

# PEARL Christmas 2018

Sunday, 09 December 2018

14<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium, CHBC, St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City

By: Gerald B. Natanauan, MD

The annual Christmas party of People empowerment for arthritis and lupus (PEARL) was held at the 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium, CHBC, St. Luke's Medical Center (SLMC), Quezon City on Sunday morning 09 December 2018. This traditional get-together was organized by Rheumatology Educational Trust Foundation, Inc (RETFI) in partnership with University of Santo Tomas and SLMC Rheumatology.

The activity was introduced with a warm up exercise "Christmas Zumba" which set the mood, followed by an opening prayer in thanksgiving for another year of success & unending support for PEARL, LUISA and other projects of RETFI. This was followed by remarkable performances of Ms. Girlie Dumlao and Kathleen League through a soulful song "Sa Araw Ng Pasko". A captivating dance number "Kiss Me" by Ms. Sherylou Sison came afterwards.

The first game 'musical chairs' gave the participants a thrill. Another two intermission numbers came next with the beautiful performances by Ms. Daisy Cabugao & Mr. Virgilio Ganigan with their rendition of "Sana Ngayong Pasko" and an upbeat dance number by the Queen Bees "All I Want For Christmas Is You". Mr. Jamier Navarro and Sofia Nicole Lopez also showcased their talents through a song performance. The second game was the all-time favorite 'Pinoy Henyo' where two groups vied to guess through sign language.



The participants doing the Christmas Zumba

The half day activity was not complete without showcasing the unique talent of Ms. Zeny Estrada with her signature rap. A song number by Keon Driz followed thereafter.



A surprise heartfelt song performance by mother & daughter, Ms. Karen and Juliana Mercado.

The over-all program was spearheaded by Rheumatology fellows from SLMC and USTH, with master of ceremonies Dr. Nicolo Abadillo, while other fellows Drs. Mika Frio, Bethlehem Mula, Kaye Chua, Brigitte Yu, Mardi Dañez, Dominic Dela Cruz, Annabel Yap, Francisco Cuenco, Richelle Bayson, Rodeo Navarroza and Gerald Natanauan worked busily at their posts, all



under the supervision of UST Rheumatology chief Dr. Sandra Navarra.

The activity climaxed with a song from Rheumatology fellows entitled "Christmas In Our Hearts". The participants thoroughly enjoyed the half-day activity filled with fun & excitement.



The dance group "Queen Bees" performed 'All I Want For Christmas'.



PEARL group pose by end of the program

The year 2018 is about to end but the people who attended the party will treasure in their hearts the joy, camaraderie and friendships this holiday occasion is brings every year.

As always, thank you to the staff who put their invaluable support for this event....

Robelle, Louie, Haydee, Grace, Irene, Gile, Romelie and Frances with Marlon, Ace, Carlo and Barry.



The PEARL staff members in a supposedly 'candid' photo.

A total 122 participants attended the Christmas PEARL, Get Together and Thanksgiving 2018. The supporters and advocates of this organization look forward to PEARL 2019.

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"In a Community of Caring, we believe the quality of caring we give to our parents, to our brothers and sisters, to our families, to our friends and neighbors, and to the poor and the powerless endows a life, a community with respect, hope and HAPPINESS."

- Eunice Kennedy Shriver