

# Read All About It!



SA AKLAT SISIKAT  
FOUNDATION, INC.

The Official Newsletter of the Sa Aklat Sisikat



Building a Nation of Readers

April 8, 2008

## The SAS Reading Programs in 2008

In 2007, the SAS Reading Programs sponsored by Petron, Pasar, HSBC, Convergys, and the Rocking Moon Foundation directly benefited over 7,169 Grade IV students in 60 schools in Pasig, Taguig, Pateros, Manila in the NCR, Marinduque in Mimaropa, Leyte in the Visayas, and Sarangani in the Mindanao region. A total of 10,260 storybooks were distributed to 60 schools. After these successful projects, SAS looks forward to working with more schools in 2008.



and has a total school population of 168 public school students, all of whom shall be the direct beneficiaries of the SAS Reading Program. *See related story.*

Coca-Cola Foundation returns this year to sponsor nine schools in Camarines Sur, Albay, Sorsogon, Samar, and Quezon Province. Four-hundred fifty Grade III & Grade IV multi-grade students as well as thirty teachers and school heads are projected to benefit from SAS this year. To officially signal the start of the program, a Teacher Training Workshop has been set for May 9-11, 2008 at the SEAMEO Innotech Compound in UP Diliman, Quezon City.

In Quezon City, four schools, an estimated 1,539 Grade IV students and thirty-two teachers are looking forward to the implementation of the Reading Program this coming June 2008, courtesy of Credit Suisse Asia Pacific. Mayor Sonny Belmonte and Dr. Victoria Fuentes of the DepED have already pledged their support for SAS in Quezon City, and are immensely grateful for being chosen this year.

Also returning sponsors are the Rocking Moon Foundation USA, as well as Convergys Philippines Services Corporation, who have pledged a second

phase of the Reading Program at an estimated fourteen schools in QC for this year.

SAS has also made plans to run the program in eight schools in Cebu City, care of the Citi Foundation, made possible through a \$30,000 grant by United Way International.

## “Teacher Leah” recognized as Top Teacher on *Proudly Filipina*

Margarita Gabriel, known simply as “Teacher Leah” to her students at Sindangan Elementary School, was recently featured on the GMA-7 television



show “*Proudly Filipina*” showcasing the noteworthy achievements of Filipina women. Principal Virginia Cortina is all praises for Teacher Leah, whom she acknowledges as an asset to Sindangan, and regrets that this will be Teacher Leah’s last year at the school as she will be moving back to her hometown. In school, Teacher Leah would make creative visual aids, spending out of her own pocket. She would spend weekends tutoring her students. Her patient tutoring not only

## HSBC awards P3.9 M Grant to SAS for Principal L.E.A.D.



HSBC VP-Public Affairs Johanna Garcia announces the grant during the 2007 Petron Programang Kaakbay Conference at the Ateneo.

Recognizing that it has only been extraordinary leadership that has allowed schools to perform better academically, the Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation, Inc. shall launch a Principals Training Program to be called *Leadership Enhancement and Development Program or L.E.A.D.* The program will enable them to access management methodologies and modern pedagogical technologies to improve the quality of education delivered in their communities, as well as to help develop principals' skills in order to enable them to transform their schools into innovative learning communities.

This program will be modeled on a similar and highly successful program developed by Sa Aklat Sisikat for teachers - the Programang Kaakbay. SAS believes that in order to transform public school principals, the training offered them must be nothing less than consistent and excellent.

It shall include a three-day conference which aims to provide principals with concepts, strategies and tools that will allow them to unlock their management skills and inspire them to develop the schools they serve into learning communities. In addition, workshops within the conference will maintain a maximum 1: 25 ratio of facilitators to participants.

### (Teacher Leah.. con't)

earned them the top spot at the NEAT, it inspired her students to strive harder in their studies. One of the many accomplishments largely attributed to Teacher Leah's efforts is that from its previous rank of 78, Sindangan ES leapt to the number 1 spot in just two years – an unprecedented performance for a school located in such a poverty-stricken region.

In recognition of Teacher Leah's efforts, she will be invited to join this year's **Petron Programang Kaakbay Conference** as a *Gurong Kaakbay*. SAS will also run the Reading Program in Sindangan ES, which will also be awarded 500 colorful SAS Storybooks along with the Reading Passports, Reading Charts, paper feathers, an *Ibong Adarna* mural, and two SAS Reading Carts to serve as a mini-library in their school.

The Principals LEAD Program will provide courses in management that will include:

- School Governance
- Financial Management
- Human Resource Development
- Organizational Planning and Development
- Effective Leadership

The first Principal Lead series of conferences sponsored by the **Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Ltd. (HSBC)** shall begin on **Sept. 19-21** and **Sept. 26-28, 2008**.

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