



Newsletter

Pan y Amor Association



January

Nº 1 - 2020

¡Happy New Year, 2020!

On leaving for vacation last Christmas, we found we had run out of time to produce our last newsletter, informing you on the end of year activities for 2019; so here goes: We also want to let you know that this is the beginning of our 21st year as a mission and we have you all to thank for your wonderful support and belief in our mission, during these past years.



Fourth Entrepreneurs Fair 2019

This is the fourth year that as part of their technical career training, our students from 7th through 11th grades hold their “Entrepreneurs Fair”. During several months of the year, 24 groups of students work on choosing a business, deciding on the product they want to produce, work on the concept, pricing, production and marketing, to then offer their item at the fair. For the last few years the fair has been held at the school due to the social political situation; in previous years permission was asked for them to be allowed to sell their product at one of the local shopping centers. The title of the event last year was “Creating my own business”.

During the fair the students promote their item, using their public relations skills, they wrote the client a receipt, which they handed over to the cashier of their group and at the end they had to make sure everything squared out. After the fair they go over their project with their teachers to find out how their business did.



Seventh grade with their project “Notebooks and foamy decorations”



If you are going to market a food product, you need hygiene - 8th grade



Hair bands and nylon bracelets

*“Big opportunities are born from having taken advantage of small ones”
- Bill Gates*

Accounting Competition

During the month of November our accounting students from 8th through 11th grade, were invited to form groups and hold an accounting competition. The groups were named after authors of accounting books, such as Andres Narvaez, Elias Lara, Ralph Polimeni and Alvaro Romero, ending up the winner the Elias Lara group.

During the competition the questions were on concepts, the understanding of accounting language, and procedures. All the students were winners with refreshments at the end of the competition. Our students always love a good competition!!



Solving an exercise in 6 min



The Elías Lara Group (Winner)

End of year Nativity Play

As in past years, we never miss the opportunity to celebrate the Birth of Our Lord, and as in every occasion, the students out did themselves in their acting, and our teachers and parents in putting together their outfits. It was a wonderful moment, reminding us of the Christmas Season full of peace, love and faith.



Preschool girls sang "Merry Christmas"



Presentation of the Three Wise Men and "Una linda Pastorcita"

Celebrating the “Purisima”

Another event which never escapes our attention was the school Purisima. Nine days of prayer to the Virgin, which were carried out in the classrooms before a little altar set up by the students and their teacher. On the last day, the “Griteria” was celebrated, with all the school gathered before a large, beautiful altar set up by our wonderful in house artist, Ramirito; who is also famous for the most beautiful poster boards each month of the school year, the two murals which decorate our school walls, the scenery for plays, graduations etc.; he also loves to interact with the students.

This year our petitions to the Virgin concentrated on Peace and Prosperity for Nicaragua.



Beautiful altar honoring the Virgin María

ANDECU (A series of workshops to help women become better entrepreneurs).

ANDECU invited the mothers of our students to a series of 12 workshops (total of 80 hours) to help them to better manage their small businesses, increase their sales and become more profitable. Sadly not a lot of mothers signed up, however those who did were well satisfied with the workshops. They ended up with a graduation ceremony during which delicious goodies were served and much fun and laughter was had.

¡Thank you ANDECU for this great opportunity!



Mothers with their certificates



First day of the workshops

Project for Social Impact

During all 2019 several members of the school participated in a project where 18 Non Profit Organizations got together at regular periods during the year to hone in on, 1. Strategic planning, 2. Management of projects 3. Communication and Marketing, 4. fund raising and positioning (networking) in their society. Towards the end of the year there was a competition to which of the 18 Non Profit organizations could present the best project. Sadly Pan y Amor could not finish this last challenge due to our project leader leaving on maternity leave, however we were complimented for having very bright members on our staff.

This very important project was organized and financed by ACOEN, ANDECU, the Resource Foundation and the Segal Family Foundation. Thank you for bringing together all these organizations and helping them improve many of their management skills.



Members of the 18 Non Profit Organizations



ACOEN visit the Pan y Amor school

A play titled “Our Historic Legacy”

You may remember that in our September newsletter we told you how the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation COSUDE and COTUCPROMA contracted a local theatre group to teach our third through sixth graders “the Culture of Peace”, through dance, theatre and art.

Well at the end of the year, 42 of our students gave the performance of their lives at the Alliance François center, who also helped finance the event along with the Cooperación Suiza Americana, the local Spanish Cultural Center, and COTUPROMA.

The different acts represented the struggle for children’s rights (although good local laws exist), the necessity to forgive, need for peace, and the exhaustion of a generation due to the apathy and lack of care for this cause.

We are very much hoping that this wonderful program may be duplicated again this year. We can never thank the organizers, who made this possible, enough for this wonderful experience.



Some images of the presentation

2019 Graduation Ceremony

Once again our local parish church lent us their auditorium for a day of promotions. During the morning hours our III level preschoolers and our Sixth graders held their ceremony of passing up to their next grade.

During the Afternoon our Graduates and our Technical scholars held their ceremony. As always the teachers and parents dressed up and were proud of their young students.

This year (2019) due to the increasing unemployment and the ever increasing costs, the school decided that only the Graduates would wear caps and gowns while the rest would wear their uniforms, with an identifying academic stole, each grade a different color.

It was generally a very happy, successful day with many medals being awarded for excellence, discipline and effort.

We were especially happy to see a good turnout of Board members and friends of the Pan y Amor School who came to cheer the students on in their successes.



6th grade promotion



11th grade high school graduates



Preschool promotion



Some members of our donors



12th grade students receive their technical career certification (Accounting and programming technicians)

We thank all sponsors and donors (Businesses, Associations, Foundations and Private Donors). Below are a few of the logos of some of our sponsors and donors:



Contact information



Montoya's statue 2 1/2 c. east. Colony Mántica N° 20, Managua,
 Nicaragua
 Phone numbers: 2268-7334 / 2268-0695
 panyamor@panyamor.org.ni