



THE BEACON ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

The last week of October began with a dreadful shock as one of our beloved teachers, Mr. Jose Badelles (fondly called Ouie), suddenly passed away late last October. .

Ouie taught Visual Arts for the Diploma Program since 2018. He also served as the Arts Director of the school from 2020 and was a member of the School Life Team. He sketched the portraits of each graduate for two consecutive years and left the 2023 yearbook done and ready. He was a good friend to many and a very close one to some.

Grief can be a curious thing. I believe, to many of us, when we first heard of the tragic news and sufficiently recovered from the shock, we instinctively did two things. First is that we scrambled to retrieve our most recent and most meaningful memories we had with our departed loved one. When we found it, we tried our best to create the clearest, most poignant image and made it stay there for as long as we could. Then we reached out to those who were hurting the most. We stretched out our arms, and offered and welcomed an embrace. Perhaps these are the reasons why death can also be a time of grace.

The whole week was a quiet week of grieving and remembering. In small groups, we sat and talked about Ouie. And as we remembered, we couldn't avoid laughing out loud because in life, he was so much fun. As a school we all went to say our final goodbyes and as we arrived to the place where he was temporarily resting, we soothed his family's pain with our busloads of sympathy, stories, and love.

But I'm happy to share that the week ended with song and story that lightened our grief. It may have been serendipity, but it was a good thing that, while our whole community was processing a major loss, we went out to watch a musical with one of our very own students playing a major role. We all marveled at her talent and our hearts were filled with pride. At the end of the show, the cast asked the audience, "What is your silver lining?"

Silver Lining was our silver lining. It was the thin, bright line of love, remembrance, and pride circling the heavy darkness of our collective loss and sadness. May we not experience this kind of grief for a long time. But our community is strong and we will continue to look out for each other in true Beacon fashion.

Sincerely,

Victor Villanueva
Deputy Head of School
The Beacon Academy

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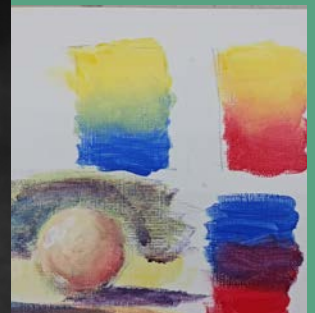
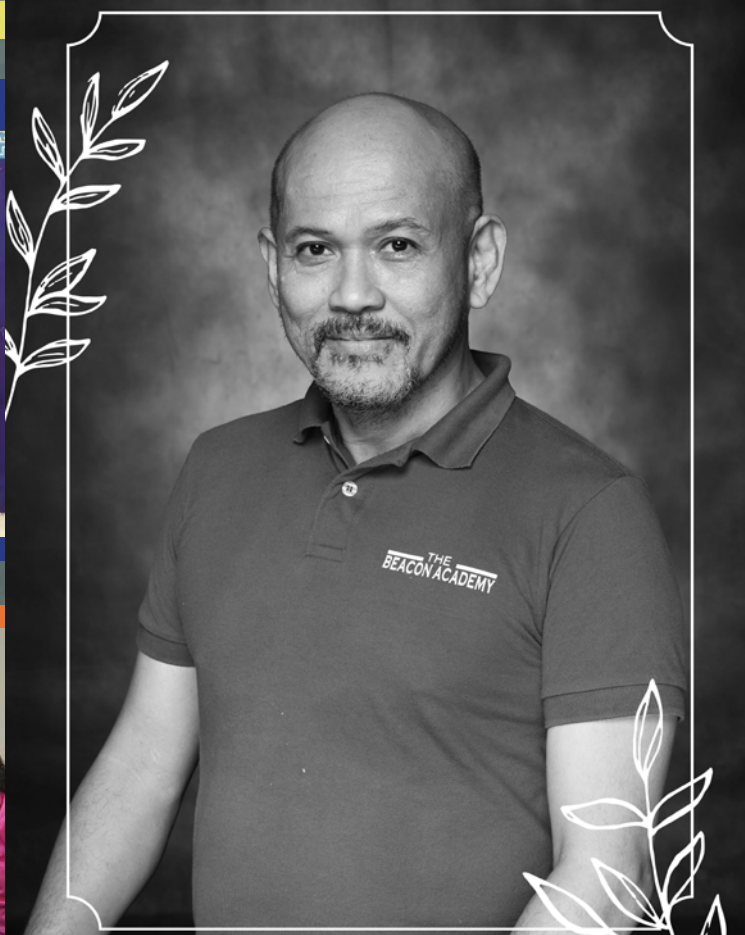
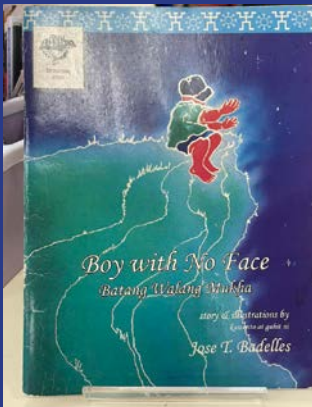


THE BEACON ACADEMY

REMEMBERING OUIE



definition
composition



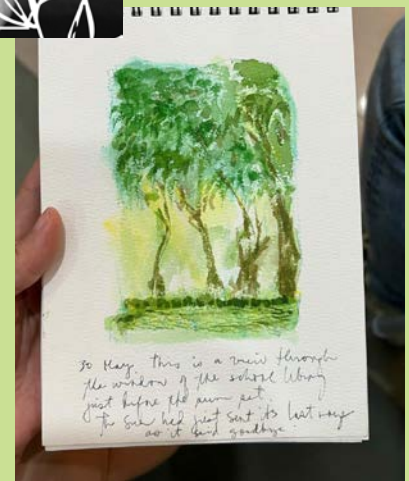
PLASTIC BO



“Creativity is intelligence having fun.”

- Albert Einstein

(One of Ouie's favorite quotes)





THE BEACON ACADEMY

IMPORTANT DATES IN NOVEMBER

November 11, Saturday	Learn with Leaders Info Session (via Zoom)
November 13, Monday	College Visit Columbia University
November 14, Tuesday	College Visit Constructor University Phase 1: Early Readers Program
November 15, Wednesday	Griffin Games (PM)
November 16, Thursday	Phase 1: Early Readers Program
November 17, Friday	Griffin Games (Continued)
November 23, Thursday	Work in Progress Fair Beacon School Grade 8 Visit
November 24, Friday	Casual Friday

INFORMATION SESSION (ZOOM) | HMCSEF YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (NOV. 11)

We are please to share that LWL and HMCSEF, will be conducting a program on our campus this January with the following details:

HMCSEF Young Leadership Program

A unique and intensive 3-day program on leadership and how to become future change makers.

Location: Beacon Academy Campus in Biñan, Laguna

Dates and Times: January 19, 20 & 21, 2024 (Friday to Sunday) from 9:00am to 3:00pm each day

Requirements: Open to all Grade 6-12 students from various schools

Fee: USD 450 to be paid directly to Learn with Leaders

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP: <https://forms.gle/dkWJQ6cK1bVNfZnH9>

The program will focus on leadership, problem solving, communication, public speaking, and critical thinking while working toward an “actionable project”. As a participant, you will get the chance to engage in ‘Harvard-style’ classroom experiences taught by current Harvard students themselves. Certificates from Harvard Model Congress San Francisco will be given to students who complete the program.

If you would like to know more about the program and meet some of the mentors, you are invited to join the Online Info Session on November 11 (Sat) at 9:00am.

Zoom Meeting Invitation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81654942978?pwd=NjBBZEVENNIphcDhCU0RyZSt6K0Rldz09>

Meeting ID: 816 5494 2978

Passcode: 142894



**HMCSEF YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
BY HARVARD MODEL CONGRESS
SAN FRANCISCO**
(AN IN-PERSON PROGRAM)

HOSTED BY  

A unique and intensive 3-Day Program on
Leadership and Creating Future Change-makers

PROGRAM DETAILS

 January 19th - 21st, 2024  Grades 6 - 12

 In-person at Beacon Academy  Program Fee: USD 450

 3 Days  Students earn certificate from Harvard Model Congress San Francisco

Disclaimer: The programs are not provided by Harvard or any other university but by student-run organization. HMCSEF (https://www.hmcsef.org/) is an independent 100% Harvard students-run organization dedicated in inspiring the next generation of change makers. Harvard Model Congress San Francisco is not affiliated to Harvard University, but the name Harvard is used with the permission of the University.

For more information: team@learnwithleaders.com, www.learnwithleaders.com



THE BEACON ACADEMY

HALLOWEEK 2023 | RECAP

Last October 23 to 27, the Beacon Academy campus was alive with costumes, candy, and fun activities as Halloween took place. Here are some fun pictures from the spooky festivities.





THE BEACON ACADEMY

DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CORE CAMP | RECAP

DP Core Camp 2023 was a two-day event designed to empower students by supporting their success in CAS, EE and TOK, three core components of their Diploma Programme. The event provided dedicated time for each of these components, allowing for a balance between structure and student agency.

On the first day, our Grade 11 students took part in a CAS Sampler, where they learned creative work and sports games. On the second day, BA's students were to use these skills to teach over 50 Grade 6 students from Inchican Elementary Public School as they spent a day on our campus. Here are some pictures and reflections from this enlightening activity.



The Core Camp gave us all a chance to make the days of many children. This was a new experience for me and my peers. - **Jao**

I think that the Core Camp was a great experience. I learned a lot and had so many productive interactions with the children. I hope that we can have a similar experience sometime soon. - **Pio**

Core Camp was a great opportunity to interact with students from different backgrounds who we usually wouldn't. It was enjoyable to dance, play and talk with people who can look up to us. - **Stella**

I really enjoyed talking and interacting with the kids, they were cute and amiable. I hope to have more experiences like this in the future. - **Bella**



Last week, we taught pupils from Inchican Elementary School about creative writing and chess. The camp had a profound impact on the students, allowing us to have an interactive session with the pupils, fostering their imaginations and critical thinking skills. - **Jimmy**

Core camp was an extremely enjoyable experience. I was able to interact with and get to know the kids from Inchican, and I can only hope that they learned from us as much as I was able to learn from them. - **Mandy**

Our day with students from Inchican Elementary School was truly a special experience, as we were given the chance to practice sports and arts while creating bonds and spreading smiles that transcended age and backgrounds. We learned a lot from each other, and I look forward to similar experiences in the future where we can continue to have fun and connect with other schools in our community. - **Maya**

For this experience, I really felt satisfied with how everything turned out. I was able to help the integration of everybody with each other, and to me seeing the final effects - an experience where both BA students and Inchican students were able to form something with each other - was very fulfilling. - **Rob**



THE BEACON ACADEMY

DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CORE CAMP | RECAP (Continued)

The Core Camp was an incredible experience where we got to learn so much. Creative writing has been something I've wanted to get better at, and getting to do that with my classmates and the Inchican kids provided me insightful perspectives and delightful experiences, while volleyball was a fun activity I got to play with the kids and really get to know them better. I also got to practice my Filipino in an organic environment; overall, it was an experience I'd definitely love to repeat. - **Madi**



Overall, I enjoyed the interaction experience with the kids from Inchican Elementary School. I loved assisting them in their art and volleyball skills, 2 things I really enjoyed doing. I was able to inspire and continue doing what I love in this experience which is why this was a very memorable experience for me. - **Juan**

The Core Camp event taught us that when people are open to each other, they can connect easily. At first, it was a bit awkward for Inchican and BA students, but as they worked together in activities, they overcame the initial discomfort. This showed that being genuinely open can make interactions enjoyable, even among people with differences. - **Niko**

Our school organized a bonding experience with nearby elementary students in our community. I was able to teach them calligraphy and volleyball and I was able to bond with them. This experience helped me to serve the community through activities I am very interested in and passionate about. - **Jaime**

It was incredibly fulfilling to spend time playing table tennis and participating in the visual arts with students at Inchican Elementary School, highlighting the impact of personalized learning. I'm even more determined now to provide younger children with more educational options because of this experience. - **Liam**

The Core Camp experience was a great opportunity to both learn new skills in terms of creativity and activity, and additionally was able to benefit other communities as well. There were certain activities which I had to be taught before the day the pupils arrived, which greatly improved my skills in those areas. With the pupils, they were excitable and eager to interact, which everyone found endearing. I'm so happy that on both ends, the communities were able to benefit from learning from one another, while also enjoying the socialization of the event. - **Caitlin**

This Friday, we had children from Inchican Elementary School visit the Beacon Academy. Our goal was to communicate and collaborate with them by getting to know them more and work with them through these activities. The activities I chose to do were visual arts and ping pong. The kids were a lot more lovable than I expected and it was really fun getting to know and have fun with them, especially when teaching them these activities. This experience helped me become more giving and determined to work with more kids to help them get a lot more opportunities in the future. - **Rocco**

Core Camp was a very enriching experience for me, both as a student and as a person. Interacting with the kids and teaching them in the art and sports activities was so fun, but it also helped me exercise patience, compassion, and cooperation. It was very fulfilling to see the bonds created between the Infinitum students and the Inchican students throughout the day, and I believe that this day was definitely a day to remember for both parties. - **Solenne**



THE BEACON ACADEMY

EARLY READERS PROGRAM | RECAP

The improvement of literacy and numeracy programs of the public elementary school system is one of the priorities of the Department of Education (DepEd) in making the K to 12 curriculum relevant to today's learners. In response to this need, the Beacon Academy Community Outreach Programme, in coordination with UpServe and under the guidance of Ms. Mailin Locsin recently relaunched The Early Readers Project (ERP).

Using the Early Readers materials, BA volunteers (students, teachers and non-academic staff) will conduct a 3-phase literacy session aimed to develop basic reading comprehension and writing skills for non-to low-level readers of Southville 5 Elementary School. The first phase of the campaign started this week. Here are some photos from the first session:





THE BEACON ACADEMY

BA GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM BRINGS HOME SILVER MEDALS

The first leg of the BSM Volleyball Meet concluded last November 5. It was a whole day of games that was held at the British School Manila. A total of 12 teams participated in the said tournament. The Boys Team, with only 7 players, fought hard against Greenfield Integrated School and Colegio San Agustin.

The Girls Team had a strong finish making it to the championship round. They gave the defending champions, Colegio San Agustin, a challenging time in the finals. The girls were awarded with silver medals. Way to go, Griffins!



YOU'RE INVITED: ONE BEACON IN HARMONY EVENT (NOVEMBER 18)

The Beacon School and the Beacon Academy unite to perform at **One Beacon in Harmony: A Fundraising Concert For Our Shared Future**

"One Beacon in Harmony: A Fundraising Concert for Our Shared Future" is the first in a series of activities aimed at raising funds for additional school facilities at the new Makati campus of The Beacon School.

Among the performers are Beacon scholar and 2022 Steinway Youth Piano Competition First Prize Winner, Alexanderique Lourdes Cruz, and her father, internationally renowned and multi-awarded Filipino Concert Pianist Jovianney Emmanuel Cruz. Guests will also be treated to performances by students Isabeli Mirea Elizalde, Lucas Xavier S. Marzan, Felice L. Santos, Sara Angela Sicam, and Cyanxiel T. Tavares, and faculty members Aissa Guilatco, Raymond Sanga, Jasper John Jimenez, and Tricia Salas. All performers volunteered their invaluable time and talents for the benefit of the One Beacon initiative.

Tickets are on sale at The Beacon School reception.

For inquiries, please visit
<https://www.beaconschool.ph/one-beacon-in-harmony-a-fundraising-concert/>
or email reception@beaconschool.ph

One Beacon in Harmony will take the stage on November 18 at the Turf Room of the Manila Polo Club. See you at the concert!

One Beacon in Harmony
A Fundraising Concert for Our Shared Future

18 Nov 2023
at 5:00 pm
Cocktails
Manila Polo Club
Turf Room

Enjoy an evening of classical music with the Beacon School talents and **Jovianney Emmanuel Cruz**, concert pianist

Alexanderique Lourdes C. Cruz, Lucas Xavier S. Marzan, Felice L. Santos, Cyanxiel T. Tavares, Sara Angela Sicam, Isabeli Mirea A. Elizalde
Aissa Guilatco, Tricia Salas, Raymond Sanga, Jasper John Jimenez

Join us! Tickets at P5,000
Beacon School Reception



THE BEACON ACADEMY

Beacon Academy Communications Protocols AY 2023-2024

Matters relating to....	Department / Email
Students Academic, School Life, Learning Support	Faculty Advisers
IB Diploma Programme Senior High School	Iris Morga / DP Coordinator dpcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph
IB Middle Years Programme Junior High School	Roy Villegas / MYP Coordinator mypcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph
College & Career Counseling	Maricar Pascual / JHS Counselor maricar.pascual@beaconacademy.ph Jesu Salvador / SHS Counselor jesu.salvador@beaconacademy.ph
Mental Health & Well-Being	Din Mendoza / JHS Counselor din.mendoza@beaconacademy.ph Vian Erasmo / SHS Counselor vian.erasmo@beaconacademy.ph
Curriculum, Exams, & Faculty	Ceci Francisco / Dean of Faculty dof@beaconacademy.ph
Student Conduct, Support, & Activities	Lui Morano / Dean of Students dos@beaconacademy.ph
Health, Safety, & Bus Services	Luvim Encinares / Student Services Asst. studentservices@beaconacademy.ph
School Records	Marnell Lagan / School Registrar registrar@beaconacademy.ph
Finance	Lorna Sabino / Finance Manager finance@beaconacademy.ph
School Leadership & Policy Child Protection Committee Committee on Decorum and Investigation	Mark Escaler / Head of School mark.escaler@beaconacademy.ph Victor Villanueva / Deputy Head of School victor.villanueva@beaconacademy.ph



THE BEACON ACADEMY

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AY 2023-2024



THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-2024

Semester 1 JULY 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					
Total No. of Days:							

Semester 2 JANUARY 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1		1	2	3	4	5	6
2	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
4	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
5	28	29	30	31			
Total No. of Days: 20							

AUGUST 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4
1	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
3	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
4	27	28	29	30	31		
Total No. of Days: 19							

FEBRUARY 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9	25	26	27	28	29		
Total No. of days: 21							

SEPTEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
7	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Total No. of days: 20							

MARCH 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14	31						
Total No. of days: 17							

OCTOBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13	29	30	31				
Total No. of Days: 16							

APRIL 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30				
Total No. of days: 20							

NOVEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		
Total No. of days: 19							

MAY 2024							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Total No. of days: 22							

DECEMBER 2023							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						
Total No. of days: 10							

JUNE 24							
Week	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30						
Total No. of days: 4							

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 9 - Jul 4

Jul 5 - Jul 14

Jul 17

Jul 18

Jul 19- Aug 2

Aug 2

Aug 3

Aug 3-4

Aug 21

Aug 28

Sep 25

Oct 9-14

Oct 16

Oct 21 - 27

Oct 30

Nov 1

Nov 2

Nov 8

Nov 27

Dec 8

Dec 16 - Jan 3

Jan 4

Jan 20-26

Jan 29

Feb 3

Feb 10

Feb 25

Feb TBA

Mar 11-12

Mar 13

Mar 28 -31

Apr 1

Apr 9

Apr 10

Apr 24-May 17

Apr TBA

May 1

May TBA

May TBA

Jun 7

Campus Break

BA Summer Program

BA Leadership & Management Returns

BA New Faculty Orientation

All Faculty In-Service

Parent and New Student Orientation

Start of Quarter 1

Foundation Days

Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day

Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Barangay & SK Elections

Special Non-Working Day: All Saints' Day

Special Non-Working Day: All Souls' Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Bonifacio Day

Special Non-Working Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter 3

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Binan Day

Chinese New Year

People Power Anniversary

National Achievement Test (Grade 12)

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 4

No Classes: Holy Week

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan

Eid al-Fitr (TBC)

IB Diploma Examinations 2024

National Achievement Test (Grade 10)

Regular Holiday: Labor Day

National Career Assessment Evaluation (Grade 9 & 10)

Graduation Day; Last Day of School

Number of Class Days in the 1st Quarter: 44 9 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 2nd Quarter: 40 9 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter: 47 10 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter: 57 13 Weeks
 Total Number of Class Days: **188**