



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs

credibility and honor  
defined.

*Beyond*  
**NUMBERS**

2024 ISSUE NO. 013

**#AOCWinStories:**  
**Celebrating the Season of Giving and  
Gratitude with Alas Oplas**



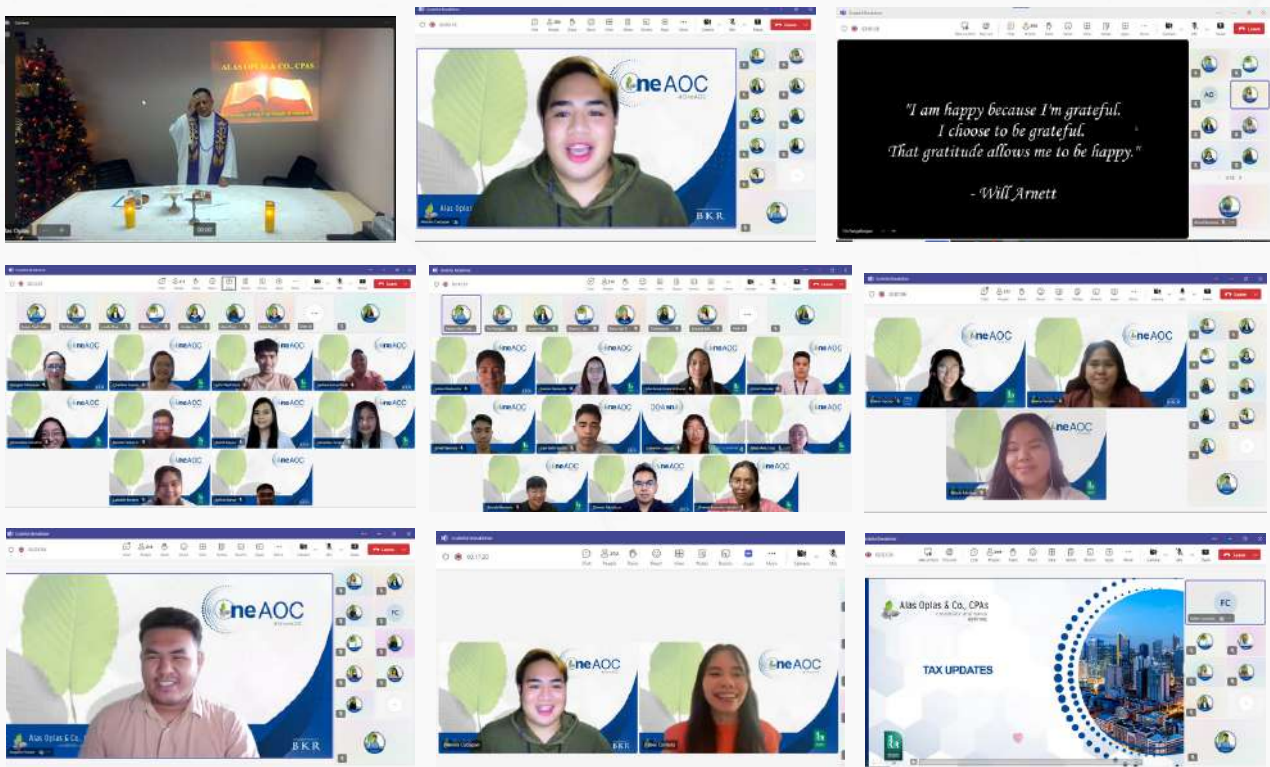
## AOC Marks the Final Monthly Breaktime of 2024 with a Grateful Celebration

On December 4, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs wrapped up its Monthly Breaktime series for the year with a lively online gathering. The event began with a heartfelt mass led by Father Ogie Orpiada. Host Marvin Cadapan kicked off the session by setting a positive tone, encouraging everyone to type in the chat box, **"I am grateful for \_\_\_\_."** Sharing the gratitude helped spread joy and positivity throughout the session, and the chat box overflowed with heartfelt responses.

The celebratory session also included a warm welcome for new hires, as well as recognition of birthdays and work anniversaries. A video presentation and photo opportunities allowed the team to reflect on the year's milestones.

The AOCWinStories segment featured testimonials from Febie Corneta, who shared her latest SLP experience, and Angelo Honor, who discussed his unique approach to leadership, showcased during the Next Gen Leader program. His leadership ultimately guided his team to a championship victory. The icebreaker, led by Rogielyn Barroga, had everyone engaged with lively games that added fun and energy to the gathering.

To cap off the breaktime, the Makati Tax Team provided valuable updates on the latest tax regulations, ensuring that AOC employees are well-prepared with essential knowledge as they move into the new year. The event was the perfect blend of celebration, learning, and team spirit, marking a strong finish to a successful year.





## AOC Year-End Party Celebrates Talent, Service, and Team Spirit



On December 16, 2024, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs hosted its much-awaited Year-End Party, bringing the vibrant energy of the 80s and 90s back to life with dazzling denim, retro vibes, and unforgettable fun at The Fifth, Rockwell Makati City. Nearly 300 employees from all branches nationwide gathered in their best denim attire, showcasing their remarkable talents through electrifying dance moves, golden singing voices, and exciting games prepared by the HR Team.



*In photo: Managing Partner Ryan Sabug delivering the welcome remarks.*



*In photo: The Grand Champion, AOC Cavite Branch, receiving their award.*

The celebration kicked off with a warm welcome from Managing Partner, Ryan Sabug. True to tradition, each team showcased their talents in singing, dancing, and acting, highlighting the creativity and skills of AOC employees. After a fierce competition, the AOC Cavite Team emerged as the grand champion from different teams and branches

The festivities also included an exciting raffle, adding an extra layer of excitement to the event. The celebration honored the new hires of 2024 and recognized employees with 5, 10, and 15 years of dedicated service. Founding Partner and Chairman Donnies Alas shared an inspiring message, expressing the firm's gratitude for the individuals who have shown years of dedication and commitment to AOC. As Alas said, "My heart can just say one thing: You are all worthy to be the pillars of AOC!"

## AOC Year-End Party Celebrates Talent, Service, and Team Spirit (cont.)

The night also celebrated the AOC Dashing Divo of the Night, Jestec Sustua, and AOC Dashing Diva of the Night, Partner Lilibeth Yasay.

The night closed with a surprise additional raffle led by Senior Partner, Glesie Martinez, followed by an inspiring closing speech from CEO Marycris Oplas, leaving everyone with a sense of pride, accomplishment, and anticipation for the year ahead. It was truly an unforgettable evening celebrating the AOC family's talent, teamwork, and spirit.

The Year-End Party was made possible through the unwavering support of AOC's Founding Partners and wholeheartedly organized by the HR and Payroll Team, led by Managing Director Jenny Catapang.



*In photo: Service Awardee*



*In photo: AOC Dashing Divo of the Night, Jestec Sustua, and AOC Dashing Diva of the Night, Partner Lilibeth Yasay.*



*In photo: 2024 New Hires*



*Chairman Donnies Alas*



*In photo: Event hosts Marvin Cadapan and Kim Ortega.*



*Senior Partner, Glesie Martinez*



*CEO, Marycris Oplas*



*In photo: The event organizers.*



## Ashley Marie Rances Honored as Outstanding UNESCO Young Professional of the Year

The National Coordinating Body of Clubs for UNESCO in the Philippines annually honors outstanding youth leaders, young professionals, educators, cultural workers, frontliners, and public servants for their significant accomplishments and influence within their organizations and communities.

This year, AOC Legazpi's Associate Auditor, Ashley Marie Rances, received the prestigious award as one of the Outstanding Club for UNESCO Young Professionals of the Year. Her innovative community program and exceptional dedication distinguished her as one of the top candidates among ten applicants.

The award was presented during the International Assembly of Youth for UNESCO (Y4U), held at the City State Asturias Hotel-Palawan in Puerto Princesa City. The ceremony took place on December 1, 2024, in the Ambassador Hall.

Congratulations to Ashley for this remarkable achievement and for embodying the spirit of excellence and service!



Photo:  
Ashley with Fellow  
Awardees.

Photo:  
Ashley Receives  
Outstanding  
UNESCO Young  
Professional of  
the Year Award.

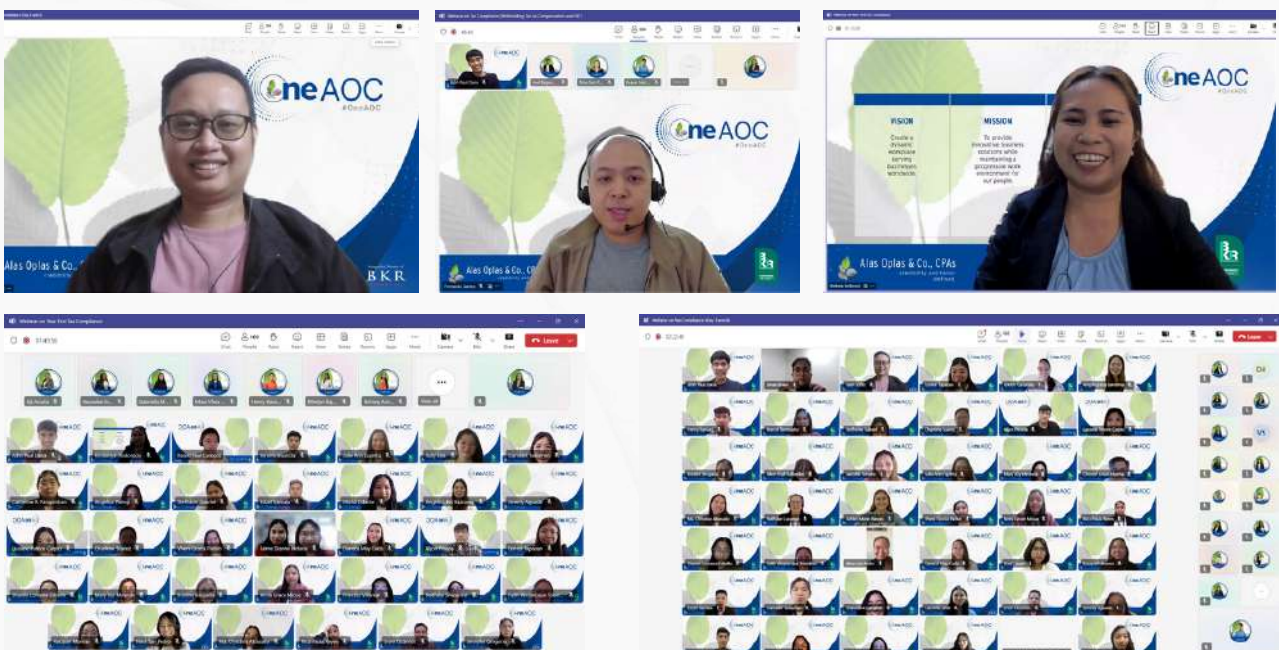
## AOC's In-House Tax Compliance Webinar Series Enhances Expertise Across the Firm

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs successfully continued its Tax Compliance Webinar Series with impactful sessions attended by employees from all AOC branches. These sessions were carefully designed to enhance technical expertise and promote practical understanding.

On December 6, the spotlight was on Documentary Stamp Tax (DST), led by Gian Sotto, an experienced Tax Associate from the Makati Tax Team. Employees from across the firm actively participated, strengthening their understanding of this crucial tax topic.

On December 11, Tax Partner Fernando Santos conducted an in-depth discussion on Withholding Tax on Compensation, providing valuable insights and practical examples. The following day, December 12, Kimberly Rodorocio, Manager from the AOC Iloilo Branch, led a comprehensive session on Year-End Tax Compliance, equipping participants with essential knowledge for year-end reporting.

Interactive activities during each session encouraged engagement and allowed employees to apply learned concepts to real-world scenarios. This initiative highlights AOC's commitment to empowering our team with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver exceptional service to our clients.





## AOC Paranaque Year-End Celebration

On December 19, 2024, the AOC Paranaque branch, together with the HR, Payroll, and Corcomm teams, celebrated a fun-filled and memorable year-end gathering at the Talent Hub office. The event included a lively exchange gift, a simple yet exciting raffle, and engaging games that had everyone laughing and enjoying the moment. This gathering provided an opportunity for employees to relax, bond, and reflect on the year's successes, fostering camaraderie and creating lasting memories in a simple yet festive atmosphere.



## AOC Santiago Celebrates Year-End with Staycation at Camp Bali Resort

On December 29, 2024, the AOC Santiago branch wrapped up the year with a memorable overnight staycation at the Camp Bali Private Resort in Ramon, Isabela. The employees enjoyed a variety of activities, including a food trip, karaoke sessions, and relaxing time at the swimming pool. A simple gathering also featured random games and a gift-giving activity, where



employees exchanged funny and useful items, making it a joyful and bonding experience to celebrate the year's end.

## AOC Bulacan SMSF Team Attends Training and Team Building Activities



The AOC Bulacan SMSF Team had an enriching two-day training session from December 17-18, 2024, at Nexus Center in Makati City, led by Kate Douglass, Partner at Walker Wayland NSW, a BKR member from Australia. Kate traveled all the way from Australia to conduct the face-to-face training, providing the team with invaluable knowledge and insights to enhance their expertise in Self-Managed Super Funds (SMSF).



On December 19, following the training, the team took part in a dynamic team-building event. They engaged in challenging activities at Mystery Manila and enjoyed a cultural visit to the National Museum of Fine Arts. This blend of professional development and bonding activities allowed the team to refine their skills while fostering stronger collaboration, creativity, and teamwork.



## AOC Makati Audit and Cabanatuan Teams End the Year with a Fun-Filled KTV Gathering

The AOC Makati Audit and Cabanatuan Teams, led by Partner Loraine San Pedro, celebrated the year-end with a lively gathering on December 17 in Makati. The event featured an unforgettable KTV session, where everyone enjoyed singing their favorite songs. Some team members showcased full performances, complete with dance routines, while others sang their hearts out, embracing their inner professional singers. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, high energy, and camaraderie, making it the perfect way to end the year on a high note.



## AOC La Union Celebrates First Christmas Party with Festive Fun

December 18, 2024 – The AOC La Union branch celebrated its first-ever Christmas party at the beautiful Ohanawave Beach Resort Hotel in La Union, creating unforgettable memories for the team. Led by AOC Partner In Charge of La Union, Carl Martos, and Partner Rex Balacano, the event featured a delightful mix of festive food, exciting gift-giving, and fun activities.

The program began with a warm welcome from the leaders, followed by a lively round of team games. The highlight of the day was the gift-giving session, where employees exchanged thoughtful presents, spreading holiday cheer. The team also enjoyed swimming, with many taking a refreshing dip in the pool and relaxing by the beach.

The event was filled with laughter and camaraderie, strengthening the bonds of the team and marking the start of many more holiday celebrations for AOC La Union. The vibrant atmosphere reflected the spirit of togetherness, making this milestone occasion truly special.





## AOC Bulacan Branch Celebrates a Joyous Year-End Party at La Florentina Resort

The AOC Bulacan Branch marked the end of the year with a festive and unforgettable two-day celebration on December 20-21, 2024, held at the beautiful La Florentina Resort in Bustos, Bulacan. Over the course of two days, the team enjoyed a variety of activities, including a delectable spread of festive food, refreshing swimming sessions, and thrilling games that brought laughter and excitement to everyone. The event provided a perfect opportunity for the team to bond, unwind, and reflect on the year's achievements. With moments of relaxation, fun, and camaraderie, the year-end party allowed everyone to celebrate the successes of the past year while looking forward to new opportunities in the year ahead.





## AOC Spreads Holiday Cheer with Thoughtful Gifts and Festive Caroling

On December 5, 2024, AOC extended a thoughtful gesture by presenting a Christmas gift to AXA Management at the Makati Head Office. This initiative reinforced the firm's dedication to nurturing strong relationships with valued partners.

Just days later, on December 11, 2024, the spirit of the season continued with a delightful Christmas caroling performance by Youth Harmonic at the Makati Head Office. The carolers brought holiday cheer, captivating AOC employees and further enhancing the festive atmosphere at the office.

These events reflect AOC's ongoing efforts to celebrate the season with gratitude, generosity, and a sense of community.





## Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Shares the Spirit of Giving Before Year-End

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs demonstrated its commitment to community care through a heartfelt donation drive, extending support to the families of AOC Batangas staff affected by Typhoon Kristine.

On December 23, the HR and Payroll team visited the families of four staff members from various AOC offices residing in barangays Agoncillo, Taal, and Lemery in Batangas. Despite long hours of travel and navigating typhoon-damaged roads, the journey was both humbling and inspiring.

The affected families warmly welcomed the team, showcasing incredible resilience and gratitude during the holiday season. Their simple act of sharing meals with the visitors highlighted their strength and strong sense of community despite the challenges they faced.

These efforts exemplify Alas Oplas' unwavering dedication to supporting its people and communities, ensuring every member of the AOC family feels cared for and valued.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this initiative. Your generosity and compassion, especially from our AOC partners, made this meaningful endeavor possible.



## AOC Legazpi Shares 2025 Tax Calendar During Year-End Visits

On December 27, 2024, Nathalie Lupango, Partner In Charge of Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs - Legazpi Branch, accompanied by Associate Auditor Ashley Marie Rances, conducted year-end visits in the area.

During their engagements, they held brief meetings and distributed the 2025 Tax

Calendar, demonstrating the firm's dedication to providing valuable resources and fostering connections within the community.



## AOC Legazpi Brings Holiday Cheer to the Community

On December 26, 2024, the AOC Legazpi Branch, headed by Partner In Charge Nathalie Lupango, together with Associate Auditor Ashley Marie Rances, prepared and distributed grocery packs to individuals in need. The initiative was a heartfelt gesture to assist those affected by the recent typhoons in Legazpi City and the Bicol Region. The recipients included parking assistants, security guards, street cleaners, and janitors, whose hard work and service to the community were honored with this act of kindness. This thoughtful gesture exemplified AOC Legazpi's commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of others, especially during challenging times.



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this initiative as part of the AOC Donation Drive. Your generosity and support have made a significant difference, reinforcing the spirit of giving within our AOC community.





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*Beyond Numbers by:*

## CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

*We welcome your comments and feedback.*

Please email us at [aoheadoffice@alaso-plascpas.com](mailto:aoheadoffice@alaso-plascpas.com)

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Website: [www.alaso-plascpas.com](http://www.alaso-plascpas.com)

**Beyond Numbers** is a periodic e-newsletter of Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, which underscores its people, its services, and the events, occasions, and activities it conducts and participates in. The e-newsletter aims to reflect the Firm's culture, commitments, values, and practices and is solely directed for communication purposes.

