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## **SHERIN BOWEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Managua, Nicaragua

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Considering that the year 2015 has officially ended, we recently held a lunch (complete with a piñata) with the objective of reflecting, with the children and young adults of the library, on some aspects of different activities we've done this year. Our goal is to get a sense of the accomplishments and needs of the library, as well as the way we can improve the services we offer. To this end, we asked a few key questions:

*Why do I come to the Sherin Bowen Library?*

*What have we achieved this year?*

*What were our favorite books, and why?*

*What clases would we like to hold in the library?*

*Is the library important for education? Why?*

*What activities do we want to offer, and what materials will we need to work with?*

*How do I feel when I come to the library?*

*What other books would I like to read in the year to come?*

*Is the schedule offered functional, or should we change it?*



**Why do you come to the Sherin Bowen Library?**

Participant: 140

It is very important and it teaches us many things we didn't know before.

This year my achievement was coming regularly to the library.

My favorite books are about natural sciences, animals, and scary stories.

I would like to keep taking the baking class. We would need materials for making crafts, such as Fomy, in the library.

A book I would like to read that isn't in the library is *The Purple Princess*. I would like the library to stay the same, thank you!

Participant: 18

I come because the library teaches us how to work through things and express ourselves. That's why I come to the Sherin Bowen Library.

**What have we achieved this year?**

Greater skill in speaking, improved textual and linguistic expression.

**What are your favorite books, and why?**

1...HarryPotter.2 Narnia. 3 El chavo. 4 The Lorax.

I like these books for their suspense, action, humor, and sensitivity.

**Is the library important for education? Why?**

Yes, because it is a relevant form of education, and it helps develop language. The books that I would like to read are the other Harry Potter books.

I like to come to the Sherin Bowen Library to learn more about books, and do homework. The books I like to read are *Mi mono*, all of that collection, and *Fly man*. I would like it if we did group musical activities, and a lot more.

Libraries are important for our learning, and I hope we continue further in 2016.

Participant: 128

I feel great. All the activities that we did this year were very fun. They told us that the donors will keep supporting the baking project for this next year. This makes me feel very happy to keep learning. The books that I have read have taught me history and interesting stories.

What I achieved by reading books I have learned great things that will help me study better in my clases.

First of all, I come to the library to read books in order to have more knowledge, and this helps me in my daily studies. Also, I have had a very enjoyable time with other members of the library that are my friends now. I have a lot of fun with them

**What are your favorite books to read and why?**

My favorite books are: *Horrorlandia* and *Goosebumps*. The library only has five books of the latter series, and I understand that there are twelve books in total. I would like it if it were posible for them to bring us the remaining books so I could read all of them. Of the five that we have, I have read four, so I only have one left. These books are very suspenseful, scary, and I have liked them very much since I was young. Thank you, Patty Cray, for these books!

**What classes should be offered at the library?**

In addition to the baking classes with our teacher Karla Nuñez, I would like to learn more about handicrafts, making, for example: parrots, cats, dogs, etc....using Foamy or Goma Eva materials.

**What other books would you like to read?**

Stories about princesses, adventures, and suspenses, etc.

**How do you feel when you come to the library?**

Happy, enchanted! I come early and when I leave I feel very happy and relieved.

**Are libraries important? Why?**

Yes, they are important, because we learn about the planets, stories that teach us valuable lessons, and real-life, everyday things.

Conclusion: I think this year was very enjoyable. I performed well in school and here at the library in reading and writing. It was a lovely year.





Participant: 55

**Why do you come to the library?**

At the Sherin Bowen Library I have learned about books that contain different stories and beautiful things. The books I like best are the *Chronicles of Narnia* and *My Monkey*. I have read the whole collection that we have here in the library. Plus, the books that I have read help me a lot in my studies.

The activities that I would like to do in the coming year include learning how to make musical sociograms. Libraries are important because we learn important lessons from them. I hope this year will be even better. Thank you!

**What materials would you like to use?** Well, I would like to have elastics and beads for bracelets.

Participant: 171

**Why do you come to the library?** To read and open my mind in each book that I read.

**What have we achieved this year?** I learned to cook, bake, and I hope that they teach us even more this next year.

**What are my favorite books?** The story *Green Eggs and Ham*. It is about a cranky dog that didn't want to try anything, and in the end he ate Ramon's eggs with ham and liked it. Very nice.

**Are libraries important?** Yes, because I learned to read better and my mind developed more.

Conclusion: This year was very fun and successful.

Participant: 87

**Why do you come to the library?**

I come because they teach us to read, write, and my mind if more agile and we do many fun things.

Our achievements:

They helped us learn many things, and they gave stuffed animals to the kids.

**What are your favorite books?**

*Cinderella*, because at first she lives a very sad life, but later her life is happy

**What subjects would you like to learn about at the library?**

I would like to continue reading books and make cakes.

**What materials would you like to have available in the library?** Crepe paper to make roses, and piñatas with bright colors.

**Is the library important for education? Why?** It is important, because it helps us read and develop our minds

**What would you like to make in the library?** Chocolate and vanilla cakes!

Participant: 20

**Why do you come to the Sherin Bowen Library?**

I come to read the books and novels that are here.

My achievements include enriching my vocabulary with every book that I read.



My favorite book is *June 13*, it's very funny.

**What activities did I enjoy?** Coloring, handicrafts, and various baking activities. The materials I would like to have available are tempera paints, colored pencils, markers, and *Foamy*, all to make many different handicrafts.

**What type of books would you like to read in the coming year?**

*Star Wars*, *Bajo la misma Estrella*, and theater books.

**Are libraries important?**

Yes, they help children improve their vocabulary and have many ideas for studying.



### Participant 8

#### **Why do you come to the library?**

I like to read many interesting and varied books. I love reading, discovering new words. I only hope we can continue reading, playing and learning more each day in the coming year.

**What are our achievements?** Books teach us a lot and they give us the opportunity to desire to read more. I would love it if Jael and the teacher Karla keep teaching us more things.

**What are your favorite books?** Harry Potter: they are books full of adventures and fantasy! I want to read all of the books in the series. The other book I like is *Katy Woo*, for fun stories.

#### **What activities would you like to see in the library schedule?**

Art, music, and english.

#### **Which materials would you like to have available in the library?**

Watercolor paints, construction paper, crepe paper in different colors, glue, and silicon. I would like to always have the schedule from 3:00-5:15 p.m.

**Why are libraries important?** Because in this library they loan us books that are important for our learning and our study of our country.

#### **Conclusion:**

I have enjoyed everything about this year. They taught us many things, like reading well. I hope Dona Mirna, Jael, Miss Karla, and all of the volunteers have a Merry Christmas.

### Participant:

#### **Why do you come to the library?**

I like to read many books, and the activities are very nice. My favorite book is *Cinderella*, as her story is very lovely.

#### **What activities would you like most to do at the library?**

Handicrafts, reading more books, and baking.

#### **What schedule would you like best?**

The one we have now works best with the time I have available.

#### **Why is the library important?**

It is very important because boys and girls can learn more.

### Participant: 27

#### **Why do you come to the library?**

Well, I enjoy reading, enriching my vocabulary, and learning from the books, plus I like to mix art with reading. I like to work with crepe paper making different handicrafts with this paper: piñatas, flowers, and decorations.

#### **What is your favorite book?** *Under the same star*

The library is also important to learn and relate with other children like me who enjoy reading.

### Participant: 17

**Why do you come to the library, and what have you achieved?** I come because I love to read different books with lovely stories. I have succeeded in improving in some classes and enjoying the reading by attending the library.

#### **What are your favorite books and activities that you enjoy most?**



*“La Princesita Verde-Rosada,”* because she is good and never gives up. I would like to learn to draw and make art with plastics.

#### **What types of materials would you like to have available at the library, and what schedule would you like to see in the future? What other books do you want to read?**

I would like watercolor paints with colored pencils. The schedule is fine, and another book I would like to read is *Little Red Riding Hood*.

#### **Are libraries important?**

Of course they are important, because they help our development as children who enjoy reading in this library.

#### **What would you like to see in the coming year? Any other conclusions?**

This year was much better, as there are new books and activities that I enjoyed a lot. I hope to see more cake baking!



*Preparing the lunch for children part of the Sherin Bowen Library*





Participant:

**Why do you come to the library, and what are your achievements for the year?**

I learned many new stories, and I like to read to improve my vocabulary. My achievement was having more books to read.

**What are your favorite books? What activities and materials would you like to have available at the library?**

*Cinderella* is lovely. I want to continue with baking, and I would like to have modeling clay, markers, watercolors, and *Foamy* to make many more handicrafts.

**What other books would you like to read? Why is the Sherin Bowen Library important?**

I would like to read *The Princess Sofia*. It is important because we learn a lot every time we come.



Participant:

**Why do you come to the Sherin Bowen Library, and what are your achievements for the year?**

They loan us books and with them I have enriched my knowledge at home and in my studies. As for my achievements, I finished elementary school, thanks to the work I did by coming to read and share with my friends.

**Which books would you like to read, and what activities and materials would you like to have available?**

National Poetry books, *Animals of the World*. I would like to learn to make bracelets with many different materials and *chaquira* threads. **Why is the library important? Any other conclusions?**

The library is important because we read and learn more. It was a year with great learning and support from my family. Thank you!



Participant: 129

**Why do you come to the Sherin Bowen Library and what have you achieved in the past year?**

I like to read, learn. It's a great distraction and departure from my routine, plus I get to know my friends and spend time together. My achievement was being a good student and reinforcing my values.

**Which were your favorite books, and which ones would you like to read? What activities and materials would you like to have available at the library?**

I like all of the books from the Scholastic Book Company, because they are fun and interesting. I would like to read *Star Wars* and *Guardians of the Galaxy*. As for activities, I would like to have watercolor painting, drawing, handicrafts, and cooking/baking. I would like to use materials like *Foamy*, crepe paper, modeling clay, silicon glue, and pipe cleaners.

**Why are libraries important? Any other conclusions?**

Yes, libraries are important to develop the mind and cultivate our vocabulary more. My conclusion is: I always appreciate how they welcome me, the activities that we do are very nice. when I leave from baking class, Jael and our teacher Karla always say goodbye to me with respect and kindness. Also, this year I felt that my mind developed more and I could express myself better.





## Summary and photos about the developments and activities at the Sherin Bowen Library in Managua, Office of Wisconsin/Nicaragua.

All year long the boys and girls at the library have been growing intellectually and culturally. Their vocabulary has grown even more, their imaginations are richer in fantasy and reality. The library has been very important because they acquired basic knowledge and developed their intellect in their minds.

We owe this whole project to effective teamwork, because all of us play a very important role, with commitment, love, and respect for the boys and girls...Jael Medina is the leader and manager of all that is involved in the library, and is assisted by the older girls who are active members of the library. She is responsible for the loaning and organization of the books that we loan out to boys and girls every week, so that they might read many books. These are the key to knowledge and wisdom.

At the final activity of the year we had a piñata, a lunch, packets with caramels, gifts of stuffed animals, and sodas. The boys and girls enjoyed this expression of affection and love very much. We want to thank voluntary donors from Wisconsin Bill Davidson, Chester Espinoza, and Bob Groh, for the money that they sent to bring such jubilation to fruition.

We want to first thank God for his goodness and the effort of the volunteers here in the office that are always available to help.



In this photograph, we feature an awards ceremony honoring three children for their participation in the library activities. We awarded Nathalia Orosco for her dedication in baking class and in the library, being one of the youngest participants. We honored Samira Sotela for her support and attendance in the library, having been a great help to Jael Medina. We gave Rodmi Varela an award for his enthusiasm and spark that he brings to the group at every meeting at the library.

