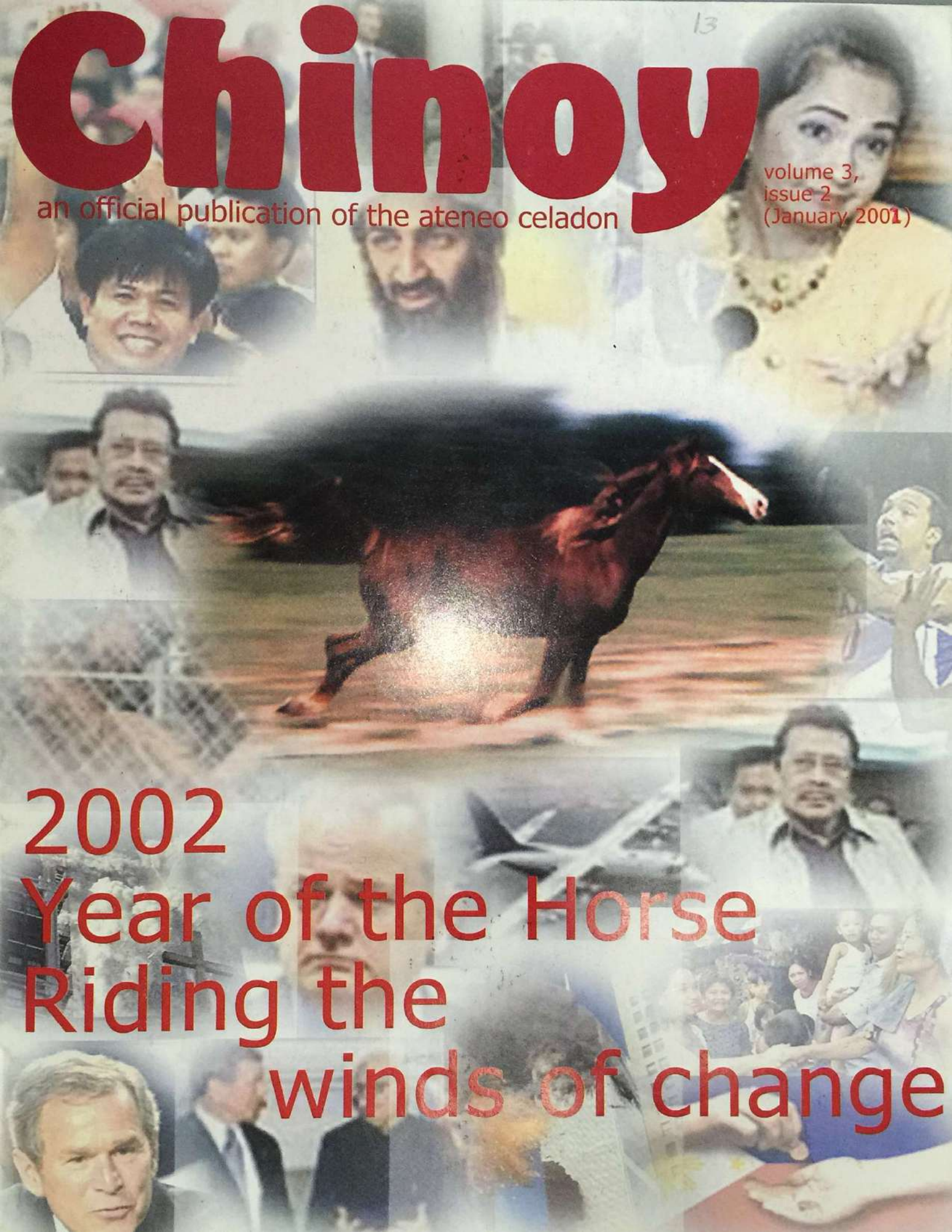


# Chinoy

an official publication of the ateneo celadon

13  
volume 3,  
issue 2  
(January 2001)



2002  
Year of the Horse  
Riding the  
winds of change



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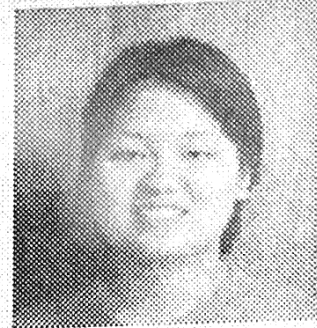
# Facing A New Year

**G**ong Xi Fa Cai! Somehow the greeting longer re-sounds with great meaning or impact as it did before. Yet with that greeting comes a wish for happiness and prosperity to all. A wish that has been overshadowed by the rush and frenzy of the season.

In entering the first few weeks of 2002, some wonder if the "newness" of the year will really bring in change as well. We entered 2001 with perhaps the same excitement and enthusiasm as we do every year. Yet it has brought tragedies and disappointments that most of us never expected, nor wanted. Some events even stopping the regular pace of things, serving as wake-up calls to world changing before our eyes.

Yet it is still with great hope that I look at this year to be better than the past. None of us really know what it will bring us. All we have are sincere hopes and modest expectations. It seems to be the same as last year, yet the difference lies in *this* new year ahead of us. Twelve full months of working, living and changing the world. That, for now, is enough. Once again, allow me to greet you, *Gong Xi Fa Cai! Xin Nien Kuai Le!* May we all have a wonderful new year. ☺

natalie tarce, editor-in-chief



"None of us really know what it will bring us. Yet it is still with great hope that I look at this year to be better than the past."

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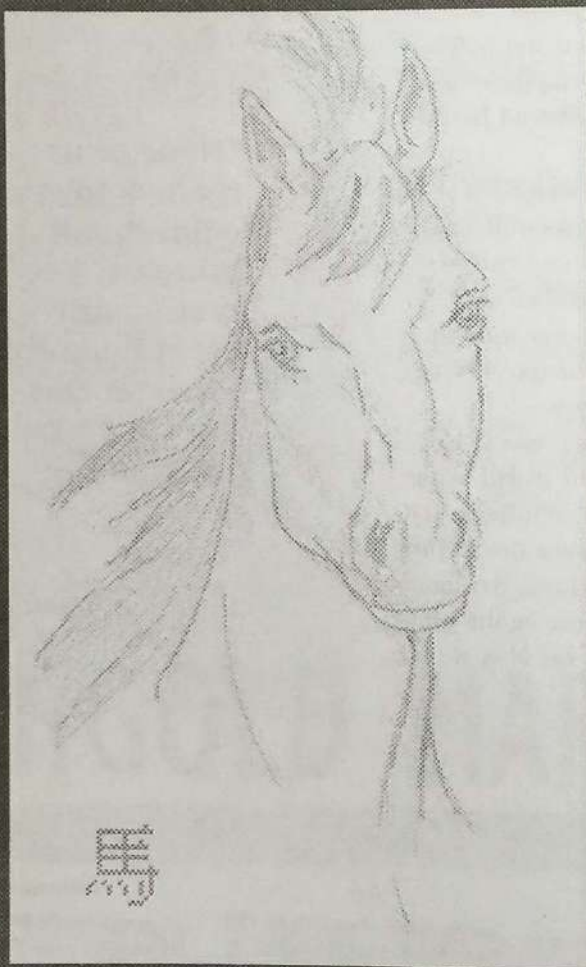
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Article contributions are welcome. See page 24 for details.

# No Horsing Around: Galloping

By Jules Ang  
Art by Sheryl Lim



As the world welcomes the year 2002, many hopes and expectations are pegged upon the arrival of a New Year. Incidentally, Chinese from all over also

welcome a new beginning. As the Snake slithers away, the Horse gallops into reign. This 2002, the Year of the Horse officially begins on the twelfth of February, which is equivalent to the first of January on the Chinese calendar. It is associated with the element of Fire and thus notorious for either galloping towards success or to a tragic downfall.

## Great expectations

The seventh of the twelve earth branches is that of the Horse branch (1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990), called *Wu* in Chinese. The *Wu* branch chiefly symbolizes perception and speed. To a Horse, everyday is an adventure of a lifetime. Because of this, the year can either be disastrous or wonderful. A galloping horse either goes on to win, or falls and does not recover. To look back at previous years of the Horse, 1918 saw the end of the First World War, the beginning of building a new world. In 1930, the start of the Great Depression became a time of decline, especially for the world economy.

Thus, many adventures are to be expected in the New Year and playing in this mighty creature's terrain many questions are to come up. Should we need to speed up or slow down our own journey? Will it be a fruitful or a bittersweet one? Will more obstacles come our way?

According to *Feng Shui* expert and fortuneteller Yan Yong Tai, the Year of the Horse for the Philippines will be better than



# into the Year of the Horse

what had just passed.

However, calamities, specifically fires and water tragedies are again to be expected since 2002 is a Water Horse year. As mentioned earlier, the Horse is close to the element Fire and incidentally in 2002, picks up the element Water. Mixing the two together can return either favorable or negative results.

Adding up the digits of the year (that is  $2+0+0+2$ ) summates to 4, which, according to another Feng Shui expert Robert Adan, is a bad number since it represents death or *Xi* in Chinese. However, the Horse is also known for its liveliness, vigor and vivacity and thus will counteract the "death" of the year. Tragedies will be less in the Year of the Horse. However, beware of the month of September for sea tragedies are notorious in this month.

## The lucky ones

In the business world, good luck will be fall on the food and beverage industry. However, big businesses

will not witness good returns this year. "Starting a business needs commitment." Opines Mr. Yan. However, the *Wu* individual, though as competitive as he may seem, may not last in the long run. "If he gets bored with something, then he will definitely leave it hanging by itself and continue on with his 'adventure.'" Moreover, impulsivity, which is one of the *Wu* person's basic personality traits, is definitely a hindrance in making a successful business. However, there are always exceptions to the rule. Mr. Adan says that small businesses will sprout this year. The year will also be kind to the telecommunications, computer, publishing, pharmacy, and garments and fashion industries.

Paul Darby, Chinese Astrologer and Feng Shui doctor based in the United Kingdom, writes that from the twelve Chinese animals in the zodiac, those born in the year of the Rat (1960, 1972, 1984) will be lucky in the Horse's year. The Oxen

(1961, 1973, 1985) will also "make steady progress upwards", especially with one's career. Goats (1967, 1979, 1991) will do well also. Monkeys (1968, 1980, 1992) will get "unexpected offers, which they would never have even considered before." Dogs (1970, 1982, 1994) also have a great time ahead, especially with their career and personal life. It is also a good year for marriage or having a baby for the Tiger (1962, 1974, 1986).

Mr. Yan shares that the Year of the Horse will definitely be a good one for finding love, be it in the wrong place or otherwise. Mr. Adan describes 2002 as also a "Hit and Run" year in romance. Because the Horse lacks staying power, if he gets bored with a relationship, he is most likely to move on and leave his heartbroken partner.

## 'I act'

Theodora Lau author of "The Chinese Horoscopes Guide to Relationships" writes that a person from

2002 can either be disastrous or wonderful. A galloping horse either goes on to win, or falls and does not recover.



## feature story

the Horse branch is cheerful, lively, and high-spirited. He is known to be the most adventurous of the twelve earth branches and his key phrase is 'I act.' He does not like a lot of planning and soul-searching, but is often too hurried and impulsive. He is brave, bold and self-reliant and views the world as his playground. A restless soul, he tends to look for excitement; yet although he can play several games at the same time, but is unlikely to last in the long run. Mobility and outdoor activities seem to bring out the best in his type and he is most relaxed when he is exerting himself in his favorite sport or hobby. If the Horse is the name, then vivacity will surely be the game.

Since speed is one of his chief personality traits, a member of the Horse or *Wu* branch makes up his mind rather quickly and for him, first impressions usually stick. Thus leaving little time to reflect thoroughly on important matters. Suspense, intrigue, and other intricacies do not appeal to him for he prefers colleagues to be curt, direct, and proceed quickly to the point.

If one was born on the year of the Horse, then one is compatible either with a Tiger, a Sheep, or a Boar. However, a partner belonging to the dog branch beats

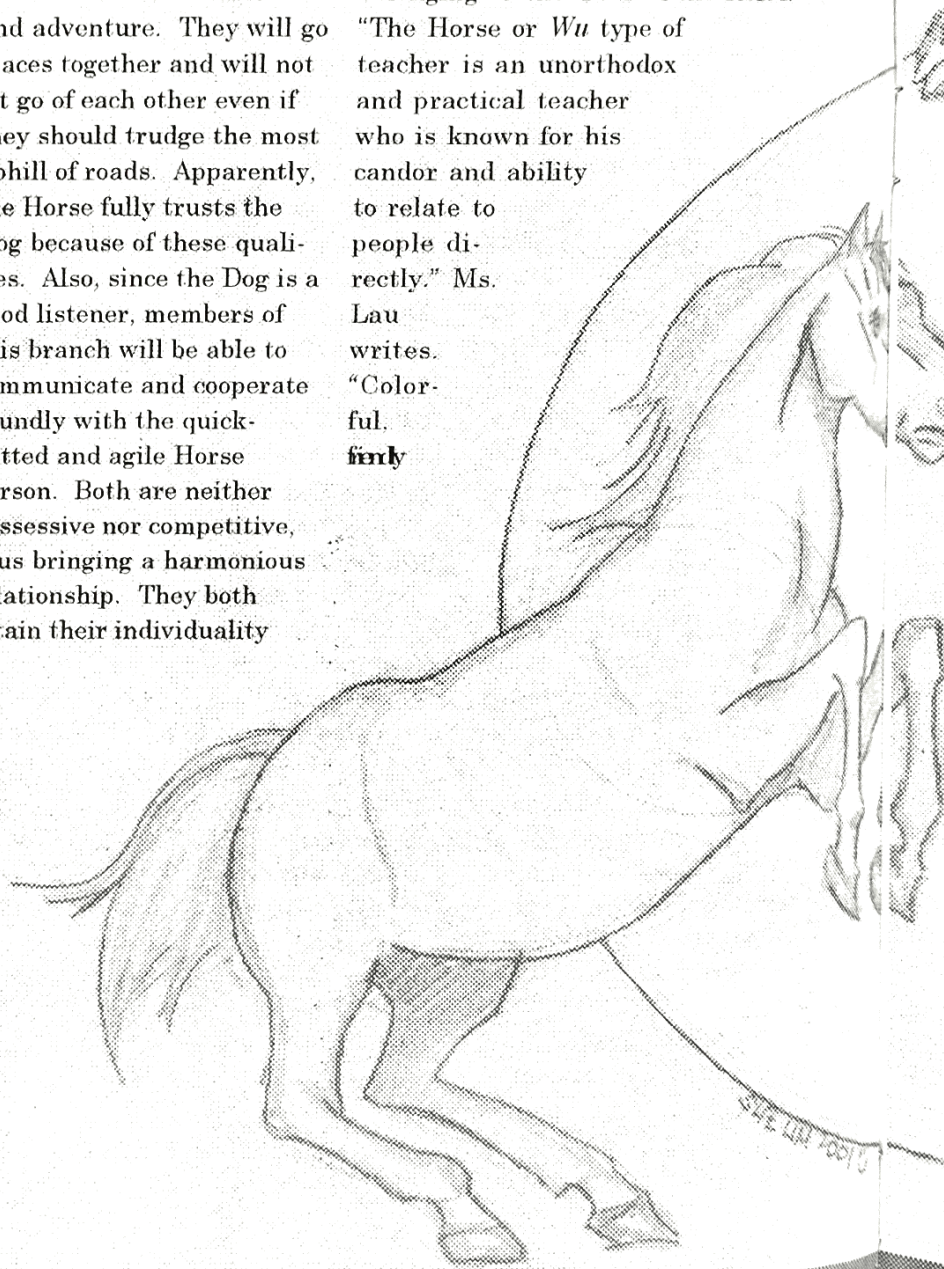
all three of them. The Dog will be recessive to the Horse's likes and would keep pace with him. The Horse finds the Dog a very loyal partner not just in love but as well as in business and adventure. They will go places together and will not let go of each other even if they should trudge the most uphill of roads. Apparently, the Horse fully trusts the Dog because of these qualities. Also, since the Dog is a good listener, members of this branch will be able to communicate and cooperate soundly with the quick-witted and agile Horse person. Both are neither possessive nor competitive, thus bringing a harmonious relationship. They both retain their individuality

while establishing deep romance with each other.

### The Wu Teacher

This might be helpful to students, Chinoys or otherwise, who have teachers belonging to the Year of the Horse.

"The Horse or *Wu* type of teacher is an unorthodox and practical teacher who is known for his candor and ability to relate to people directly." Ms. Lau writes. "Colorful, firmly



The teacher born on the Year of the Horse is unorthodox and known for his candor and ability to relate to people.



Ms. Lau writes. "Colorful, friendly and self-assured, he may use visual aids, field trips and hands-on opportunities to teach. He draws students towards a common objective with his unconventional wisdom and realistic outlook.

Self-starters, adventurous and those gifted with an exploring mind like his own will be favorable to a teacher born on the Year of the Horse. He is the type to encourage students to experiment and try new methods, aware the value of actual experience. Domineering, upfront, frank, impatient and scornful of weaknesses in others, he will still be honest and honorable and will never ask anything of others that he himself cannot perform or achieve. Students must never be intimidated by the dominant and straight-to-the-point style because he does not deliberately want to hurt or humiliate anyone. He just wants to get his message to his students quickly.

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### Just predictions

Of course, these are but predictions as to how we would expect the upcoming Chinese lunar year. *Feng Shui* is not there to dictate what we should do; rather it cautions us

that some things might not be worth doing.

Whether the Horse is a lucky lunar year or otherwise, every one is responsible in molding his or her own destiny. No matter what earth branch we belong to, we are still the masters of our own fate. The foreshadowings of *Feng Shui*, true or false they may be, must and *will* not dictate how we should live our lives. It is simply a vanguard against the uncertainties that the future might strike.

It is believed that each year, the nature and characteristics of each branch of the zodiac affect many aspects of daily living. With the Horse galloping towards our present, it is hoped that we acquire many of its good traits and learn to work around its unappealing ones. May the Horse's vivacity lead us to greater achievements. May its' adventurous spirit push us to discover more ways to improve ourselves. And may we learn to move straight ahead and never allow obstacles to block our mad dash the finish line. Have a wonderful New Year! Kong Hei Fat Choi!



odex and practical  
people directly.

## feature story

In April 14 of 1966, a female Buddhist monk named Master Cheng Yen grew tired of the suffering in her area of Haulien, Taiwan. She felt she had to do something to concretely help the condition of poverty other than reflection and prayer. Thus, she formed a group called the Tzu Chi Merits Society. It is composed of 30 members who set daily aside US\$0.50 to establish a charity fund for the poor. From these simple beginnings and that very same desire to be of service to the poor bore the non-profit organization known as the Tzu Chi Foundation. For more than three decades, the Tzu Chi Foundation has given its heart to alleviating the condition of poverty through charitable works, contributions to hospitals, building schools and instilling noble values and principles. With its four-fold mission of charity, medicine, education and culture, the Tzu Chi Foundation has expanded internationally reaching as far as the United States, England, New Zealand as well as other parts of Asia like Thailand and the Philippines.

In 1997, the Siao family brought the Tzu Chi Foundation and its tradition of service to the Philippines. The foundation, whose main office is in Quezon City, is divided into two groups: the adults, who are mostly in charge of networking of people, managing funds and creating the projects, and the Tzu Chi Youth. Composed of members between 16 and 25 years of age and acting as a support team for the adults, the Tzu Chi Youth are responsible for the labor-intensive aspects and volunteer work in the projects. Regarding the tasks of the youth, Jonas Ng (III Philo) calls it "working in our own little way". However, upon closer scrutiny, the impact of the entire process and the efforts exerted by the Tzu Chi Youth can hardly be termed as such.



# Tzu Chi: Service

## Kids with an attitude

For the Tzu Chi Youth, the event that formally orients them to the foundation is the Summer Camp. As of the present, there have been a total of five such camps, the most recent held last May in Tagaytay, Cavite.

The event involves several types of activities ranging from games, reflections, story telling and the teaching of the foremost values for the youth. According to Michael Siao, a member of the founding family, "We do not try to convert them to Buddhism, but instead try to inspire the youth. We encourage them to take in the two foremost values of honoring their parents (filial piety) and doing good." Thus, the Tzu Chi Youth are not rushed into helping the poor blindly. Although such service is noble in itself, it is also of primary importance to make each person understand the value of service. The major portion of the lessons learned involves being grateful for one's blessings and the desire to make a change for the better. Michael adds, "Life is not permanent, it's better to do something now, both to ourselves and for others."

Over the years, the camp has taught the youth well. Nikki Ang (III Meco) has been to the camp twice and says, "There are fun times and crying times. There are many lessons about life that you hear of somewhere that [don't





# Without Question

by Marty Cuyegkeng

register] at first, but there they become real." It is the value of the lessons learned in camp that prompts Jonas, who was part of the programs committee for this year's camp, to say, "There is a need to show the young people the way and to open their eyes."

## Simple but significant

The adults in the Tzu Chi Foundation play an equally big role in creating the charitable projects for the poor. However, implementation of these projects falls on the shoulders of the Tzu Chi Youth.

One of these is visiting the government owned East Avenue Medical Center. The Tzu Chi Foundation coordinates with the doctors to see which patients are most in need yet are unable to afford medicine. However aside from medical needs, the patients have other needs—emotional and spiritual—which the Tzu Chi Youth have decided to focus their efforts on.

Every first Sunday, they break into teams and visit these patients, talking, singing, and keeping them company. Nikki narrates, "Many of them have been there for a long time and are homesick." The volunteers also visit elders at Bahay Pag-ibig, a home for abandoned elderly in Pampanga. While the patients do not expect much from these volunteers, they are still overjoyed from these visits. "One time we had a stuffed toy campaign and we gave it to one of the adult patients and she cried. Even if she was old it meant a lot." She adds. Indeed, simple things can go a long way.

Other than touching the lives of the patients, the youth volunteers themselves are affected as well. "When we ask them (the adults) to sing, they are out of tune, but are happy and it makes me happy too," Nikki says. "I was afraid before of adults, but now I see the person in every person." Jonas, meanwhile, calls the experience, "Very grounding. It takes you out of yourself and makes you not self-centered." He says.

Of all the projects that the foundation has, the biggest are the medical missions that usually happen 4 times a year, but for the year 2001, the most recent one in Marikina last November 25 was already the eighth. In



feature story

these missions, 18-wheeler trucks travel with a team of doctors, the best medicines and the youth volunteers to either a calamity-stricken area or a place where medical care is needed. They set-up make-shift tents and the doctors perform all kinds of health care ranging from dental, optal, pediatric or even minor or sometimes major surgery. The medical care is free and open to all with the service provided as long as someone is in need and there are supplies. According to Michael, one of the doctors named Dr. Ramon Lao performing an operation on a boy past the work hours of the mission was quoted, "This is my last opportunity to help. If I spend another hour, I could change a lifetime."

Thousands of people come to avail of these services and the tasks given the youth are taking care of registration, facilitating the flow of patients, preparing food and keeping the people waiting occupied. As grueling and unrecognized as the task may be, the Tzu Chi Youth believes that every project requires much of their support, to ensure the success of that event. For them, there is only one standard of success – the number of people that they are able to help.

Making a difference

The projects mentioned above are but a few of those that the Tzu Chi Youth are



photos courtesy of Tzu Chi Philippines

involved in. Aside from East Avenue Medical Center, they also visit patients in the Chinese General Hospital and the Mandaluyong Mental Hospital, as well as patients in the Bethany Orphanage and Rondalla on Wheels.

There have also been 30 medical missions since they began in 1997 and have reached as far as General Santos City in Mindanao. The numbers will not be able to speak enough of the help the foundation has given the Filipinos. Michael says, "Tzu Chi is run by inspiration." This inspiration can be traced in the words of Jonas, "If you're looking to make a difference, this is the best opportunity." Through their contributions, the Tzu Chi Youth are not just a support team but also an integral part of the success of this foundation. Nikki describes it aptly: "I see a group of people who worked so well because they were all striving for (the same purpose of) spreading love." ●

"Tzu Chi is run by inspiration."





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# coa2002

COUNCIL OF ORGANIZATIONS OF THE ATENEO

COA AWARDS nominations January 9-25 : Kostka Extension



It's a New Year once again and Thomson wonders what people hope for this 2002. Here are some of the answers that he got...

# Thomson's

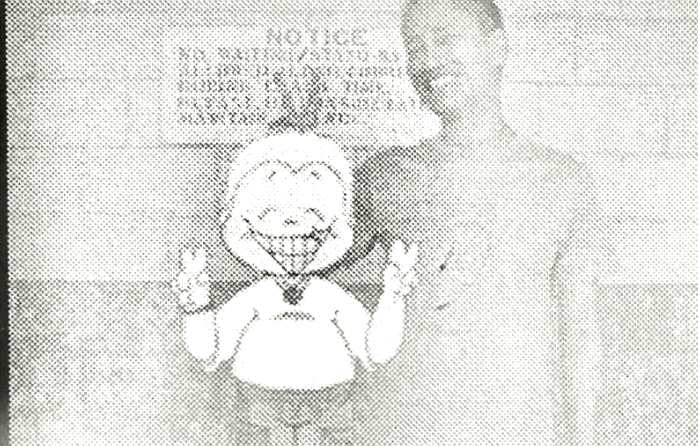
Ate Amy: "Kapayapaan para masaya ang lahat."



Ate Alma: "Sana maging masaya ang lahat."



Danton Remoto: "Peace and happiness for everyone."



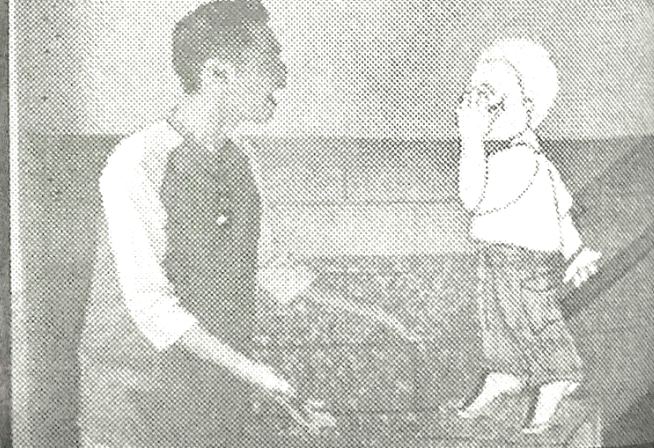
Brother Robbie: "A baby for my eldest sister."



JQ Guevara: "...that the new year will be perfect for everyone."



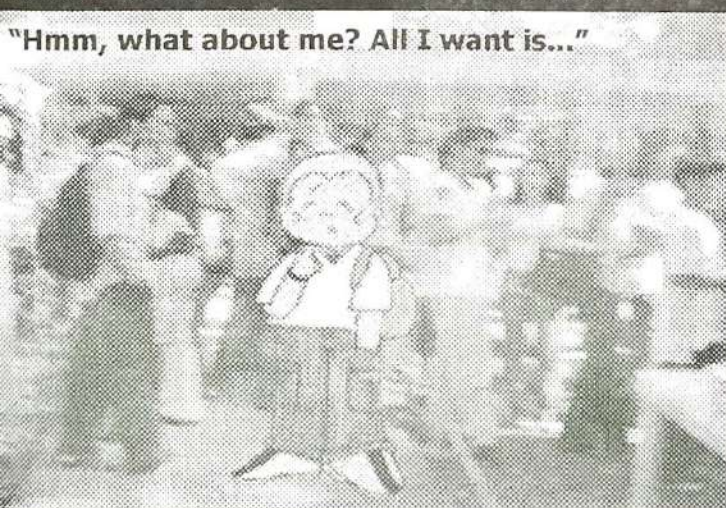
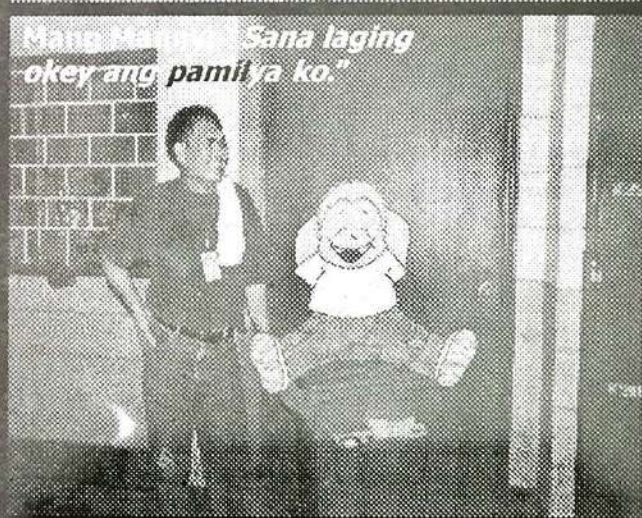
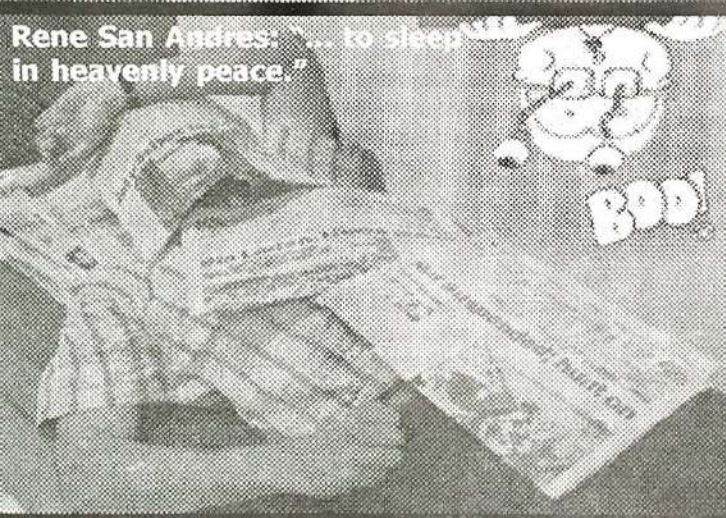
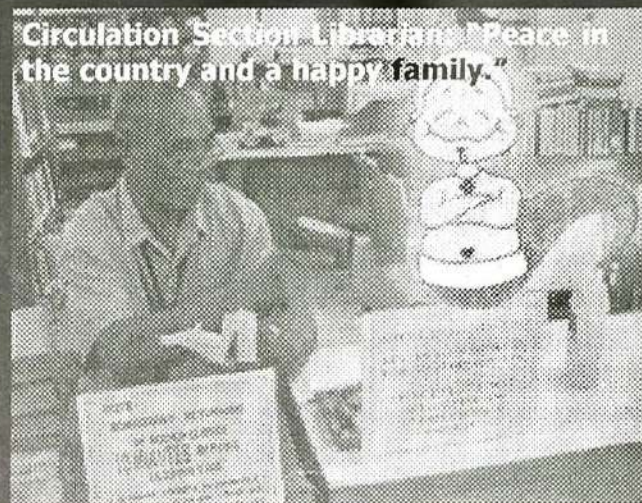
Jasper: "How about you? What do you want this New Year, Thomson?"





Misadventures of Thompson

# Wish List

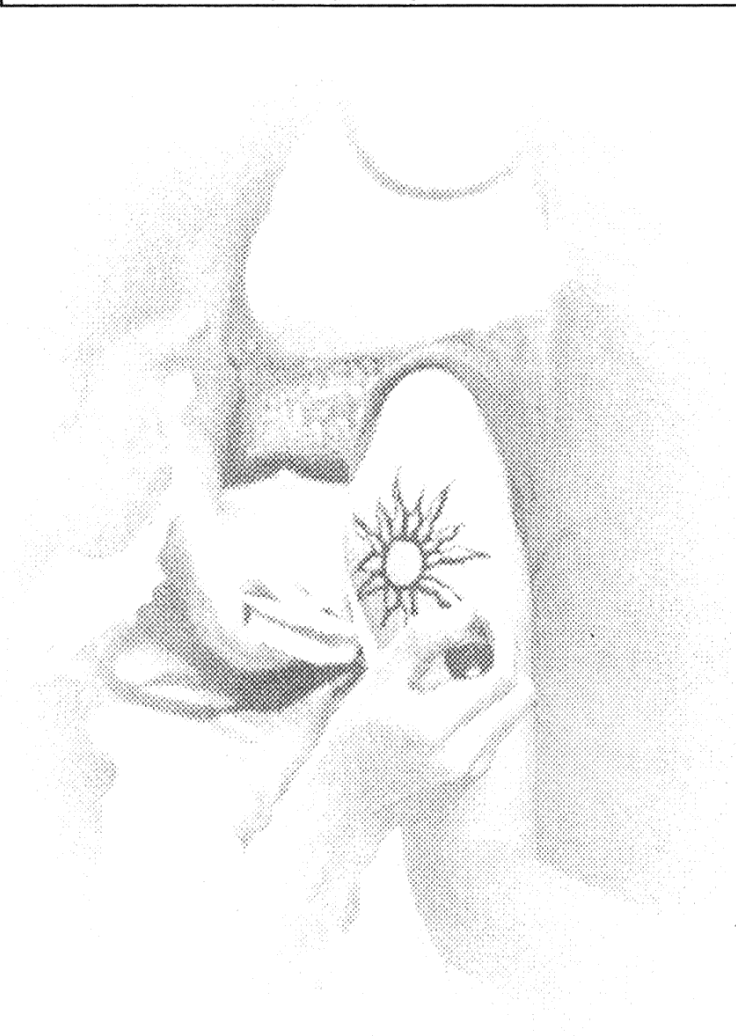


Art by Keeffe dela Cruz, Photos by Ritchelle Lim and Angelica Uy



# 2001 International Week: A

*It is difficult to imagine a world with no borders, a world where people are united and at peace, especially in our society today. With all the chaos and tragedy that has occurred, even just in the past year, bringing down the borders and bridging gaps just does not seem to be the sensible thing to do. Yet for the organizers of the first ever International Week in the Ateneo de Manila University, anything was possible.*



Held at Quad I from November 12 to 16, 2001, "The Global Village and activities were designed to emphasize global awareness and cultural understanding", says Trixie Olalia (IV MIS), AIESEC member and project head of the event. Her team of twenty set up a mini "global village" in line with the annual AIESEC week. They aimed at attracting Ateneans to join the International Traineeship Exchange Program (ITEP).

Lingua Ars Cultura (LAC) and the International Cultural Exchange cluster (composed of ASEC, Loyola Mountaineers, Celadon, AIESEC and HPAIR) also helped in making the project possible.

## Window to the world

Stormy weather forced organizers to postpone the activities for a day (November 13). Nonetheless, for the rest of the week, Quad I was the stage for various tents exhibiting a diverse array of cultures through collages, books and artifacts. Some souvenirs and trinkets, as well as food delicacies were sold. There was even a film showing the whole week, featuring internationally acclaimed movies such as "Life is Beautiful", "The Matrix", and "Shakespeare in Love", chosen for their accurate portrayal of the different countries' culture.

Among the school organizations actively participating in this event was the Ateneo Student Exchange Council with their Japan booth. In Japan, breeding koi (carp) is a hobby elevated to an art form. In line with this, the Japanese booth staged the *King Sui*. The objective of the game was to

**The Global village [was] designed to emphasize global awareness and cultural understanding." --Trixie Olalia**



# Global Village Unites

by Carolyn Ang  
Photos by Angelica Uy

catch as many goldfish as one could using only a wooden ring and without tearing the flimsy Japanese paper lining it.

They sold temporary body tattoos and even had a play station available for the gaming die-hards. They also featured classic films by Akira Kurosawa and some anime flicks.

"It has always been ASEC's aim to foster an understanding between cultures by engaging the Atenean in situations that promote that aim. And I honestly think that ASEC has managed to present Japan in the International Week." Shares Paolo Porciuncula (IV Bio), ASEC President and project head of the Japan booth.

LAC organized the German, Italian, Spanish, and French booths. The German booth named 'Deutschland' featured a mini-library of books lent by the Goethe-Institut Inter Nationes, as well as a collection of instructional cassette tapes on such classic composers as Bach, Mozart, and Handel. A puppet show, entitled "Ein Nacht", meaning "One Night", was written and performed specially for the exhibit. It was greatly enjoyed by the audience,

mainly students taking up German, as they were likely the only ones who could understand the German dialogue. "My brilliant classmates translated the Corrs' song, 'One Night' in to German for the theme song of the play. It was a fun show, the jokes and the twists entertained our guests.", shares Chrissie Caoile (III Mgt), LAC member and project head of Deutschland.

Other cultural organizations, such as the Instituto Cervantes, a branch of the Spanish embassy, arrived on the third day to promote Spanish culture and language through the means of their mobile library and the sale of some Spanish cookies.

In addition, the Loyola Mountaineers, true to their adventurous spirit, sponsored the wall climbing

*No need for a crystal ball to mark this fortune teller*



## feature story

**"it involved not only AIESECers but also our cluster (ICE) and the new org, Lingua Ars Cultura."**

and rappelling activities. Many flocked Quad II to try their hand at scaling the makeshift walls.

To promote the booths, AIESEC organized the "Around the World in Four Days" concept. For every souvenir bought from each booth, visitors were entitled to a stamp on their "passport". At the end of the four days, visitors who had a complete round of stamps on their passports were awarded a gift pack of t-shirts, stationary and internet cards from Yehey.com.

### Henna tattoos anyone?

The Ateneo Celadon also took part in the International Week. Who else could have written "Love me baby" in Chinese on the arms and legs of all those Ateneans? Celadon's China booth, "Window of China", appeared to be the most visited booth during that week. "By the second day, *nauubusan na ng ink yung* tattoo artists!" shares Angeline Go (I ME), one of the project heads.

Aside from the henna tattooing, "Window of China" featured an exhibit

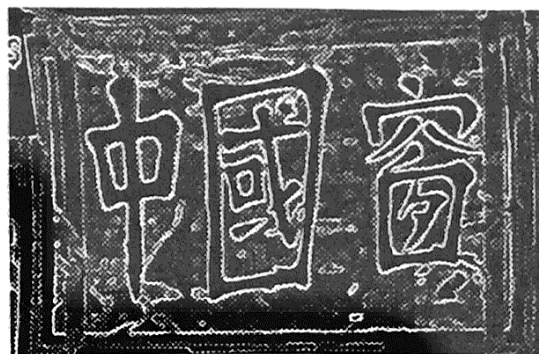
on the traditional Chinese games of mahjong and Chinese chess to enhance awareness of these nearly forgotten pastimes.

A tent full of Chinese knick-knacks such as clothes, trinkets, tapes on how to speak Chinese, and books on Feng Shui, were sold at the hao mai tian, literally, "good buy store".

Refusing to slow down, even on the last day, the Chinese booth invited a fortune-teller. Students came in droves to hear their future and love lives told. The booth eventually had to turn down visitors in order to finally close at 6 pm.

Armed only with their creativity, guts and will-power, Hans Benson Tan (I ME), Angeline Go, and Oliver Salva (I MIS) spear-headed the Celadon committee. They are quick to emphasize, however, that it was largely through the efforts of the predominantly freshmen team which carried "Window of China" from conception to actual implementation.

Tina Khoe (IV Mgt, Celadon President) opines, "The people working on the project were very passionate



about their work." More importantly, "they all had lots of fun. They met some new people, as well as formed new bonds."

### A modest success

"I had high hopes for the event, but I must say we could have done better. It was probably because the activity was pushed too soon, and preparations could make it a grander event.", shares Paolo. "But, there were pluses such as some of the ICE cluster orgs who really put a lot of effort into their booths and were rewarded with people flocking them."

"This year's exhibit is a good start, it can get better, I hope it does. The exhibit was hard work but it was worth it, for the organization's first steps to promoting culture." Chrissie puts in.

The International week was able to successfully promote the ITEP where dozens of seniors had signed up for the exchange program. On November 21, a

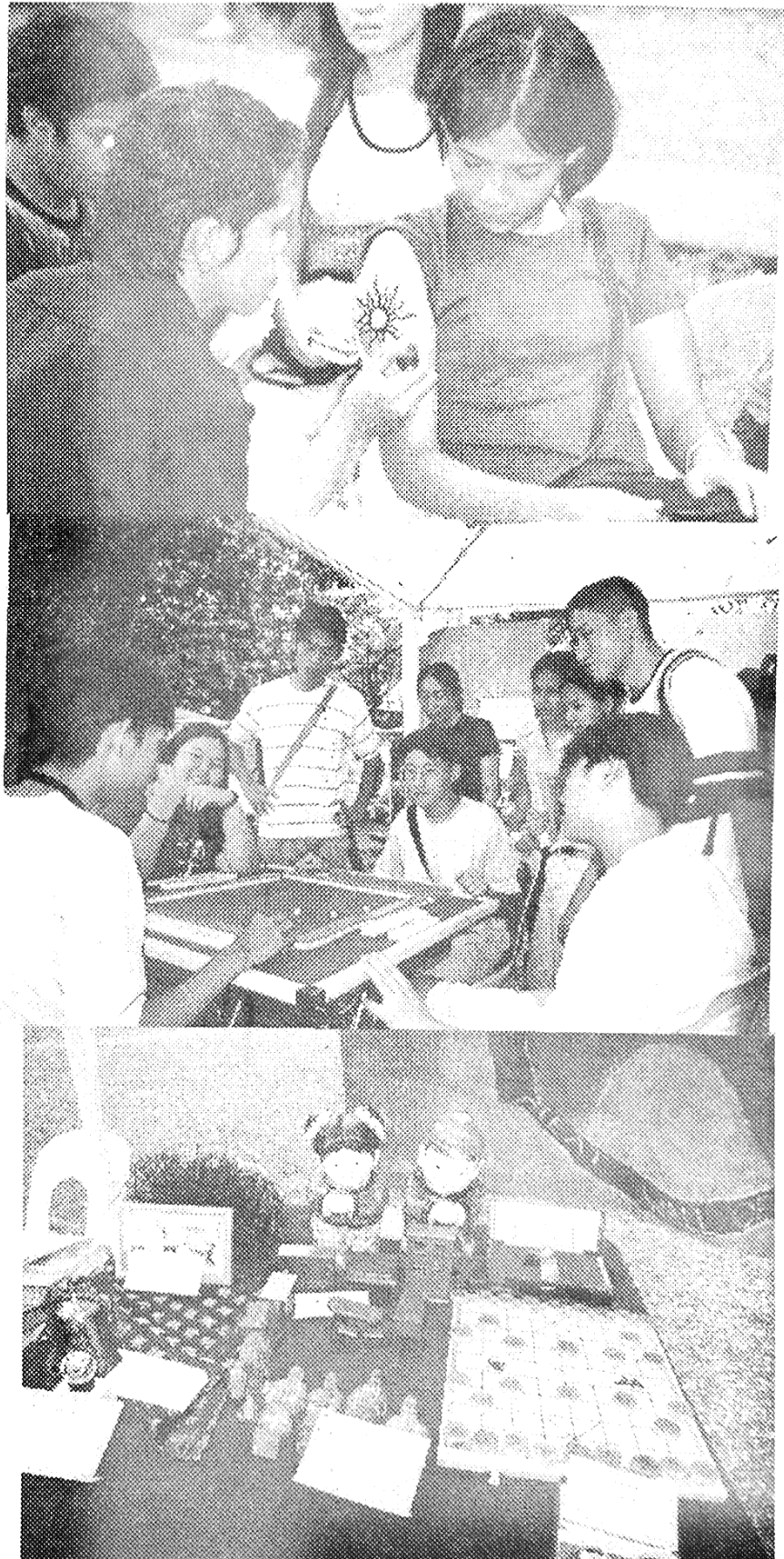
**"The exhibit was hard work, but it was worth it, for the organization's first steps to promoting culture"--Chrissie Caoile**



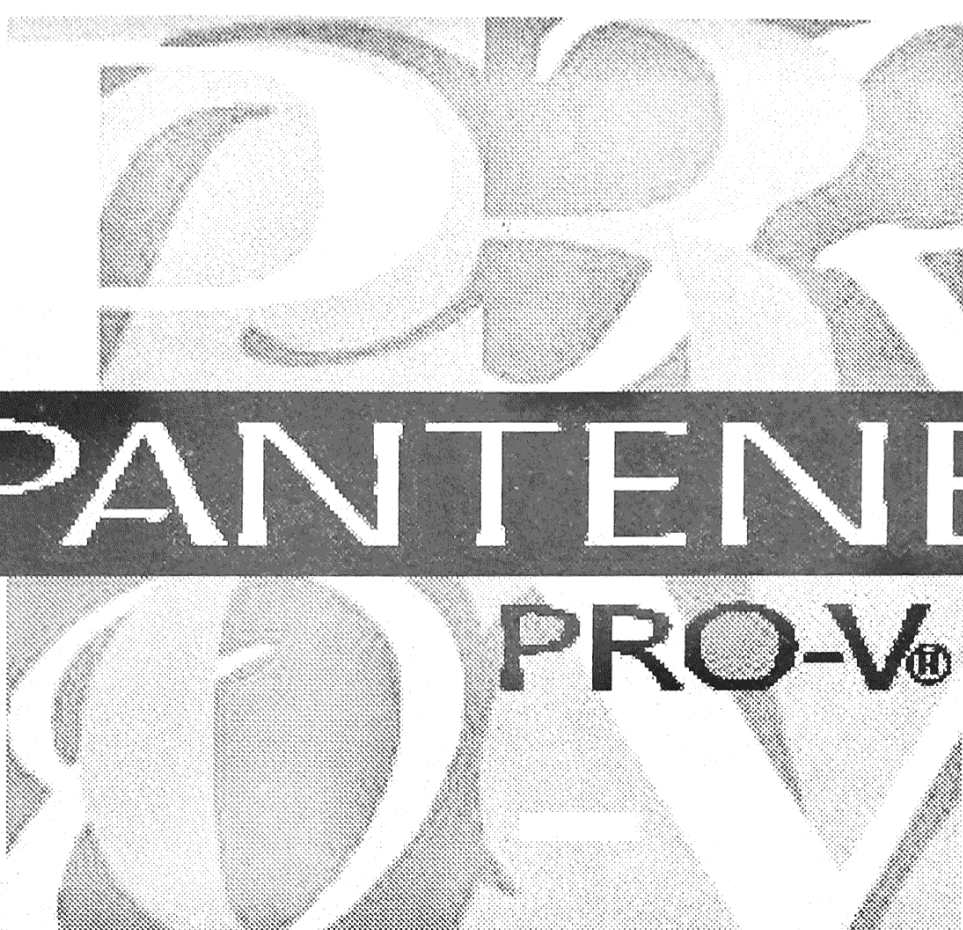
seminar on ITEP was held for these global villagers who are quite possibly off by now, to the far away countries introduced by the international week booths. Trixie assures, however, that "the countries during the International Week are just 9 of the 84 AIESEC member countries, so the people who signed up for ITEP have more countries to choose from.."

AIESEC hopes that the international week will become a yearly thing. "AIESEC Week 2001 was different and exceptionally fun because it involved not only AIESECers but also our cluster (ICE) and the new org, Lingua Ars Cultura. Hopefully, the concept of an annual global village would carry on for the next AIESEC Weeks to come."

Global awareness and cultural understanding are important goals that will never be completely achieved in a lifetime, much less with just one event. Nonetheless, with every step closer to understanding the intricacies of our fellow beings, there are new doors opened, new opportunities for deeper knowledge and insights gained. ☺



*top to bottom:  
the henna tattoo craze returns once again,  
Celadon members teach students how to  
play mahjong  
souvenirs and trinkets on display in the  
"Window of China" booth*



# PANTENE

## PRO-V®

*Continued from page 24*

their wares till their voices are hoarse, knowing only work and diligence and little joys that are supposed to be only meant for children, at least in their world. Getting married in western customs, in the Judeo-Christian tradition they need to inculcate in order to survive. With one foot in one society, and one foot in another.

And what about the newly married couple? How much of a veneer was this overly cheerful bilingual emcee who insisted they kiss every time the glasses tinkled from dinner forks, how much of their borrowed intimacy from western movies would be real? And the kids who'll grow up in a new world, who'll get alienated from their brasher parents, little seeing that it was their way of life, their life, what then? And they'll get introduced to all sorts of new media such as texting and whatnot and see it as a way out,

texting their whomevers and ignoring their old, uncouth fathers in whom their cultural identity must remain unpassed.

They'll shape their eyebrows like the movie stars, contour their bodies to fit other, more buxom models. They'll wear clothes better suited to other body types. And they'll hate everything. Or then again maybe they'll never know, but always live in their world, the world of their parents, their own worlds once it passes into their hands.

I will never deride any of them, for they are my blood, but I just feel they are so different, so unknown to me, different from who I am and the own little world I've come to know. And as much as I widen my borders I'll never be part of that world, for they'll be different, and I'll always be different to them. ●

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dei gloriam



# CELADON's 2<sup>nd</sup> GA: Looking Back, Expecting More

By Nice Tioco

**T**he Ateneo Celadon held its second General Assembly last November 21, 2001 at the Hans Gourmet Function Room C. Members started coming in at around 4:30 p.m., just in time for the registration. Although most students just came from their classes, exhaustion was overcome by the excitement at seeing the familiar faces of friends. The Human Resources department made sure that each member would experience another fun-filled GA.

Celadon President Tina Khoe (IV Mgt) started the assembly with a prayer, followed by her welcoming remarks. She expressed her happiness and gratitude at seeing familiar faces that have been vital in the organization's successful activities last semester "It's not how you start the game, it's how you end it." She adds, quoting the familiar tagline from the recently concluded UAAP season. She hopes that more members would take part in making this semester as fruitful as the last, perhaps even more.

### The sem that was

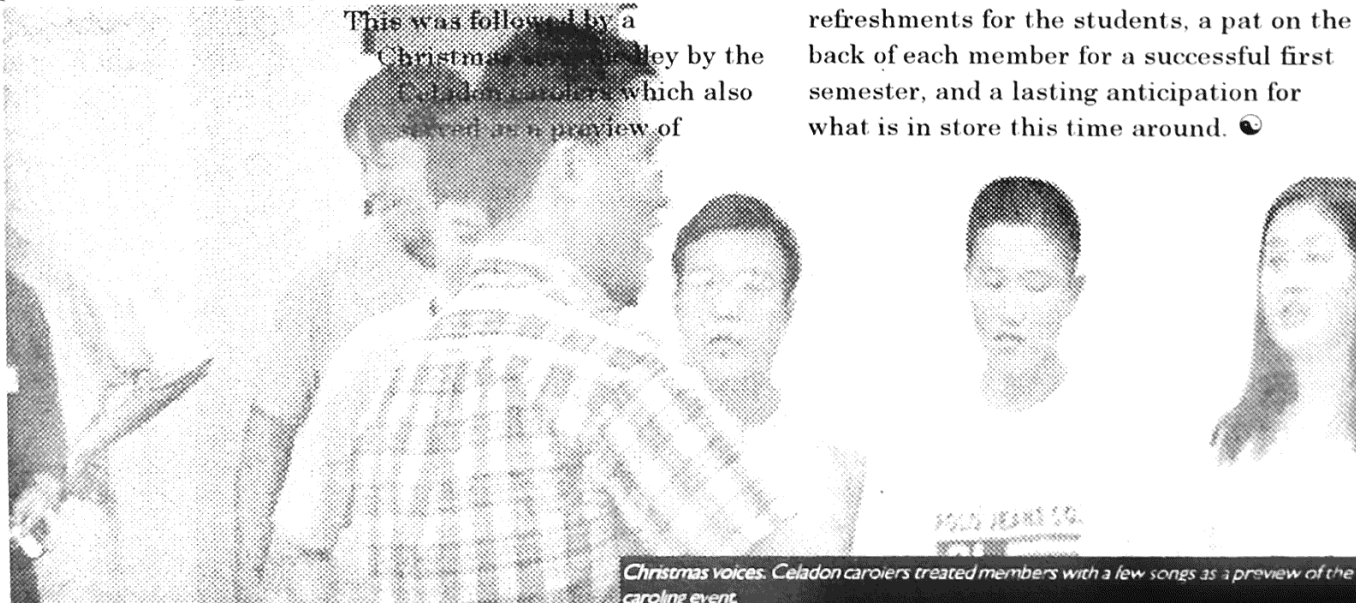
To cap off the assembly proper, a short video was presented, showing the past activities in the first semester.

This was followed by a Christmas carol rally by the Celadon carolers which also served as a preview of

Celadon's Christmas Caroling project in December.

Hosts Shannon King (II MIS) and Patrick Chuang (II MIS) then introduced the five departments, which presented their respective agenda for the second semester. Upcoming events include talks, seminars, foodsales, parties, the sports fest and the Lord of the Rings movie premiere, to name a few. After all departments had finished, the assembly was livened up by a game inspired by the popular game show, "The Weakest Link", with Nats Tarce (III MCT, VP Comm & Pub) as the game show host. Randomly selected members used wit and presence of mind to remain in the game, answering questions about the Ateneo Celadon, general history, and other fascinating tidbits. In the end, Severson Tan (II ECE) proved to be the strongest link, as he emerged victorious.

The GA ended with food and refreshments for the students, a pat on the back of each member for a successful first semester, and a lasting anticipation for what is in store this time around. ☺



*Christmas voices. Celadon carolers treated members with a few songs as a preview of the caroling event.*

Photo  
by  
Richelle  
Lim

## Buhay Celadon



By Jules Siegrid C. Ang

Last December 23, 2001, the Ateneo Celadon sponsored the advance screening of the Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring. This three-hour, action-packed Adventure/Drama stars Elijah Wood: a young hobbit named Frodo Baggins who inherits a magical ring from his 111-year-old relative Bilbo (Ian Holm). Coincidentally, this ring is the so-called Ring of Power - the ring that is said to "rule them all." Unfortunately, the evil lord Sauron, who forged it on the fires atop Mount Doom, wants it for wicked deeds. With the ring in his possession, he will have the power to enslave Middle-earth and banish its every inhabitant. To thwart this evil, Frodo hires the fellowship of the wizard Gandalf; the elf-archer Legolas; the dwarf Gimli; humans Boromir and Aragorn; hobbit friends Sam, Merry, and Pippin; and others on a mission to destroy the ring by casting it back to where it was born - into the volcanic fires of Mount Doom. However, the ring unleashes its own power as a result of the struggle between good and evil, making it even harder to destroy.

### Pre-LOTR troubles

Jennifer "JJ" Tan (IV ME, VP-Finance), shares that they had a hard time acquiring the rights to the film because she, together with co-project heads Charlene

Tan (IV ME, Finance Manager) and Alan Chui (IV ME, Finance Manager), thought it was going to be available for advanced screening by early January, which was the slot they booked for the Office of Student Activities (OSA). Fortunately, the Collegiate Society of Advertising (COSA) agreed to give Celadon their December slot in exchange for them being a patron sponsor. Yet their biggest hurdle was having only three weeks to market and promote the project. But with bright and hard-working managers and members, the Finance Department was able to weather this obstacle.

### Success!

"I like the cinematography and its ability to bring you inside Tolkien's Middle-earth. I especially like the

## The Ultimate Fantasy: The Lord of the Rings Movie Premiere

introduction and the exciting chasing scenes!" says Valentina Khoe (IV Mgt, Celadon President). JJ points out that the premiere's success lies in the movie itself. She mentions that a couple even contacted her after the movie, thanking her for reserving them tickets to the "best movie that they had ever watched." Others share the same opinion, "The battle scene at the beginning [was great], ang grand kasi ng pagka-design eh..." Says Percival Ko (I CS). "Ang ganda ng Lord of the Rings grabe! Quips Jose Paolo Bustos (I CS) "Lalo na yung stone king statues sa may river!"

"According to my calculations, we oversold no more than six tickets, and this was because of the on-the-spot buyers who were willing to stand to watch the movie, and who pleaded us to sell them tickets." Shares JJ. "I'm still glad the movie made up for all our mistakes though."

In the end, the project, despite the initial setbacks and problems, ended with a satisfying tone. Such is indeed a great way to end the year for the Ateneo Celadon. All because of what the Finance department's VP regards as the perfect ingredients: a good movie, good sponsors, and a good Finance team to see it all through. ☺



Happiness. Wealth. Longevity. Prosperity. These are some of the themes that are commonly associated with the Chinese' most awaited celebration, the Chinese New Year.

Although the Chinese have adopted the Western calendar since 1911, they still incorporate the Lunar Calendar in determining the flow of time. The Lunar Calendar is divided into twenty-four solar terms related to changes in nature throughout the year. The first fifteen days consist of the first term, which coincide with the beginning of Spring. Thus, Chinese New Year is also popularly known as the Spring Festival.

#### Legends

It is believed that the Lunar Calendar dates back as early as 2,600 BC. Several legends explain why the Spring Festival is celebrated. Among them is the story of the beast "Nian".

"Nian", literally meaning "year", was originally the name of a beast that preyed on people every New Year's eve. One day, an old man went up to the beast saying, "I hear you are very capable, but can you swallow other beasts of prey instead of people who aren't by any means your worthy opponents?" The beast ended up swallowing other beasts of prey that harassed

people. The old man left after advising the common folk to put up red paper decorations on their windows and doors to scare away Nian since it is the color that it fears the most.

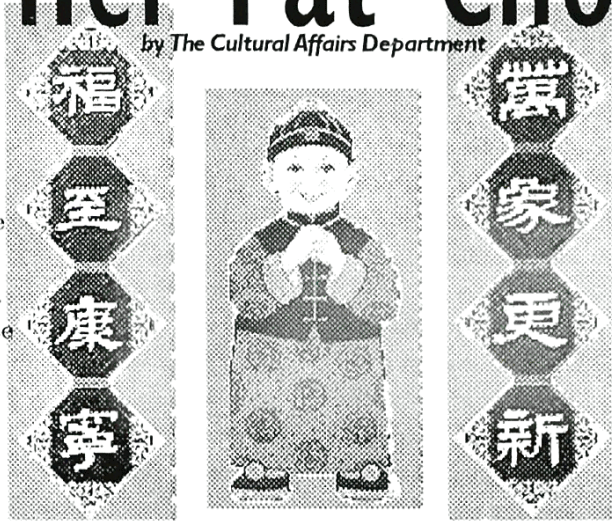
Each year in the Chinese calendar is named after an animal. There are twelve animal signs that are used in naming different years. Legend has it that the twelve animals were quarreling on who would start the cycle of years. The gods decided the best way to determine the order of the cycle would be through a race. The cunning rat won the race after riding the ox's back. The rest of the animals thus followed in the following order: ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig.

#### Age-old Traditions

Chinese New Year brings families together to feast and enjoy the season. *Fa gao* (pound cake) and *jiaozi* (dumplings) are some of the main delicacies served at the usual reunion dinner. Families await the dawning of the new year while playing cards and mahjong with all the lights turned on. Sweeping out dirt from the house is a definite no-no. Luck may also be subsequently swept out.

# Kong Hei Fat Choi

by The Cultural Affairs Department



When midnight comes, fireworks light up the sky and Chinese New Year has officially arrived.

The morning after, children greet their parents and receive cash placed in red envelopes called *hongpao*. People greet friends and neighbors "gong xi fa cai". The spirit of the occasion urges people to reconcile conflicts and to settle old debts. Old grudges are easily cast aside during this time of the year.

The season culminates with the Festival of the Lanterns, a time of singing, folk dancing, and colorful displays of lanterns.

#### An Underlying Message

Although Chinese New Year has been highly regarded as the most recognized festival among the Chinese, it is important not to undermine the relevance of the occasion to us. The Chinese New Year is not just a time to celebrate and party endlessly through dawn the following day, but it is a time of peace and happiness among family and friends. The Spring Festival is more than the red envelopes, food offered, lion dances, and decorations; it is a chance for Chinese throughout the globe to come together and to relive a cultural belief that is so deeply rooted in their consciousness. ☺



ping lun pian

# Chinoys In A Stranger World

By JJ

I swear, if I hear one more Chinese joke ("If all the Chinese in the world jumped at the same time...") Sound familiar?) I'm going to wallop that person all the way to Shanghai. For starters, it's incredibly rude, insensitive, unfair, and, well, stupid. Perhaps it's not fair to begin on such a stringy note but I'm sick of people considering the Chinese as some solid lump of mass that populate the world.

Truth is, there are many different kinds of Chinese, even within our Metro Manila borders there are the many diverse ways of life pursued by the separate Chinese social groups. Even the kind of high school you go to sometimes—most of the time—gets you labeled into what kind of Chinese you are. And it takes another Chinese to recognize this, to feel the subtle differences between the varying degrees of Chinese-ness, to appreciate the almost delicate yet staunch pride at being Chinese, whichever way you are.

And yet most of the time, regardless of how much we know about differences, we're still stuck in, or rather riveted to, our—at least my—own world of nice cars and Greenhills/any other posh subdivision (Corinthians, Valle) homes, English-fluent friends and liberality. I live at the junction of Old Manila and

the newer cities, does this make me half of the purer Chinatown blood and half of the new? It probably doesn't, but this is the way I feel sometimes. I cannot understand some families' abandonment of rich Chinese traditions, but neither can I quite relate to the rigidity of the older Chinese. Yet even then I, and most people like me, have made a niche for ourselves, a social group of people just like us who live in uncertain climates. And we live within these groups, and tales of other Chinese seem alien to us.

There are times, though, when you realize that there are just so many other people in the world, so many other lives. Just the other day I went to a Chinese wedding party, and most, almost ninety percent of the guests there (as my mother must have more than a little disdainfully remarked,) were from the mainland, and they spat, chewed, puffed and drank their way to a robust, red, noisy racket, as only the 'real' or 'homebred', sharp-tongued Chinese can do. The clatter of Ongpin at midday market is nothing compared to the joyous loudness of mainland Chinese in such occasions.

It was, however you put it, still a 'Christian' wedding, with the white-clad bride and

groom only hours before emerging from a church. But then I'm not here to espouse on being religiously noble. It's just that these people. They take the best of me, even when I don't want them to. My mom was telling us other things as well. My siblings and I marveled at how they seemed to know already so much Tagalog, when they just came in. She said that it was the way with them, that they'll show off to you how much of the vernacular they knew as soon as you met them. They didn't want to be considered outsiders, they didn't want to be considered backward or washed-up.

I don't know how much of what my mom was saying was true, of course. But the whole time during the wedding party I must've stared my way into rudeness, humbled as I was. These people, stuck in a country they're trying to make the best of. Possibly eking out a living in Chinatown peddling

*continued on page 18*

*JJ is a junior who thanks God for trees in the Ateneo and chilly dawns.*

*Chinoy accepts contributions*

*Write a 2-page article on your views and send it to chinoy@tsinoy.com or submit it at the Celadon Room, Colayco Hall.*

評論篇

*Ping Lun Pian is a Chinese term used to denote a written opinion or critique.*



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