

Shepherd of the Hills Newsletter

Issue 4

March- June 2009

Concert for Life

On May 16th, Shepherd of the Hills put on an event entitled "Concert for Life". This event served to showcase the talents of SOTH's musically inclined children, raise awareness about SOTH, and also to raise funds. This event would not have been possible had it not been for the generous donations of our sponsors. SOTH was able to hold the "Concert for Life" in one of Manila's finest hotels, The Heritage, as the hotel's owner, Mr Eddie Yeo generously offered to donate the venue. The Heritage Hotel also provided food for staff and volunteers on the day of the concert. Johnny John Santos and JJS Entertainment provided the lighting and sound system for the event, as well as a small orchestra to perform during the concert. Mr Noel Cimatu of Contour Visual Company donated printing services for several thousand SOTH brochures to be handed out at the event and in the future.

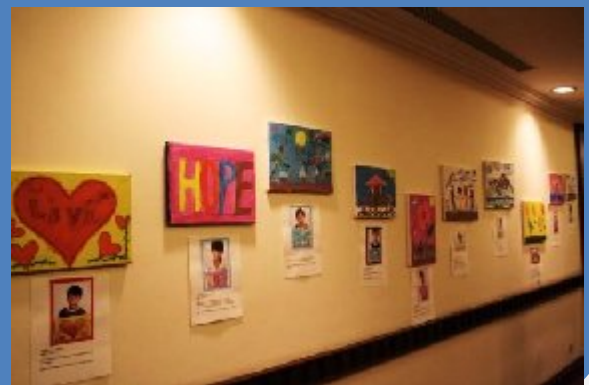
Other sponsors and donors Included Mr Sam Liuson and Concept One, Gluta Max

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Watch: Nathan and Ruth Mejica sing "The Prayer"
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRd4Y2Io2rU>



Company, Mr Dong Galang and Container Bridge Philippines, Pick a Chef, Toby's, Canon, Krispy Kreme, National Underwriters, and The U! Foundation. A film crew from CBN Asia arrived at the concert as well to shoot footage of the event.

The evening's program included musical performances by an array of well-known Filipino musicians, as well as a magic show and a hand mime performance. Jaque Oda and Jourdan Sebastian were the hosts and emcees for the night. The line up of artists included magician JB Dela Cruz, Drae Ybanez, Philippine Idol finalist, rising young pop stars Krissy and Ericka Villangco and Emman Camcam, as well as Barbie Almabis, Kitchie Nadal, Acel van Ommen, and Nyoy Volante. Of course, the stars of the show were the Shepherd of the Hills musicians! The SOTH band performed "Misson Impossible". "Kabataan Pinoy", and "Final Countdown", as well as a rendition of "Faith Like a Child" together with Drae Ybanez. Many of the younger SOTH kids also performed, singing the classic "I Believe I Can Fly".

The children's performances were definitely the most special portions of the evening. Some audience members were in tears as they listened, and at the end of each song, they applauded loudly- even louder than they had applauded earlier for some of the celebrity artists! Another highlight of the evening was a performance by Nathan and Ruth Mejica, SOTH's directors, singing the classic duet "The Prayer".

Over 500 people attended SOTH's concert for life, squeezing into The Heritage Hotel's artist ballroom until there was only standing room left. In addition to enjoying the evening's musical performances, the guests heard a short message from SOTH's director Nathan Mejica, as well as an appeal for sponsorships from SOTH's ambadress Christine Bersola-Babao. Those in attendance seemed to be impressed with not only the caliber of the event, but by the children of SOTH. As a result of the concert, SOTH gained much publicity as well as several new supporters. We give all the glory to God!

Missions Teams

Shepherd of the Hills has been extremely blessed to have four international missions teams visit SOTH over the past five Months. March brought a team from Missions Made Possible headed by **Tim and Pam Beadell**. The MMP team visited and ministered in both Project Four and Zambales. Throughout their trip, MMP members partnered with SOTH kids and staff to hold many community outreaches, handing out eyeglasses, hygiene items, and other gifts.

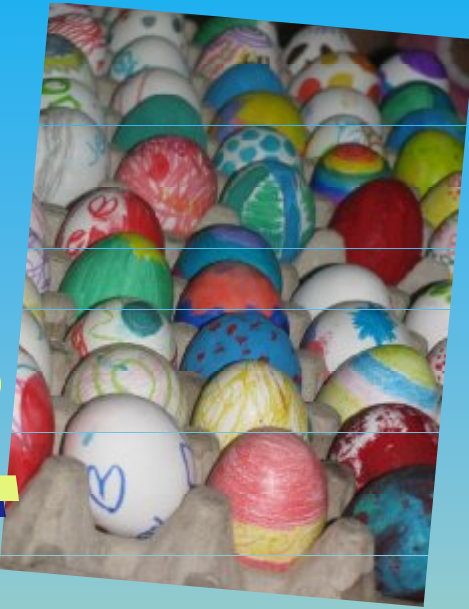


In May, we were blessed to receive a visit from Pastor Ruth Angeles and a team from Los Angeles, California. Ruth's team enjoyed spending time with everyone at SOTH, and even treated the kids and staff of SOTH Manila to a relaxing day.

Also in the month of May, **Phil Hagel** led a team of nine from Minnesota. Phil's team accomplished several renovation projects in Zambales, including painting the children's houses. The team spent a lot of time bonding with the children over art and music, and participated in several feeding outreaches. Big thanks to Angie for facilitating the mission trip.



E A S T E R 2 0 0 9



Finally, a team of five youth from Texas spent the first two weeks of June at SOTH, constructing a new building on the SOTH Zambales campus. The Texans also blessed the older teens by leading bible studies every night on relevant topics. Shepherd is very blessed to have many wonderful friends around the globe and we look forward to even more new partners and visitors over the rest of the year.



Easter Sunday at SOTH

On the Saturday night before Easter Sunday, some of the older children and staff stayed up late boiling eggs and decorating them for an Easter egg hunt. Early on Sunday Morning, the children and staff of SOTH Zambales gathered together for an open-air sunrise worship service. All the children's voices joined together worshipping the risen Savior as they watched the sun rise over the mountains. After a short message and prayer time, the kids began hunting for the eggs the teens had hidden that morning while it was still dark. The kids enjoyed running all over the campus, searching for the hidden treasures before eating them for breakfast!

Shepherd of the Hills' work is supported by individuals, churches, companies, & organizations, as well as in partnership with:



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Children's Paper Clay Art work:



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Attention SOTH Donors:

Due to changes within the system of our bank here in the Philippines, SOTH has been issued a new SWIFT code: PABIPHMM. Please note the change and use this number when wiring or transferring funds!

Website:

Shepherd of the Hills has a brand new Website! Due to a generous gift from a friend in the US, we have an entirely redesigned and functional space in the cyberworld for all our supporters to find more information and updates on SOTH.

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Venise and Karim with SOTH directors Nathan and Ruth Mejica and daughter Richlyd wearing native Filipino attire.

In the beginning of the year, SOTH was blessed by a visit from Venise Lewis, National PACE association director of professional and organizational development., and her husband Karim. Venise is an avid supporter of SOTH, gathering and donating many much needed items for the children and staff. SOTH would like to extend our thanks to Venise and Karim for their love and compassion towards the children of SOTH.

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