



turning pages of lasallian excellence

Welcome to the maiden issue of LEAPZine!

It was sometime in May 2020 when LSGH President Br. Edmundo “Dodo” Fernandez casually ended his virtual meeting with the Quality Assurance and Research Office with an equally “casual” announcement — he is designating the Quality Assurance unit to manage the scholarship concerns of the school. Albeit the initial surprise, to say the least, (no one among us has really been directly involved in that area!), we took on the challenge. First stop — a name appropriate for the office. Of the proposed, Br. Dodo approved of one. Hence, the Lasallian Educational Assistance Program (LEAP) Office was born. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Fast forward to May 2021. A year after LEAP Office was given the mandate to oversee and streamline the institution’s scholarships and grants, we thought it would be good to make the different programs extend its reach. To LEAP HIGHER. To make more known its programs. To recognize the achievements of the scholars in the academics, in sports and in their formation as Lasallians. To acknowledge the humble and quiet generosity of partner—donors. To celebrate as one Lasallian family. These are what LEAPZine hopes to capture in every issue. That as we turn each page, we will witness the excellence of the Lasallian heart and soul.

For our initial issue, we take pride in sharing the school’s concrete response to one of the resolutions identified in the 2015 Philippine Lasallian Family Convocation, specifically in the area of Accessibility. One LEAP scholar who exemplifies grit and gratitude shares his remarkable Lasallian journey despite the challenging times.

Be with us as we turn pages of Lasallian excellence. Animo!

LEAPZine Editorial Team



LSGH continues to share in the story of St. John Baptist de La Salle in making quality education accessible primarily to the underserved. Together with the other schools of De La Salle Philippines, we strive to achieve the 20-25% Full Scholarship Equivalence (FSE) targeted in the 2015 Philippine Lasallian Family Convocation.

Guided by the Convocation, we explored and implemented creative and sustainable ways to make education more accessible in LSGH. Some of those innovations are the establishment of the Lasallian Educational Assistance Program (LEAP) Office, the streamlining of scholarships and financial assistance grants of the school, and the renaming of the Merit, Sports, and Public Schools scholarships to Br. Rafael Donato FSC, Br. Rolando Dizon FSC, and St. La Salle Scholarships, respectively.

This school year, 1,090 out of 4,966 students received scholarship grants equivalent to 21.95% full scholars. Two hundred of them are from the day school, while the 890 are in the Alternative Education Department. With the rising cost of education and the challenges brought about by the pandemic, offering scholarships strain the school’s resources. That is why LSGH is thankful for the grants from private organizations, schools, patrons, and the government for helping fund 2% of the scholars.

It does indeed take a village to educate a child, so it is our wish to stir more hearts to join this noble mission. Help us continue the story of teaching worthy minds and transforming lives through quality Lasallian education.

The LEAPZine Logo

Sir Cheto (or Mr. Che to some), teacher and artist, shares with us the inspiration behind the magazine’s logo. ☺ 🇵🇭 🇯🇵

I wanted to convey the “leaping movement” in the logo and for this reason, the orientation of the logo is moving upwards to the right. In the same manner, I wanted it to “leap out” of the box and so the extensions of the sides of the star are intentional.

I used brush strokes in making the initials as I wanted to highlight ink, which is used in writing. To add to this, I have placed a writing instrument in the logo as well.

The Lasallian Star of Excellence is the centerpiece of the logo as the publication features the status and accomplishments of LSGH alumni who were recipients of academic scholarship. An added feature I placed is the “rewind” stroke in the letter P.

As this is an In-house publication, I have placed the ‘roof’ of the St. Benilde Gym as upper horizontal stroke for the letter E.

Message from the Brother President

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC





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Gratitude in the time of pandemic : How one Lasallian remains optimistic despite challenges

You are not lucky. You are blest because you have been chosen.

Such are the words John Lorenz “JL” Galon would tell himself since he started his journey as a Grade 11 La Salle Green Hills student last school year. He graduated top of his batch in Mandaluyong High School (MHS). But this was not his sole ticket to LSGH. Being a partner school of De La Salle University for Operation Big Brother program, MHS Grade 10 students are given opportunity to experience Lasallian education when they reach Senior High School. They need to pass, however, the DLSU Senior High Admissions and Placement Examinations (DSHAPE). Of the hundreds of MHS students who took DSHAPE in 2020, JL was one of the passers. There were only two of them. Thus started his blest years. This blessing, however, does not come without hard work. And prayer. Now that JL is on his last year as ABM student, he shares with LEAPZine snippets of his journey as a scholar, and his gratitude for the school he fondly calls his “greatest blessing”.

LEAPZine (LZ) : *What is JL’s HIStory before becoming a Lasallian?*

John Lorenz (JL) : Even as a child, life has taught me to work hard, to be grateful. I am the youngest of four children who are singlehandedly raised by our mother. (*His father passed away years ago. Ed.*) The pandemic forced my mother, a massage therapist, to stay at home. Our family solely relied on my father’s pension. Despite this, blessings still abound. My family’s health and my education are things I am, and will always be, grateful for.

LZ : *How is your LSGH experience since you started last year?*

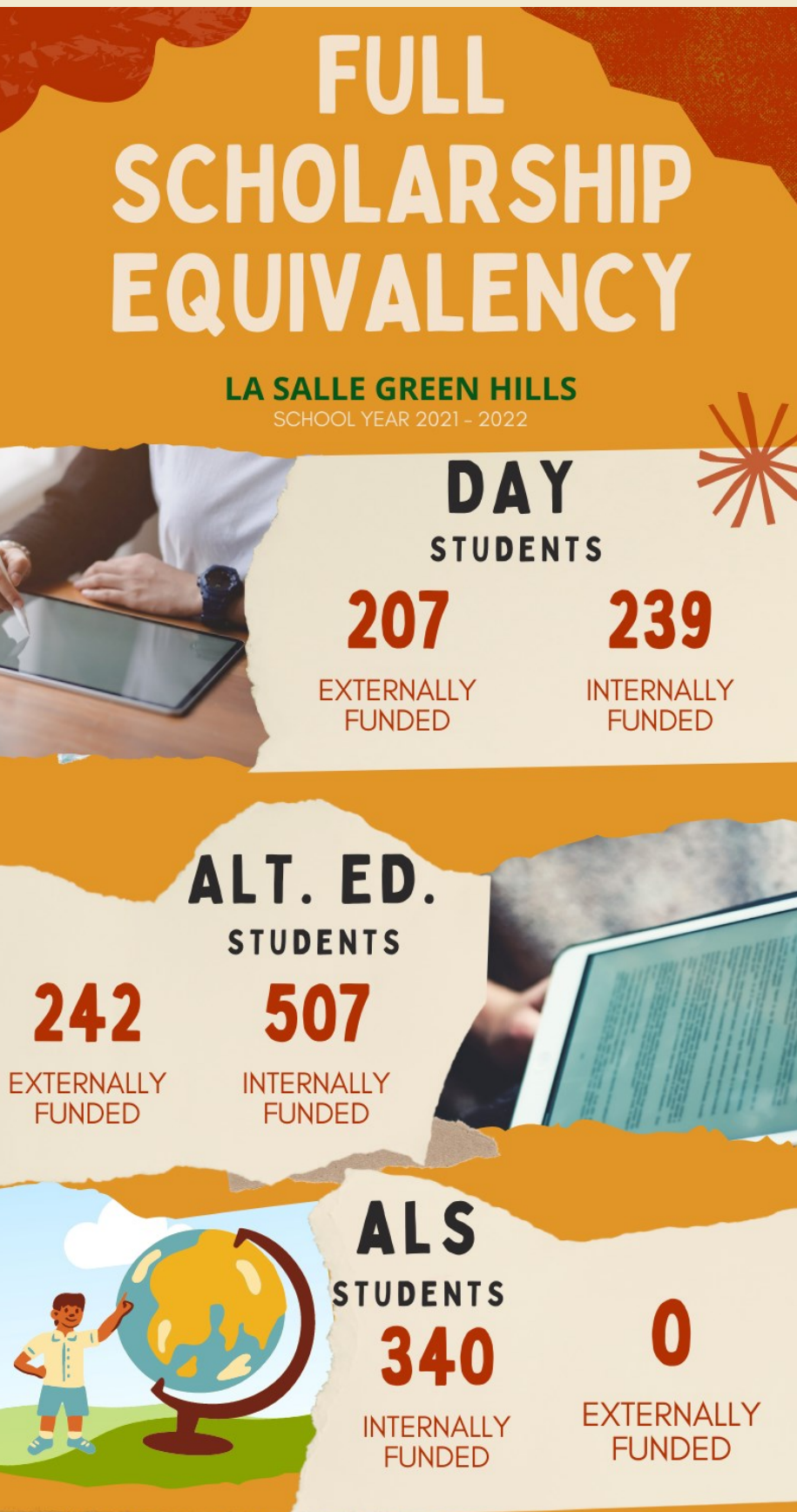
JL: It has been good. I made the right decision to choose LSGH especially now with the online learning. The curriculum is definitely an apt preparation for college – from the lessons to the immersion programs. The discussions in class and the asynchronous tasks compensate the lack of face-to-face interaction. I thank my classmates, my teachers (shout out to Mr. Rowell Rosales and Miss Mary Kristine Yatco who made discussions interesting and relevant), and my Lasallian formation.

LZ : *How has your Lasallian formation helped you?*

JL : Even before I came to LSGH, I have been serving our parish as a member of Knights of the Altar. The values taught me by the school strengthened by desire to help and give back. In the earlier part of the hard lockdown I volunteered to lead prayers at church. I also assisted in distributing “ayuda” to our community. My Lasallian formation was instrumental in inspiring me to share my time and my talents.

LZ : *Any last words you can share with other LEAP scholars like you?*

JL : We are blessed. May the help we are getting from LSGH be our inspiration to help others in the future. I also want to thank LSGH and the DLSU-OBB who chose and supported me in my senior high school, to God who guides me and to St. John Baptist de la Salle who inspires me.



"Let it be resolved that Lasallian Institutions target 20- 25% Full Scholarship Equivalence (FSE) for the marginalized sectors of the community, multi-challenged groups and the underserved."
PLFC 2015 Resolution 12.b

21.96%
of the 4,966 LSGH students receive Lasallian education through the commitment of the Institution and its partner donors to the Founder's Mission.
ANIMO!

Sources :
LSGH Financial Resource Development Office
Philippine Lasallian Family Convocation 2015

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