

Pannabecker Puppets Philippines Puppet Ranch

In 2025, my God given dream of making puppets in the Philippines to use in ministry became reality. Lisa Ching and I have set up a workshop on a ranch in Montecillo, Quezon Province, near Sariaya. Our goal over the next few years is to assemble 5000 puppets.

Ten women from the nearby community work with us and are paid a day rate in accordance with government guidelines. Jobs are hard to find in this area, so puppet making is meeting a significant need in these women's lives. God has provided us with space on the ranch to make puppets and with an apartment to live in.

The workday begins with a thought from Scripture followed by prayer. Only two of the women are Jesus followers, so this is highly important part of our interaction with the women. They are being introduced to the truths of God's Word, are learning work skills necessary for puppet construction and are building relational skills as they work together. One lady said to us, "When I make puppets I forget my problems.

Once the puppets are made, we conduct puppet manipulation and script writing workshops over two days. During this training, they receive a puppet as part of their registration fee to use for future ministry. While the puppets are all made at one location, the manipulation trainings can occur anywhere throughout the nation.

Lisa Ching and Steven Weathers work closely with me. This project is definitely a team effort!

KUC has tremendously impacted this work through financial support, prayer, advice and encouragement. As we work in the Philippines, we are keenly aware that we are an extension of the Body of Christ here in Honolulu. Thank you so much for your help in making this possible.

Please pray that our presence in the Monticello barangay will lead women and their families into God's family.

Serving our Savior,

Lois Pannabecker
Pannabecker Puppets

Greetings from Manila,

My trip here was pleasant, although a bit delayed. That's a first in my travels with Korean Air.

The last two months back in the US are a bit of a blur as they took on a life of their own. Thankfully God was with me all along and I have many reflections of his presence and care. His paths are filled with surprises. Through it all, relationships were the major blessing. In that department I am wealthy!

Unexpectedly, I was able to enjoy Christmas with both of my sons, Brandon and Andrew, and their families. It's been a very long time since we've been together at Christmas. A trip that was supposed to have me in two states, took me to nine states with a 13-hour road trip thrown in for good measure. Sadly, this change was precipitated by a death in Crystal's (Brandon's wife) family, but it resulted in my being able to connect with family and dear friends and return to the Indiana/Michigan area in time for a beautiful snowfall. The changes were a daily reminder of the words of Proverbs 16:9, "The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps."

Steven also arrived here in Manila two days ago, and tomorrow we have an important meeting with 13 Awana Philippines leaders. They are coming together from around the country and invited us to be a part of their retreat discussions regarding future ministry. This interaction is an answer to prayer and will be our third opportunity to brainstorm and dream together.

If you'd like to learn more about Awana's global ministry, please visit their site. <https://www.awana.org/> We've had discussions with a leader at the international headquarters in Illinois. The hope is that we can use the Philippines as a test program, and as we develop a plan together, they will be able to expand the use of puppetry in their clubs to a global platform. Awana annually interacts with 10 million children around the world.

Throughout the remainder of January, Steven and I will be involved in puppet trainings, strategic planning sessions with various organizations, and attend a workshop on human trafficking.

Please keep us in your prayers.

- The enemy has made it clear that he does not like our work. I praise God for his protection!
- Ask God to anoint our conversations with his profound Spirit guided wisdom and creativity.
- We have many miles of road travel. At times, driving here becomes crazy! God protected us from a serious accident on our last trip.
- Stamina is needed. Ask that I will gracefully and quickly adjust to an 18-hour time difference
- We desire that our lives and ministry will reflect the work of God's Spirit in us.
- Lisa will join me at the beginning of February and puppet making will resume at the ranch. Pray that this time at home will be refreshing for her.

My theme word for this year is "HOPE." The world desperately the hope of our Savior, and we desire that our ministry will be used to introduce children to the God of all hope. Matthew 12:21, says it well. "In his name, the nations will put their hope.

Thank you for journeying with us as we grow the ministry here in the Philippines.

Serving our Savior,

Lois