



University of Perpetual Help System Laguna

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International and External Affairs Office

A Culminating Activity for the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) Biñan *Performing Arts Theatre, UPHSL* June 30, 2023

A Culminating Activity for the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) Biñan took place on Friday, June 30, 2023, following a two-day seminar on June 28 and 29 at the University of Perpetual Help System Laguna (UPHSL) Performing Arts Theater. This event was made possible through a partnership between UPHSL and the City of Biñan Public Employment Service Office (PESO), spearheaded by SPES President Jecco Arquiza. The aforementioned event was attended by Dr. Josefa G. Carrillo, the university's Director for International and External Affairs, who warmly greeted and welcomed the PESO beneficiaries. Also present were Mr. Romualdo A. Garcia, the City PESO Officer, Dir. Guido R. Recio from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Provincial Office in Laguna, and Ms. Lourdes Dimaguila, the Gender and Development Officer, representing her husband, Biñan City Mayor Arman Dimaguila.

The Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) beneficiaries from every barangay in Biñan City actively participated in a range of engaging activities during the culminating event. One of the highlights was a thrilling recycled art materials contest, which brought out the creative ingenuity of the different barangays. Brgy. Mamlasan emerged victorious, capturing the first-place prize with their exceptional recycled artwork. Their masterpiece featured an innovative design that utilized plastic bottles as the foundation for chairs and tables. Additionally, they incorporated elements such as plastic straws and used papers, which were skillfully painted with Van Gogh's renowned masterpiece, "Starry Night." The intricate and environmentally conscious creation truly captivated the judges and spectators alike. Taking the second-place spot was Brgy. Malaban, who impressed everyone with their remarkable lampshade-inspired artwork. They employed an assortment of plastic spoons in their design, showcasing their resourcefulness and commitment to repurposing materials. The result was a visually striking and sustainable piece that showcased the artistic abilities of the participants.

Meanwhile, Brgy. Soro-Soro showcased their talent for upcycling by creating a stunning gown made from white rugs and other repurposed materials. Their entry exemplified the fusion of creativity and sustainability, earning them recognition for their innovative use of materials. The diverse range of artworks presented by the barangays in the recycled art materials contest highlighted not only their artistic skills but also their commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable practices. These outstanding creations served as a testament to the power of imagination and resourcefulness in transforming everyday materials into works of art. Three exceptional barangays, Brgy. Loma, Brgy. Langkiwa, and Brgy. San Vicente, won the prestigious "Best in Video Campaign Presentation" award, showcasing their unique attributes, initiatives, and vibrant spirit.

Another commendation was given to Brgy. Malaban, Brgy. San Francisco, and Brgy. Canlalay for their outstanding efforts in providing enriching extra-curricular activities to SPES beneficiaries. Their dedication and innovation highlight their commitment to youth welfare and development. These awards celebrate the unwavering dedication of these barangays, inspiring others to strive for excellence and make a positive impact on individuals and society as a whole. This activity would not be possible without the collaboration in support of the UPHSL, by providing the Performing Arts Theater as the venue for this three-day event.

