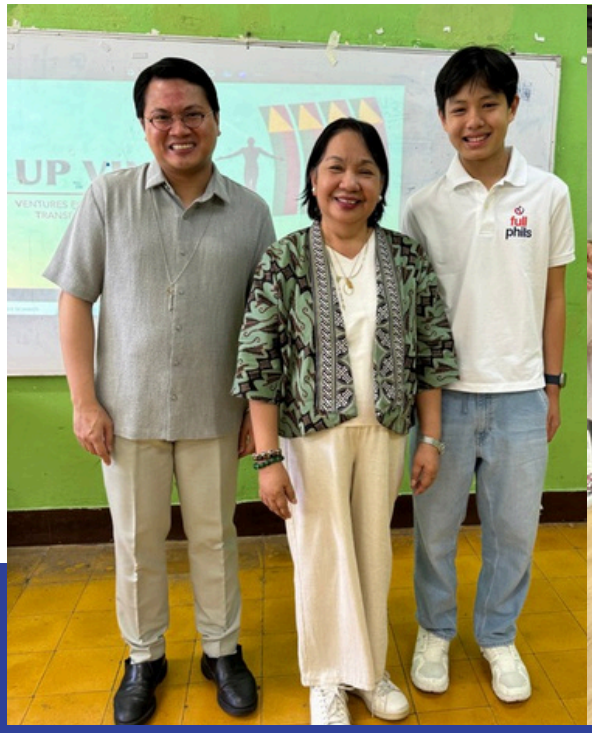
August - September 2026

full phils NEWSLETTER





Full Phils Brings University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU) to Hong Kong!

In this issue

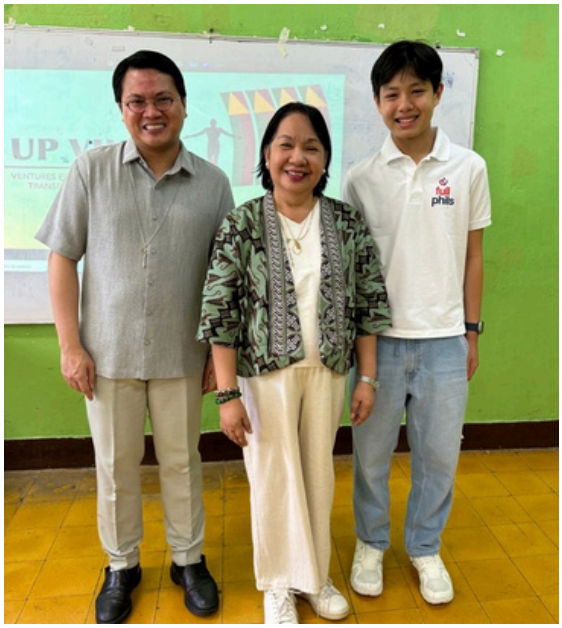
UPOU now accepting applicants!

Full Phils becomes the first-ever Filipino HK-based NGO to open doors to UP education for OFWs!

South China Morning Post (SCMP) spotlights 3 of our Full Phils Graduates

Gelanie, Febie, Dyan and our founder, Emilio, are interviewed by SCMP, Hong Kong's most prestigious English-language newspaper and leading news media company

University of the Philippines Open University through Full Phils is now accepting applicants



A promise we made in 2024 is finally becoming a reality! What started with the signing between Full Phils and the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU) in Hong Kong two years ago is finally happening! We're honoured to be the first-ever Filipino Hong Kong-based NGO to open the doors to a UP education for our kababayans abroad.

Together, we're opening new opportunities for our OFWs in Hong Kong who dream of pursuing higher education — without having to put their work or livelihood on hold.
Your dream of earning a UP degree just got closer! Email us at ask@fullphils.org to inquire!

South China Morning Post (SCMP) Features 3 of our Graduates

We are thrilled and grateful to the South China Morning Post (SCMP) for featuring Full Phils — including video coverage on Facebook, Instagram, and their website, as well as a full article in both print and online editions.

The feature included inspiring interviews with our graduates, Gelanie Aguilario, Dyan Agonoy, and Febie Batiller, who proudly completed their BS in Hotel and Restaurant Management from Philippine Women's University, as well as insights from our founder, Emilio Baja. Their stories of resilience and achievement gave readers and viewers a deeper understanding of our mission. We extend our heartfelt thanks to SCMP for amplifying our voice and helping us connect with more migrant workers and supporters in Hong Kong and beyond.

Watch the video or read the article on our website: https://fullphils.org/never-too-late-filipino-domestic-helpers-pursue-degree-dreams-they-put-on-hold/







Scholars send Emilio off to University!





The scholars gathered on August 2 to send off our founder, Emilio, with heartfelt messages of encouragement and strength. As Emilio begins his journey as a university student in the coming semester, emotions ran deep as he shared his vision of supporting others globally. Scholars responded with tears, promises of unwavering support, and words of inspiration.

This party was marked by shared food, laughter, and thoughtful gifts, creating a warm family atmosphere. The event closed with welcoming our new scholar from Philippine Women's University, Mary Rose Gumatia, blending farewell with fresh beginnings.

Welcoming Alessi to the team







As Emilio begins his university studies, we usher in a new chapter for Full Phils! Meet Alessi, our new Head of Operations & Scholarships — bringing her creativity, heart, and energy to the Full Phils journey. As somebody who's watched the organisation unfold and take shape from one person's idea to now already having close to 10 OFW graduates, we're excited to have her help take Full Phils to even greater heights and reach its full potential! Welcome to the team, Alessi!

Creative Self-Publication with Zines Workshop

Our scholars and friends enjoyed a creative afternoon at a zine-making workshop led by Full Phils Events Volunteer Lead Meg Baguio, with **PrimeCredit** as our valued event partner. The session began with a lively sharing of their favorite discussion topics — from finance and food to life updates — followed by a mini lecture on the history and power of zines globally. They explored samples and learned how they can publish their stories or even academic projects as zines.







Participants designed their own zines on topics close to their hearts, sharing stories that sparked meaningful conversations. With light refreshments and laughter the workshop wrapped up with presentations. By the end, our community discovered how zines remain a vibrant tool for education, creativity, and collective empowerment in today's digital world.

First Ever Migrant Workers Film Festival





Our scholars joined the Migrant Workers Film Festival at Bayanihan Kennedytown Center, presented by National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Concerned Artists of the Philippines, MFMW, Bethune House, and Migrante/Unifil. Four powerful documentaries highlighted the lived experiences of Filipino migrant workers worldwide — tackling themes of migration, family, resilience, and discrimination. The screenings were enriched by talks from community leaders and a panel discussion with filmmakers and advocates, underscoring how many challenges remain the same today.

Our scholars engaged in games, discussions, and photo opportunities, leaving inspired by the stories shared and grateful to the organizers for this meaningful event.

Celebrating our very first AMA Graduate!

Full Phils proudly congratulates Fracuzeit Alenabon, our very first graduate from AMA University! After nearly 18 years of working in Hong Kong, Fracuzeit fulfilled her long-held dream of completing a Bachelor of Secondary Education, major in Computer Science. Her journey was marked by perseverance — from self-funding her studies to becoming a Full Phils scholar — and now she's hoping to take the teachers' licensure board exam with the goal of becoming a teacher back home in the Philippines.







This milestone is not only a personal triumph for Fracuzeit but also a historic achievement for Full Phils. We celebrate her confidence, courage, and commitment, and we wish her all the best as she embarks on a new chapter in her life.

Buffet and Bazaar Pop Up Fundraises for Full Phils

On September 20, 2026, our Full Phils Scholars were treated like VIPs at a vibrant fundraising event at Enoteca, Quarry Bay. Guests enjoyed a feast of Filipino food from Siony's Catering and merchandise from partner vendors, while messages from Jan of Buhi Collective and Inna of Full Phils highlighted the spirit of Bayanihan and the impact of supporting migrant worker NGOs and scholars' education.





The atmosphere was warm and communal, perfectly aligned with the International Day of Charity. The event buzzed with diverse Filipino businesses — from books by 8Letters Bookstore, crafts by Sparkle Palette Studio, and indigenous Filipino fashion by Mabika and Buhi Collective, to language courses and other short courses by Ethnic Minority Hub. Scholars expressed gratitude through photos, shoutouts, and appreciation gifts, while Juni Cake's banoffee pie sweetly wrapped up the day. Truly, our hearts are full as the community came together to celebrate unity, creativity, and shared purpose.

Let's stay connected!



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