

# EXAMPLES OF FEATURE WRITING

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JUST SNIPPETS

# Shades of Violet

**HUMAN INTEREST**

At the end of the color spectrum, an exceptionally talented creative blends the polychromatic myriads of passion, courage, and ambition

Freniel Austria

Photos by Donald Calma Jr., Rocel Batara & Randolph Brent Navoa

**LEAD**

Extending from 380 to 450 light nanometers, violet has the shortest wavelength in the color gamut, perhaps the hardest for the human eye to discern. Even by historical narrative, the color has been known for its rarity, a quality that imperial nobilities of Rome and Egypt had adored—one that is so valuable only Julius Caesar was entitled to wear in his time.

While greatly prominent in aristocratic antiquity, the name was not used until the 2nd millennium, originated only after the enigmatic flower. recall strategy and a constant reminder to be creative." Her blog Violetology is one of her creative pursuits. Although she describes it as her

she says. "With no knowledge or experience on the sport, I mustered up the courage and tried to advance through her opponent's goalposts, in for the team." After rigorous training, she was appointed as one of the players. With altitudes soaring through the captivating later, she transferred to the Philippine Women's Football League. The love and passion for the sport is what keeps her going.


During school days, Violet played with Nueva Vizcaya Football Club. An all-male football team, they never marked her out as a *saling pusa*—she was treated fairly as a fellow athlete. In the UAE, the cultural values were different. Unlike in the Philippines where there are mixed-gender and open football tournaments, "It was unusual

The talents of Violet—in the field as she advances through her opponent's goalposts, in altitudes soaring through the captivating

computer putting her thoughts to inspire others—might be her defining moments, but to truly see her luminance is through her shadows. "Personally, my greatest feat is staying alive and continuously pursuing my passions despite the dark cloud constantly hanging over my head," she shares. In this spirit, she harnesses the metaphor of her name—from glorious to self-effacing to unwavering. But whether she was named after the flower or the color or a missionary, she is iridescently vibrant as the shades of violet.

Connect with Violet [violetology.com](https://violetology.com) | [/violetology](https://www.facebook.com/violetology) | [@violetology](https://www.instagram.com/violetology)





# The Hope in Nicole

## PERSONALITY SKETCH (INTERVIEW)

Get to know this online music sweetheart

Text by Henrich Coniega

Photo by Donald Calma Jr. & Randolph Brent Navoa

Cliché as it may sound, entering the world of the music industry is not a one-shot hit as we've heard great stories of our favorite icons. But now, alternative or social media are providing raw, unadulterated talents a wide array of avenues for them to pursue and showcase their passion in music. A lot of them might have a keen focus on becoming famous, and the others simply want to express themselves. But, doesn't true talent deserve prominence?

**Do you love doing song covers?** Yes, I do. I post them on my social media platforms, mostly on Facebook. But I have my YouTube channel now. Maybe I will post there more often. My favorite cover is "Bibingka" by Ben&Ben.

**Tell us about your YouTube channel.** I have been planning *na gumawa ng* YouTube channel *kaya lang lagi akong may doubt kung magiging consistent ba ako* [sa content]. I know *na mas maraming magaling sa akin* and that always holds me back from creating my own [account] but I took courage last March 2019. I told myself that I'll continue and share what I do, just enjoy the whole process of growing and channeling

have done this without my family and friends who push and remind me every single time that I can do it, that I can be great, and that this God-given talent will bring me to places.

**What will Nicole be doing years from now?** Maybe I'll be working on my extended playlist. *Sana. Pangarap ko rin ma-release 'yung mga songs ko.* Maybe, formally enroll in a music school to optimize my voice and songwriting potentials.

**What is music for Nicole?** Music is the expression of my soul. I sing to express and to share my thoughts, my emotions, my heart and my stand on certain matters. It's my platform to be heard and be understood.



## Feature story from the Philippines: Making future harvests without child labour

Seventy per cent of the world's working children are in agriculture. From tending cattle to harvesting crops, handling dangerous machinery and spraying pesticides, over 132 million children aged 5 to 14 help produce the food we eat and the clothes we wear. Minette Rimando who works for the ILO's Subregional Office in Manila reports from the Philippines.

Article | 11 June 2007

**MANILA, Philippines (ILO Online)** – Rudy is the fifth in a family of seven children. At 15, he dropped out of high school to help his father on the farm. His two elder brothers had died in a tragic accident shortly before.

Rudy felt he was duty-bound to help provide for his younger siblings. "I was afraid that my younger brother and sister would also have to quit school and work because we didn't have enough money", says Rudy.

According to a survey conducted in 2001, more than 60 per cent of working children aged 5 to 17 work on farms in the country. An estimated five million families depend on seasonal contract work on sugarcane plantations, which causes many children to drop out of school.



### Tools



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## Brighter prospects of going back to school

Not all of them are as lucky as Rudy's younger brother and sister. Today, Rudy is no longer afraid that his two siblings may quit school to work in the sugarcane fields.

"I am happy that I can give money to my parents to send my younger brother and sister to school," he says. For the ILO, agriculture remains a priority sector for the elimination of child labour.

"For agricultural and rural development to be sustainable, it cannot continue to be based on the exploitation of children in child labour. Unless a concerted effort is put in place to reducing agricultural child labour, it will be impossible to achieve the ILO goal of elimination of all worst forms of child labour by 2016", concludes Jankanish.

# HISTORICAL

## Where to find 'daang tulisan' in PH in 1800s-early 1900s

By Severino Samonte

 February 3, 2021, 1:26

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pm

**MANILA** – Did you know that during the 1800s and early part of the 1900s, a part of an isolated route considered by both the Spanish and American colonizers of the Philippines as “daang tulisan” or bandits’ path existed in the northeastern and mountainous towns of the then neighboring provinces of Manila and Bulakan?

Yes, such an unsavory name was given to that route as it was used by Filipino resistance forces whenever they attacked soldiers of the succeeding two colonizing countries. They used the route in fleeing toward the mountainous towns of Norzagaray, San Jose del Monte, Montalban and San Mateo after staging an attack, whether successful or not, against the invading soldiers.

This and other relevant information were narrated in a book titled “Kasaysayan ng Bulakan” (History of Bulakan), written by University of the Philippines History Prof. Jaime B. Veneracion and published in 1986 jointly with historians Dr. Zeus A. Salazar and Agnes R. Mendoza-Urban and the UP Bahay-Saliksikan ng Kasaysayan (BAKAS).

In 1945, instead of using the old Manila North Road, the Filipino-American forces of Gen. Douglas MacArthur chose to utilize the Novaliches-Ipo-Norzagaray Road on their way from Lingayen, Pangasinan, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija and Bulakan to liberate Manila from the invading Japanese soldiers in 1945.

A fierce battle took place on both approaches of the Novaliches-Tulyahan River bridge between MacArthur's men and Japanese soldiers on Feb. 3, 1945 before the liberating Filipino-American troops were able to proceed from Novaliches to Manila, just about 18 kilometers away. **(PNA)**



# SEASONAL

## A different but still meaningful Heart's Day

By Joyce Ann L. Rocamora

📅 February 14, 2021, 6:39 pm

**MANILA** – With the pandemic affecting the way people celebrate events and holidays, everyone has more or less expected a different Valentine's Day this 2021 — remote or with less to zero social interaction due to social distancing protocols.

But for some couples, it didn't mean a diminished love in the air. After all, it's not only about chocolates, gifts, and romantic dinner outside that makes this day special.

Josh Mirafuentes, 29, is currently based in Luzon while her husband, who works for the Philippine Coast Guard, is stationed in Cagayan de Oro.

Their pre-pandemic Valentine's Day tradition was usually involved going out for movies, eating out, and preparing handmade gifts for each other.



**BUNCH OF ROSES.** A man carries a bunch of roses on his shoulder along Dos Castillas Street in Sampaloc, Manila on Saturday (Feb. 13, 2021). Giving roses to someone is the most popular gift to express one's love during Valentine's Day. (PNA photo by Jov O. Razon)

"(Last year we had a picnic at a peaceful park. (This year, it's) literally nothing grand, we just pampered ourselves yesterday and we're just planning to watch and drink later," Mary Joy shared.

According to a survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) from Nov. 21 to 25, 2020, only about 39 percent of adult Filipinos said they would celebrate Valentine's Day.

The poll also found that 50 percent of Filipinos said they are "very happy" with their love life and 31 percent said they could be happier. (PNA)

## Sleeves up! TikTok dance challenge created to promote vaccine

By Raymond Carl Dela Cruz

 February 3, 2021,

Share  Share 35

1:56 pm

**MANILA** – A TikTok user is making good use of the platform and his dancing talent in promoting a timely cause – encouraging Filipinos to get a Covid shot.

Jerome “Jero” Pascual, @superjero00 on TikTok and @superjero000 on both Twitter and Instagram, dances with his heart on his sleeve.

With the help of his friends, Jero created the #BakunaDanceChallenge, from conceptualization to execution, in less than a day.

*“Meron akong mga friends na nakaisip na mag-raise ng awareness about dun sa vaccine since hot topic talaga siya ngayon. Ako naman, alam nila na mahilig sumayaw at meron TikTok account and they asked me if I can help them in delivering the message to the public (I have friends who thought about raising awareness about the vaccine. They knew I like dancing and have a TikTok account so they asked me if I can help in delivering the message to the public),”* Jero said in a phone interview.

And once the pandemic is over, Jero would love to travel again and visit Baguio or Boracay without the hassle of travel restrictions and free of fear of getting infected with the disease.

*“Ang dami pa proseso na gagawin at saka mataas pa rin talaga 'yung risk. So nakakamiss din talaga na mag-travel (There are so many processes that need to be completed and the risk is still high. So, I really do miss traveling),”* he said. **(PNA)**

# HOW TO

Feature Story, Specials

## Do you want to have a virtual marriage?

Published February 13, 2021, 5:42 PM  
by [Vanne Elaine Terrazola](#)



**Bill filed to legalize weddings via videoconferencing**

Like most women, Nicole, 26, has always dreamed of having a grand wedding – well-planned, held in a nice venue, with photo and video coverage, where she marches down the aisle in a wedding dress.

She also wants her relatives and friends to be there. “But of course ‘di na ideal ‘yong ganoong events ’cause of the pandemic; limited na lang talaga dapat mga guests (those events are no longer ideal because of the pandemic, the number of guests have to be limited),” she said.

Last year, many events, among them weddings, which gather a crowd were canceled or postponed due to the health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Among the protocols was the imposition of limited number of people allowed in churches or private venues.

### What’s next?

Last Tuesday, members of the House Committee on Revision of Laws agreed to create a technical working group that will further tackle Salo’s bill, along with other measures seeking to amend the Family Code.

As of writing, a counterpart bill seeking to allow virtual marriage has yet to be filed in the Senate. The proposal has to be approved in both houses of Congress for it to be signed into law by the President. Sought for comment, Senator Risa Hontiveros, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality, said several matters have to be discussed about the bill.

“There is a lot to discuss, I imagine, such as how to ensure that consent is not vitiated,” Hontiveros said in a message to Manila Bulletin.

But she said: “In principle, I support innovations to make marriage accessible to all and responsive to current challenges.”