

Preparations for NCF's Christmas Cantata 2010

With the 'ber' months heading our way comes the early winds of Christmas. And so, Novaliches Christian Fellowship begins preparations for yet another cantata.

Child of Wonder: A Celebration of Christmas by Rob Howard & Lari Goss is this year's musical, and Overall Director Sister Gigi Dantes spares no time in getting musical pieces and volunteers together.

Said Sister Gigi: "We have a very good production staff, there are many ideas, a lot are very helpful and artistic."



The Young...

"The big number of young people is really handy and timely, if I may say so," said Sister Gigi, who admits she may depend much on them for dancing as well as acting.



The Dance Ministry in particular has a lot of new styles beyond Ballet and traditional dances. Research has gone as far back as the Charleston, Quickstep, Hiphop and Broadway Jazz Dances.

Moreover, many actors who were veterans of former cantatas since childhood are also going to play major roles, such as Brother Jonel Rubio. He will again play Joseph the husband of Mary, his fourth, but the difference this time is he's going to do the act with his wife Rachel.

"This year is going to be challenging because this time, it's my wife that's my partner; Also, portraying Joseph may come in various ways as being a father in real life has taught me some valuable lessons," said Brother Jonel.

...And the Old...

"But of course, here at NCF, it's also a family thing, so there's representation from the young as well as the old," Sister Gigi adds.

The elders, eager and experienced in singing, will mostly be with the choir, with the younger singers following the lead.

Some, like 63-year-old Brother Don Ardoña, do not consider old age a barrier in serving God through music.



“Well, my talent really lies in singing, and after all, there’s always room for one more, so I decided to join,” said Brother Don.

...Joining Together

Of course, it’s not just age that doesn’t matter. The cantata will be a joint presentation by NCF Main, NCF Banaba and Green Valley Baptist Church.

Sister Joam Fajardo of GVBC will take over as Music Director once the choirs join together for rehearsal, while Pastor Mark Dantes will direct the technical aspects. Bro. Jay Baldonado helps out with the engineering, as our professional computer graphic artists like Sis. Apple Ilagan and Bro. Noel Uaje pool their designing wits with the pre-planned three-dimensional backdrops.



The *cantata* is tentatively set on December 19 at NCF Main, though the premiere could be a little earlier as a second showing is also being discussed.

All in all, this year’s *cantata* at NCF is a very anticipated presentation, one which seeks only to glorify the Lord’s name.

As Sister Gigi would simply put it, “Child of Wonder is really a musical to watch out for; everyone is very energetic and enthusiastic about it.”