they initially had a vague idea of civil engineering, but the activity helped them understand what it is and its importance.

At the end of the day, the Science Club members were treated to a speech by licensed civil engineers about the significance of the discipline and how it could enhance our future.

“It is definitely more than just measuring objects,” Juliana Pererya of 8 Emerald noted. “Civil engineering is about improving roads and bridges, and making the world a better and more comfortable place for everyone.”

FEATURES

Student-Athletes on the Rise

► By Iya Apuada (6 Mercury)

OB Montessori Center encourages students to engage in sports and other extra-curricular activities. Sports are also a type of exercise that can increase stamina and boost morale as well. OBMC—LP is more than lucky to have two Grade 5 students who have engaged themselves in sports. These are Estelle Patricio of 5 Venus and Miyake Capina of 5 Mercury.

Estelle Patricio is a proud swimmer. She is only 10 years old and her coach inspires her to swim and to be better in her craft. When she was younger, she almost drowned in the swimming pool and this pushed

her to learn how to swim. She started swimming at six years old and has been competing and collecting medals ever since. Estelle is currently working on her speed and diving skills as she hopes to represent the National Capital Region for the Palarong Pambansa in summer.

On the other hand, fencing has always been in the mind of Miyake. Her family especially played a vital role in her growth in fencing citing her father as her inspiration. In competitions, her



Estelle Patricio

Miyake Capina

main objective is to do her best. Her rigorous training, around five times a week, has brought her to various international competitions. She is now aiming to compete in Korea and France.

LITERARY

You Are My Life

► *By Mikkel Yu (7 Emerald)*

They always said it's fake
They said it isn't real
The concept of that perfect someone
Isn't possible, but they don't know what
I feel

It broke me; I thought it was true
But now I know, for I have met you
Breaking the boundary
I've trapped myself in carelessly

You look at me with such expressive
eyes
Capable of shaping an entire world

With nothing but a look,
All those emotions may unfurl

I see you with a look of shame, though
Fighting yourself to the death
Hiding behind that face of happiness
Isn't yours to blame

I know it can be hard
All of that struggling
Trying to kill it, thinking it'd be better
But it's best to leave it for the better

You are my life, you are my life
Stop trying to escape it
Forgive it, and leave that life
For it's not your life you're sparing but
also mine

How My Parents Spend Valentine's Day

► *By Cathleen Jen Dela Rosa (3 Nightingale)*

My parents do not usually celebrate Valentine's Day together because my dad is working abroad. My mom celebrates the special day with me and my brother. We usually go shopping and eat in different restaurants. Even if only the three of us celebrate Valentine's Day, we never forget to call our dad through video chat. If my dad is at home during Valentine's Day, then we will celebrate it together.

► *By Andrea Ysabelle Chua (3 Flamingo)*

A simple celebration is what my parents do during Valentine's Day. My daddy surprises my mom and I with flowers and chocolates, then we will have Valentine's dinner afterwards.

My parents remind me that it is not only during this season that we can show our love and appreciation to one another because everyday can be Valentine's Day.

Love for Our Best Friends

► *By Margaux Espina (7 Ruby)*

My best friends are some of the first people
I turn to when I have problems,
for when they have
Problems, I refuse to leave their
side, until everything
Is fine again, because best
friends don't leave each other.

Not every memory with your
friends are always happy
Some could be full of sadness
and anger
We commit mistakes because
we are human,
We are not perfect.

Someone once told me,
understanding goes
Both ways, you need to
understand your best friend too,
As much as your best friend will
understand you.

Some best friends are
inseparable,
Like me and my best friend
Soon will come the day where
we must split ways,
And walk different paths ...
But true friends are never
apart,
Maybe in distance ...
But never in heart.

Five Ways I Show Love

► *By Mikeli Jan Nasser (2 Eagle)*

- 1 Treating my family with respect
- 2 Greeting my teachers always
- 3 Sharing my toys with my friends
- 4 Helping people in need
- 5 Giving hugs and kisses to my loved ones

ARTWORK

“Don't Forget Your ID”

► *By Millen Ross Lazaro (11 Amorsolo)*

