

# Excellence

## OUR GRADUATES, OUR LIVING MESSAGES

CAROL ATACADOR

No sooner had I arrived in San Francisco did my former Grade 2 students from the Ateneo call to remind me of my promise to see them at a lunch gathering the next day. It was a very rainy day, typical of Fall in San Francisco. There I was jet lagged and cold, fulfilling my promise.

They were all there with their children and their wives, all grown men, smiling, warm, and eager to see their Grade 2 teacher. Some of them I had the pleasure to meet in-between my travels. Some made it a point to reconnect with me, always with some tale about our years together. Some sort of gathering of the eagles, the blue eagles in flight.

I noted how accomplished they all seem. How sensitive to the fact that during the Chinese exchange gifts they counted me and my nephew in. I couldn't help but notice the graciousness and the bond that continued through the years of their boyhood into adulthood and now still alive into their marriages. The wingspan of the blue eagle embraces the memories of the Ateneo and these boys live in them.

One major agenda during this lunch was how these boys can support the feeding program of CENTEX. The eagles are soaring beyond themselves. My second graders are looking to give back to their homeland.

Back in the Philippines, I visited the Ateneo. Old friends and colleagues were as warm and welcoming. The high school students wandering on campus were polite and helpful. I asked for directions and they took time to give them. You see, I had forgotten the ins and outs of the campus. From this meeting I asked about two more boys whom I distinctly remember. My gold medalist in elocution, my Cave Boy, and the one who thought he could marry me in second grade. I smiled when I was told these boys are currently parents in the high school. A chance to reconnect.

Reconnecting, remembering, relishing the good times. And now Ateneo opens its doors to one CENTEX student. A beginning, a convergence of ideas and ideals.

I met with my Cave Boy one lunchtime. He was there when I entered. He half ran to me, eager to be a second grader again. We talked. We laughed, we discussed life, we shared our views. He left me proud. He remarked to me, "We are not equals and we cannot hope to be. But we can strive to treat others fairly." I watched him intently. If this is the legacy I left behind, I must have done something good! To him I relinquish the torch of the poor. CENTEX is alive in the heart of my Cave Boy.

We are about to graduate 141 students come March 22, 2007. My reconnecting with my second grade boys poignantly drove home the spirit of graduation. We see it as a separation, some letting go ritual, a right of passage from childhood to teenage years. My experience with my first class as a teacher gave me a different perspective. Your students don't go away, they simply build castles from the ideals teachers give them. Students remember details of their teachers, the ones who formed their hearts and touched their souls. My second grade boys certainly told me so...in their laughter, in their anticipation of my coming, in their recognition of their second grade teacher.

To the principals and teachers of class 2007 of Batangas and Manila...let go and be happy. Take comfort in the fact that these graduates have pieces of each one of you etched in their hearts and souls. Be steadfast and believe in this anonymous line: **"Children are living messages we send to a place we shall never see."**

It is my privilege to have seen some of my second grade boys now accomplished men with a cause. Indeed they are my living messages in a world that sorely needs them.

Our Graduates, Our  
Living Messages

'Till We Meet Again

CENTEX Manila Wins  
Citywide Journalism  
Contest

Grade 3 Students  
Receive First Holy  
Communion

CENTEX Manila Wins  
Pinoy-Tsinoy  
Competition

CENTEX Batangas  
Stages The Little  
Mermaid

Stoneyhurst  
International Winners

Manila Students Dance  
at the Museum

## Till We Meet Again

By: Kathryn Stephanie P. Castillo  
Gr. 6 - Makabayan



I can't believe how time flies so fast! It only seems like yesterday when I entered kindergarten. Now, I am about to leave my second home. March 22, 2007 marks the day that I will finally be saying farewell to my school, CENTEX-Manila, my teachers and principal, and the friends I have made here.

I admit that I feel happy and excited about going to high school and meeting new friends. However, nothing can take away the sadness that I feel about missing all the fun times I've had in CENTEX. I will surely miss the awesome field trips that I spent with my classmates. What fun we had then! Visiting so many interesting places for the first time and sharing each other's insights about our discoveries



were truly enriching experiences. I, too, will miss other extraordinary opportunities given to us such as letting us watch breathtaking theatrical performances for free and being invited to present our many talents to all kinds of people. And what about our benefits such as free hot meals,

transportation allowance, books, and uniforms? Those, for sure, will be sorely missed as well, because no other school, I think, will be offering the same things to us in the future.



surely bring us to places. You are truly God-sent. To all our teachers and principal, both past and present, thank you so much for your gifts of patience, love, hard-work, and understanding. Thank you for inspiring us all to keep on going, no matter how hard life may be sometimes. To all our classmates and friends, thank you for your gifts of camaraderie, laughter, trust, and care. Thank you for making our school life more meaningful. And to our parents, thank you so much for your assistance, love and support. On a personal note, I would like to thank my own mother, Ms. Janet P. Castillo, who is also a CENTEX teacher. You are my best teacher, mama. My graduation is my birthday gift to you.

## CENTEX MANILA WINS GRADE V CITYWIDE JOURNALISM CONTEST

CENTEX Manila lives up to its name! Last February 23, 2007, it was declared that Perspective staffers (CENTEX-Manila's school paper) are this year's champions in the Grade V Citywide Journalism Contests held at Gregorio del Pilar Elementary School last January 27, 2007.

The school earned a total of 57 points in the 12 different contest categories in Filipino and English. Coming second place are the staffers of Young Citizens of F. Benitez E.S. with a total of 40 points, and third place went to M. Salvador, The Salvadorian staffers, with a total of 31 points.

Again, congratulations to the staff of Perspectives! You have made all of your CENTEX Family proud of you!

## Grade 3 Students Receive 1st Holy Communion



Sixty-five Grade 3 students from CENTEX-Manila received Holy Communion for the first time last January 27, 2007. Weeks prior to the event, the participants have been taught and prepared by catechists from the parish where the First Communion was held. The students, with their parents, teachers, and their principal, Ms. Fe Duldulao, gathered for the mass at 7:00 a.m. at the San Jose de Trozo Parish, Masangkay St., Tondo, Manila for this special occasion. The homily was addressed both to the first communicants and their parents, regarding the significance of attending Mass frequently and making it relevant to our daily Christian lives. Selected members of the CENTEX Children's Choir were present to lead in the singing.

## CENTEX Manila wins Pinoy-Tsinoy Mural Competition

Katrina Villanueva, CENTEX-Manila Grade 5 representative bagged the first place in the 4<sup>th</sup> Pinoy-Tsinoy Mural competition sponsored by the Filipino-Chinese Club in celebration of the 6th Filipino-Chinese Friendship day. The competition took place last February 25, 2007. CENTEX-Manila was also chosen as the venue of the event's opening ceremonies. The CENTEX Children's choir rendered a doxology for all the visitors of the event.



*Winning entry of CENTEX-Manila in the Pinoy-Tsinoy Mural Painting Contest*

## Manila Students Dance at the Museum

Fourteen students from CENTEX Manila danced the "sakuting" as they participated in the opening of the Chinese Diaspora Exhibition last February 14, 2007 at the Ayala Museum. The event gave the 14 students a chance to perform before international audiences since the guests of honor were Singapore President and Mrs. SR Nathan. The students were thrilled to be given a chance to see the President of Singapore and to be given a chance to participate in such a formal occasion.



## CENTEX Batangas Stages The Little Mermaid

The students of CENTEX Batangas showcased their dancing, singing and acting abilities as they staged the famous play, The Little Mermaid on February 16, 2007 at the Bauan Technical High School. This stage play had the Grade IV students as cast and students from Kinder to Grade VI as part of the intermission of the event. The English class and Glee Club of the school with teachers, Evelyn Abrea, Alma Venzon, Ivy Fabellon and Mary Jane Magbojos supervised the event. The show was a success as more than two thousand spectators applauded the students after the play!



## CENTEX Batangas Wins Stoneyhurst International School Competition

Out of 50 students from different schools in Batangas, representatives from CENTEX-Batangas emerged victorious in Stoneyhurst International School's Brain Olympiad last February 24, 2007. The contest was divided into two categories, the individual and group category. Each category had questions from English, Math, Science and current events. Winners of each category were:

### Individual Category:

Dale Wilson Garcia II	Champion
Micah Bernadette Manalo	1st Runner Up
Minorka Marie Valenzuela	3rd Runner Up

### Group Category:

Babylyn Austria and Hershey Gabi	1st Runner Up
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# Congratulations, CENTEX Class 2007!

## CENTEX - Manila

Abarrientos, Trisha Frances T.  
Adao, Krystel Shayne G.  
Aguila, MC Froilan L.  
Al-Shdifat, Bushra S.  
Andal, Ryu Jhon S.D.  
Asuncion, Andrei Mark M.  
Baltazar, Clarisse Ann C.  
Baltazar, Lloyd Noel D.  
Baltazar, Rendel Justine L.  
Bangit, Axl Rose B.  
Bartolome, Victor L.  
Belen, Mark Angelo B.  
Bellosillo, Cyrus L.  
Braga, Crish C.  
Buan, Jonan M.  
Capeding, Kimberly Anne H.  
Castillo, John Albert A.  
Castillo, Kathryn Stephanie P.  
Cayas, Rachelle Anne D.  
Cornejo, Sim Adrian C.  
Crisolo, Clarence Ray B.  
Dacumos, Marielle Grace R.  
Dalit, Maria Hannah B.  
De Jesus, Roie McEnroe G.  
Delantar, Jane Pauline H.  
Delgado, Rienelle Rae Akeem C.  
Dugan, Maria Roma A.  
Dumali, Christell Ann Marie E.  
Elpos, Rommuel J.  
Estrella, Alliyah Jan S.  
Eugenio, Regine Jessica C.  
Fabian, Francheska Anne F.  
Felipe, Mercy Anne  
Fernandez, Christine Jay T.  
Fernandez, Jeanelle Elcen A.  
Fernandez, Julius Darwin R.  
Furaque, Paulo Angelo A.  
Garcia, Riezel Inah L.  
Hernandez, Raymond Allen R.  
Icasas, Michaela T.  
Ilagan, John Paulo S.  
Julampong, April Joy G.  
Ladia, Rommel L.  
Legaspi, Mary Jane P.  
Llego, Arvin Dale D.  
Macaraig, Aljon P.  
Mallari, Jenoele I.

Malonzo, Cyrille Mae M.  
Marcelo, Hannah Grace Lynn P.  
Martin, Jiah L.  
Meim, Jainie Abigail L.  
Mendoza, Ana Camille B.  
Molina, Jovelle H.  
Ocampo, Daira F.  
Onayan, Edrian A.  
Panaligan, Jasper Moises J.  
Paraiso, Angelo John T.  
Polido, Mary Joy B.  
Ramonos, Rainiel E.  
Reyes Mariel C.  
Romero, Jesica Sandra P.  
Sampaga, Ariane D.  
Santos, Andrei Mishael D.  
Santos, Irene Y.  
Sison, Audrey Lyn T.  
Tolentino, Daniel Louis A.  
Valentin, Renee Ruth B.  
Valenzuela, Skyndyl Sly P.  
Villacruel, Ancer Jr. A.  
Violeta, Apollo R. Jr.  
Viray, Jewel L.

## CENTEX - Batangas

Abanes, Rionle M.  
Abrea, Fatima A.  
Abrea, Rouen Angelo R.  
Aldovino, Myeth A.  
Aquiatan, Apple Jane M.  
Arevalo, Lancelot A.  
Atienza, Ruschell A.  
Austria, Babylyn C.  
Balita, Den Llorens M.  
Bicol, Wilanie  
Bilale, Aries M.  
Bitong, Keen Clark C.  
Bombita, Wilson H.  
Boongaling, Maureen Joy B.  
Brual, Rhodora N.  
Brual, Roselyn E.  
Cabinta, Romar M.  
Cadevida, Aljohn P.  
Calalo, Jaycell Ann C.  
Cantos, Mark Aldrin P.  
Cantos, Mark Alvin P.  
Caringal, Jinky G.  
Castillo, Alyssa Marie C.  
Castillo, Arvictor V.  
Castor, Christine Joy E.  
Castor, John Martin L.  
Castor, Nicole Shannaine A.  
Cauca, Rhacy P.  
De Chavez, Ronessa A.  
De Lizo, Sarah Jane M.  
De los Reyes, Alei Rose  
Dimaculangan, Jennilyn L.  
Dimayuga, Joan R.  
Dolor, MacJhude Eli P.  
Duag, Carmina B.  
Gabi, Hershey F.  
Garcia, Dale Wilson II A.  
Gelera, Arlene C.  
Gelera, Quennie Faye G.  
Hernandez, Joepett Doursey P.  
Ilagan, Marcia Gizella G.  
Ilagan, Reyce J.  
Layog, Mark Jester M.  
Lucero, Alma Fatima M.  
Magana, Ruffa M.  
Magsino, Maichael Dave R.  
Manalo, Micah Bernadette T.  
Maramot, Nerry Diane M.  
Marasigan, Jerrick B.  
Marasigan, Joedan B.  
Marasigan, Rai Bongbong A.  
Marquez, Mark Guiller S.  
Marquez, Melanie P.  
Matira, Baby Kim R.  
Mendoza, Julius Adrielle T.  
Mendoza, Marlene M.  
Noche, Bernardo Jr. P.  
Palencia, Kim Asaph Homer G.  
Pangantihon, Caren V.  
Pasia, Jerome M.  
Ramos, Shiela Marie C.  
Rosales, Courthland L.  
Segundo, Arlene B.  
Silang, Kenneth C.  
Silang, Marichel A.  
Valenzuela, Minorka Marie H.  
Vergara, Lester A.  
Villalobos, Karla Isabel S.  
Villarin, Annelie R.  
Ylagan, Edgar Jr. M.

## Letter from the Parents

Congratulations on your graduation day!

This day marks a day in your life that you will never forget. This is the result of all your hard work amidst all the challenges that you faced during your elementary days. You have been equipped by CENTEX with enough knowledge to be able to stand on your own and face life's future challenges.

Through all these, we, your parents, were there, supporting and loving you; hoping that our love and guidance will be enough to get you through your childhood challenges. As you go up the stage and accept your diplomas, remember your CENTEX teachers. Thank them for selflessly teaching and molding you into what you are now. And most of all, give thanks to God, He is the reason behind all the blessings that you received.

May you use everything that you have learned as stepping-stones to a higher kind of learning. In this age and time where the world is experiencing economic problems, only you, our children will be our hope and the hope of our country. Children like you, who have the heart and who are determined to reach for your dreams will surely succeed!

Again, on behalf of all the parents of CENTEX Class 2007, Congratulations dear graduates and we are all proud of you!

Yes! I want to donate to the CENTEX High School Assistance Fund !

Name : \_\_\_\_\_  
Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel.No. : \_\_\_\_\_  
Email : \_\_\_\_\_

I want to donate the amount of \_\_\_\_\_  
(P \_\_\_\_\_) to CENTEX.

Choose from the following schemes !!!

For 1 year, you and your friends can donate :

P 68.00 daily	P 2,080.00 monthly
P 480.00 weekly	P 6,250.00 quarterly
P 1,040.00 twice a month	P 25,000 yearly

CALL US NOW FOR MORE DETAILS

**Be a Dream Catcher! Send a CENTEX child to High School! FAX US TODAY!**

To make donations, you may either fax this form to (632) 8134487; call Sarah Sevilla at (632) 7521171; log on to [www.centex.org.ph](http://www.centex.org.ph); email [sevilla.sb@avalafoundation.org](mailto:sevilla.sb@avalafoundation.org). or write to CENTEX, 10/F Ayala Wing, BPI Main Bldg., 6768 Ayala Avenue cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City