

HAWAII

# FILIPINO CHRONICLE

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HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ OCTOBER 20, 2018 ◆

## BAYANIHAN CLINIC WITHOUT WALLS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

COVER STORY PAGE 4

Doctors-On-Stage Presents Noblesse Oblige



PHOTO BY TIM LLENA



7

CANDID PERSPECTIVES

THE IMPORTANCE OF ETHNIC PRESS



11

NEWS FEATURE

HANABUSA INTRODUCES RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OCTOBER AS FILIPINO-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

INSIDE: GENERAL ELECTION Supplement



COVER STORY: STATES CAN ADOPT A POPULAR VOTE SYSTEM AND RESTORE ELECTION INTEGRITY

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## EDITORIALS

# Support Doctors-On-Stage and Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls

**“N**ever doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has,” said famed anthropologist Margaret Mead, who worked with adolescents in the South Pacific.

In this vein, Doctors-On-Stage has adopted as its theme for this year’s production “Noblesse Oblige,” a French expression that literally translates “nobility obliges,” or more broadly that those who are in position to extend generosity and help to others who are less fortunate ought to do so as a social responsibility. And that privilege has a moral economy.

The concept of noblesse oblige also suggests that we are all connected, a web of communities, countries, not separated by class, gender, political party, race, religion. It’s an idea of humanity, charity – and something counter to today’s widespread political tribalism of “pushing one’s own interests or clan’s agenda” at the expense of taking away from others.

Doctors-On-Stage couldn’t have selected a theme more appropriate at this specific time given the wide divide in this country and an increasingly number of people buying into this belief that turning their backs on the less fortunate is acceptable.

This year is a special year for Doctors-On-Stage as BCWW celebrates its 20th anniversary.

## Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls

Doctors-On-Stage has been putting on musical productions as a fundraising event for the Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls (BCWW), a non-profit established by the Philippine Medical Association of Hawaii in 1997. BCWW provides free medical and dental services to those who have no medical coverage in the State of Hawaii. The poor, the homeless, the uninsured, immigrants all can receive free medical services through BCWW.

In today’s high inflation, high cost of living, where many people fall through the cracks and cannot afford basic health insurance and medical care, BCWW has been a much needed organization and safety net. BCWW epitomizes Mead’s famous quotation and the concept of noblesse oblige.

Some of its free services include: primary healthcare, physical examination, diagnosis and treatment of conditions for children and adults, obstetrics and gynecology, breast examination, osteoporosis screening, colorectal/prostate examination, ophthalmology, dental emergencies, select laboratory services, and counseling services.

It also participates in community health fairs and assists in medical missions outside of Hawaii. It has helped qualified patients with critical medical cases.

Since opening its doors in 1997, it has seen a total of an estimated 240,000 people and sees an average of 100 patients per month. On its 20th year, the BCWW has expanded to other islands in Kauai and Big Island.

BCWW’s staff includes general practice, internal medicine, cardiology, dentistry, ear, nose, throat (ENT), geriatrics, oncology, ophthalmology, pediatrics, physical therapy, among others.

It collaborates with the Hawaii State Department of Health’s Lanakila Easy Access Program (LEAP); Hawaii resi-

(continue on page 3)

## FROM THE PUBLISHER

**W**e

are pleased to announce that Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls (BCWW) is celebrating 20 years of community service. Also,

your favorite physicians and medical professionals are back for another Doctors-On-Stage Production to benefit BCWW.

For our cover story this issue, HFC columnist JP Orias writes about BCWW: its history and its invaluable work as a non-profit community based healthcare organization that provides free medical and dental services to indigent locals, the homeless, immigrants and the uninsured.

He also gives us the details on this year’s Doctors-On-Stage production – a popular, well-attended biennial event that will take place on November 3, 6:30 p.m., at Farrington High School’s Auditorium. This year’s theme is “Noblesse Oblige.” We hope the community will come out to support this worthy cause and enjoy first rate entertainment. For tickets, call 888-674-7624. We’d like to thank BCWW and the many volunteer physicians and medical support (some of whom have performed on Doctors-On-Stage) for their much valued charitable work. Also, thank you to all the organizers, performers, and the community who’ve helped make Doctors-On-Stage an enduring success.

In our columns section, Atty. Reuben Seguritan writes in his Legal Notes about the new guideline that any visa holder who engages in conduct inconsistent with the terms of his visa within 90 days of entry is presumed to have willfully misrepresented his intention before the Consular Office during the non-immigrant visa interview. The new guideline, called 90 Day Misrepresentation Rule, could have serious repercussions to newly arrived immigrants. Find out the details in his article.

In local news, mark your calendar and plan to celebrate with the Filipino community on the Big Island at its Annual Sakada Day Commemoration on December 16 at the Kula’imano Community Center. This year’s theme is “Connecting Our Past to Shape the Future.” On Oahu, the public is invited to view a special film screening on October 21 at the FilCom Center in commemoration of Filipino-American History month.

Also in this issue, HFC contributing writer Renelaine Pfister features Maria Gregoria Mercedes Maulit Guillermo who received a “Mother of the Year” award from radio station KPRP 650, Pinoy Power Radio. Maria and her husband worked arduously to have all six of their children finish college. Maria worked two jobs while her daughter Dr. Cielo Guillermo was attending the College of Medicine at UST in the Philippines. Throughout Maria’s life she was a woman of faith, a supportive wife, and nurturing mother. Congratulations to Maria for her most deserving award.

Lastly, be sure to read our General Election supplement in this issue. We have a cover story on the need to change our outdated Electoral System, profiles of Fil-Am candidates running in the general election, an article on the importance of voting, and other important election information. It’s a critical time for our country, especially for our immigrant community. We’ve learned that anything can happen during elections; and we cannot assume outcomes. Please be sure to cast your ballot on Tuesday, November 6.

A final note: remember that the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle can be viewed online. Until next issue, warmest Aloha and Mabuhay!



HAWAII **FILIPINO CHRONICLE**

Publisher & Executive Editor  
**Charlie Y. Sonido, M.D.**

Publisher & Executive Editor  
**Chona A. Montesines-Sonido**

Associate Editors  
**Edwin Quinabo | Dennis Galolo**

Contributing Editor  
**Belinda Aquino, Ph.D.**

Art Director  
**Junggoi Peralta**

Photography  
**Tim Llena**

Administrative Assistant  
**Lilia Capalad**  
**Shalimar Pagulayan**

### Columnists

**Carlota Hufana Ader**  
**Emil Guillermo**

**Ron Menor**

**J.P. Orias**

**Pacita Saludes**

**Reuben S. Seguritan, Esq.**

**Charlie Sonido, M.D.**

**Emmanuel S. Tapon, Esq.**

**Felino S. Tubera**

### Contributing Writers

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**Edna Bautista, Ed.D.**

**Teresita Bernales, Ed.D.**

**Sheryll Bonilla, Esq.**

**Rose Churma**

**Serafin Colmenares Jr., Ph.D.**

**Linda Dela Cruz**

**Fiedes Doctor**

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**Amelia Jacang, M.D.**

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**Raymond Ll. Liongson, Ph.D.**

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**Paul Melvin Palalay, M.D.**

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**Seneca Moraleta-Puguan**

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**Glenn Wakai**

**Amado Yoro**

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**Greg Garcia**

### Neighbor Island Correspondents:

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**Grace Larson | Ditas Udani**

Kauai

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Maui

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Oahu Distributors

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### Advertising / Marketing Director

**China A. Montesines-Sonido**

### Account Executives

**Carlota Hufana Ader**

**J.P. Orias**

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*Chona A. Montesines-Sonido*

## EDITORIALS

# What's At Stake This Midterm Election

**T**he 2018 midterm election is arguably the most critical election in modern times; and most editorial boards are sounding alarm bells about what needs to be done: restore a balance of power in D.C. to put a check on the president and slow down this dangerous train speeding towards autocracy in which the media itself is deemed an enemy of the state.

This election is not about partisanship, endorsing Democrats because it's the better party. But in this election -- it's about doing what's best for the country because the current one party has too much concentrated power.

It's a gross understatement to say it's a fragile moment for the nation. Democratic institutions, the rule of law, and the basic standard of decency is fast corroding under the current leadership.

If anything favorable has come about under President Donald Trump, it is the political awakening of millions and a renewed energized movement perhaps akin to the atmosphere that led to President Barak Obama's first term.

The nation is not choosing a new president on Nov. 6, but control of the U.S. Congress (restoration of bal-

ance of power) because of who this president is -- is perhaps equally important.

Political analysts predict that the House of Representatives more than likely will go Democratic and the Senate has a slim chance. Democrats need to win 23 seats to regain control of the House.

Based on the last presidential election, early polls could be completely wrong and voters cannot rely on them.

## The Issues

Immigration, weakening environmental protections, the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), Medicare and Medicaid are only a few of the pressing issues this election. As hard as it is to believe, immigration and climate deregulation could get worse should Democrats lose. The Affordable Care Act is slated for dismantling in parts or whole and millions could lose their health insurance. And serious talks are floating around that cuts to Medicare and Medicaid are the next big projects for the GOP to help pay for the deep corporate tax cuts.

The GOP maintaining their majority would only embolden them to pursue even more extreme measures than they've already had since 2016.

Very rarely a single pol-

icy could make an impact on election, particularly one forged through executive order. This election could be one of those rare occasions. While the Trump administration's family separation policy hasn't impacted most Americans, it is the type of policy that shook (and continues to shake) the core of what this nation stands for.

Many American voters will remember this ugly inhumanity. Tearing apart children from parents and housing them in cage-like conditions are not American principles. In a Quinnipiac poll, an overwhelming 66 percent of voters were against family separation at the border.

Besides the issues, executive orders and policies, this election matters because the GOP leadership of both the Senate and House have not been doing their jobs to steady this president. Their inaction makes them complicit.

## The Last Midterms

This 2018 midterms cannot be a repeat of the last one when Republicans took control of the Senate and held the House. They were able to do this largely because voter turnout was a record low. In 2014, less than 37 percent of voters went to the polls, the lowest in more than 70 years.

(EDITORIALS: SUPPORT DOCTORS-ON-STAGE...from page 2)

dents can sign up for BCWW services at Lanakila Health Center.

Founder of BCWW Dr. Charlie Sonido said of BCWW: "It is even more relevant now that all immigrants, legal or illegal, are now being considered ineligible for any kind of government health insurance."

## Doctors-On-Stage

Many of the current and past performers of Doctors-On-Stage are also volunteer physicians and medical professionals at BCWW.

Dr. Sonido, who produced

all the shows, said physicians and allied health professional volunteers and their staff and families were the first participants of Doctors-On-Stage, but it has since expanded to include other volunteers who want to help with fundraising for BCWW.

"Although quite talented, all are amateurs and do non-musical things for a living," said Sonido.

Doctors-On-Stage, one of BCWW main source of fundraising, presents a musical-benefit every other year. Awards and musical revival presentations are planned for

this year's production.

Attendees of past Doctors-On-Stage musicals have raved over the high-caliber entertainment by performing doctors, medical professionals and their families and friends. Some of its productions include: In Tune with War and Peace, the Rainbow Connection, Butterflies and Kisses, Believe, Journey, and Downtrodden.

Please support Doctors-On-Stage and BCWW and attend the musical production on November 3, 6:30 p.m. at Farrington High School's Auditorium.

## Cannot underestimate Trump

The growing U.S. economy -- that actually doesn't benefit most average Americans -- could be favorable for Trump. The president's most ardent supporters also haven't been swayed by the controversies surrounding him. Trump's approval among this group is 90 percent; despite the fact that national approval of the president is a low 41 percent, according to Gallup poll.

## Who needs to show up

Among the lowest rates of voter turnouts are young people, Latinos and Asians. Millennials (between the ages of 18 and 24) had a turnout rate of only 20 percent. All of these groups must grab their rightful seat at the table of power.

The biggest block of potential voters -- nonvoters -- must also make an impact.

The idea of exercising a protest vote -- not voting because they do not align themselves with any one party or candidate -- is simply misguided. Their nonvote means someone else will be making decisions on their behalf.

Trump was able to tap into this nonvoting sector to pull off an upset in 2016. But there's still a massive block of nonvoters to tap.

Those who are passionate about the issues must also turn out at the polls. Complaining, expressing outrage on social media -- amount to nothing if they are not showing up on election day.

Locally in Hawaii, while the outcome of most races is seen as predictable and that Democrats could be secure enough that their party will win regardless of them voting -- this shouldn't stop them from voting. The same could be said of Republicans who feel they have no chance of winning. All votes matter. History has shown that anything can happen.

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## COVER STORY

# Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls Celebrates 20 Years

## Doctors-On-Stage Presents Noblesse Oblige

By JP Orias

**O** It's a banner year for Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls (BCWW) as it celebrates 20 years of providing free medical service to the community. To help with the anniversary festivities, Doctors-On-Stage (which has been a major source of fundraising for BCWW) will present another high-caliber, entertaining production on November 3, 6:30 p.m. at Farrington High School's Auditorium to benefit BCWW.

The public and supporters of BCWW and Doctors-On-Stage (DOS) are invited to celebrate this milestone achievement of service. In addition to the musical production, there will be a recognition ceremony to honor the many volunteers of BCWW.

Appropriately, the theme for this year's DOS production is "Noblesse Oblige," a French expression that literally translates "nobility obliges," or more broadly that those who are in position to extend generosity and help to others who are less fortunate ought to do so as a social responsibility.

Over the years both BCWW and DOS have kept this concept of moral economy to heart in their charitable work.

### Bayanihan Clinic Without Walls

Current president of BCWW Russell Tacata told the Filipino Chronicle, "BCWW is a non-profit community based healthcare organization that was estab-

lished by the Philippine Medical Association of Hawaii (PMAH) on April 17, 1997. It was co-founded by Dr. Charlie Sonido during his term as president of PMAH and Dr. Herita Yulo who served as the first president.



Photo by TIM LLENA

BCWW was established to provide free medical and dental services to newly arrived immigrants, to those who cannot afford medical insurance, and to the financially indigent."

The organization's name "Bayanihan" Clinic Without Walls means "coming together," a similar equivalent of Hawaii's "Aloha" without physical boundaries (walls).

In the beginning, most of the patients seen under this program were from the Pacific Islands. They were seen by 30 volunteer physicians of eight different specialties. The Program Manager and Director of LEAP then was Dr. Herita A. Yulo, MD, MPH, CHES, MS.

By October of 1997, volunteer dentists joined the program. By the end of 1998, BCWW had seen 438 Immigrants who were referred to the volunteer physicians and dentists. Also that year, it was awarded its tax-exempt status.

Today there are about 60 medical volunteers.

It also has expanded its services to the homeless. To date, it has seen an estimated 240,000 patients, an average of 100 patients per month.

On its 20th year, the BCWW has expanded to other islands in Kauai and Big Island. Other plans include holding Community

Health Fairs as the need arises in other islands.

Tacata explains that BCWW makes use of a single health needs-evaluation and referral system. It works with Lanakila Easy Access Project (LEAP) under the office of the Bilingual Health Services located at Lanakila Health Center. Qualified patients are referred to volunteer physicians of BCWW at their private office.

He says the good news is that "BCWW continues to survive despite lack of government funding. BCWW raises funds so that it can continue its mission through the Doctors-On-Stage production."

Dr. Sonido, co-founder of BCWW and producer of the DOS, says of BCWW's service: "It is even more relevant now that all immigrants, legal or illegal, are now being considered ineligible for any kind of government health insurance."

### Doctors-On-Stage

"The Doctors on stage production started its first musical production involving physicians and those in the medical profession in 2004. It was a success. Since then BCWW continues its fund raising through the DOS production every 2 years to support and to keep BCWW alive," said Dr. Tacata.

"Mabuhay to the DOS production. Hope you will continue to support the DOS production so that BCWW can continue its missions."

Past productions include: the Rainbow Connection, Butterflies and Kisses, Love Stories, In Tune with War and Peace, Believe, Down-trodden and Journey.

"Physicians and other allied health professional volunteers and their staff and families with musical theater talent and experience were recruited to form the first participants of the group. It has since expanded to include other volunteer participants who just want to help with fundraising for this project which is non-government funded. Although quite talented, all cast members are amateurs and do non-musical things for a living," said Dr. Sonido.

He recalls the first musical presented at the Neal Blaisdell Center was attended by over 1200 and raised over \$80,000 for the group. There have been 7 other shows since then. Each musical consists of a collection of songs and dances woven around a central theme.

"This year is a revival of over 30 songs selected from the best of the previous shows. Whenever possible, the original performer was

(continue on page 5)

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## COVER STORY

(from page 4)

selected to sing the same song with some revisions to fit the new style and tempo of the overall production.

“We have chosen musical theatre production instead of the usual hotel dinner to honor the volunteers and at the same time help raise funds to continue the project.

“We are expecting a good and enthusiastic response from our patients and members of the local community. We promise a night full of good music and dancing,” said Dr. Sonido.

He added: “this project is very satisfying. It is very unifying for the performers who have formed lasting and closer bonds from many days and nights of practicing together to present a balanced and enjoyable show. It allows us to continue our mission to help the less fortunate because we believe that it is the responsibility of those who are blessed more in life to help the less fortunate.”

**Noblesse Oblige**

This year’s production, Noblesse Oblige, captures the dynamics and magnitude of the past seven projects of DOS. It has a cast of 30 musically talented medical professionals: Elizabeth Abinsay, MD, Glorifin Belmonte, MD, Erica G. Brenner, Luisa Corpuz, MD, Anna Davide, MD, Carolina Davide, MD, Nestor Del Rosario, MD, Jay Ariel Flores, DPT, Sorbella Guillermo, MD, Noelani Coreen Hobbs, MD, Nicenor Joaquin, MD, Benilda Luz-Llena, MD, Edgar Manuel, APRN, MD, Yrel Quengua, Ronee Roaquin, Abigail Santos, MD, Ross Simafranca, MD, Russell Tacata, MD, and Josephine Waite-Ansdell, MD.

Narration will be done by Dr. Rhea Alarin and Erica Brenner and awarding ceremony will be emceed by Dr. Rainier Dennis Bautista.

Participating in the production is Rosalie Woodson Dance Academy and its president Charlene Barro who shares her choreographic talents expertise in some num-

bers. Alfred Alcain and Ceres Yanong will also provide interpretive dancing. Jericho Jara Orias, a seventh grader, will sing in “Who Will Buy from Oliver.”

Noblesse Oblige has two musical directors – Corazon P. Aczon and Monette Forte who handled previous productions of Doctors-On-Stage.

This show features 36 songs that are woven into a new story-line around its theme.

Dr. Sonido once again holds the distinction of creating concepts of the show. JP Orias, its Artistic Director, is tasked with staging. Tim Llena, who is the official photographer, is the photo journalist in charge of slide production. Dr. Raphael Malilay is in charge of the script and writing.

Some showstoppers in the celebration are “When You’re Good to Mama,” featuring Dr. Coreen Hobbs, Hakuna Matata and “Circle of Life” with Dr. Del Rosario as Rafiki, “Razzle Dazzle” from Chicago, ensemble songs like “Skidrow,” “Through Heaven’s Eyes” and “Bohemian Rhapsody.”

The audience will likewise be mesmerized by all-time favorite songs like “Imagine,” “Vienna,” “Bring Him Home,” “Audition” and “How Do You Keep the Music Playing,” to name a few.

Cast member Flores, a seasoned Honolulu stage veteran, said Noblesse Oblige will be his 4th Doctors-On-Stage production since 2012.

“This production will have a selection of the most favorite songs that DOS has presented in the past 20 years,” said Flores. He says he participates with DOS so that he can “share his singing talent that God gave to him.”

Flores’ stage background is extensive. Some of his roles include: Thuy in Miss Saigon, Lun Tha in The King and I, Bustopher Jones, Asparagus and Growltiger in CATS, Simon Zealotes in Godspell, the Wazir in Kismet, the All Good Gifts solo-

ist in Godspell and the Herald in Cinderella. He was also in Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera, Pirates of Penzance, and Mulan.

Dr. Tacata is one of the newbies of the bunch with Noblesse Oblige being his second cast appearance on DOS.

“Being the president of BCWW, I had to be there and have fun and spend time with my cast,” he said of last year’s performance at Kroc Center.

Dr. Nick Joaquin is one of the original cast members of DOS who played Captain Von Trapp in the Sound of Music, DOS’s first production. He’s excited to be a part of this year’s production.

Another veteran, Dr. Sorbella Guillermo, has been taking time off her busy schedule to prepare for Noblesse Oblige.

“I want to thank the entire cast of DOS and volunteers of BCWW for rendering their unselfish service for a noble cause,” said Dr. Guillermo.

Dr. Carolina David said music and dance have been her stress reducer in the midst of the craziness of the present medical system. “Being in this production serves as an outlet. I have been part of DOS since I started driving my daughter, Anna, to practices in 2008.”

**“It (BCWW) is even more relevant now that all immigrants, legal or illegal, are now being considered ineligible for any kind of government health insurance.”**

**– DR. CHARLIE SONIDO**  
*Co-founder of BCWW and producer of all the DOS shows*

She said her participation in DOS is also a way to be a role model to Anna, “that we should share our talents with the community, especially with fundraising for a good cause.”

Drs. Sonido and Guillermo got her involved with DOS in part because of her background in the performing arts. “I was a member of a dance group in UPLB doing ballet, jazz, & modern dance in my lighter and younger years; doing hula with Iwalani Tseu and her daughter, Tatiana Fox, under Na Lei O Ka ‘Iwa Ha’a I Ka Lani. Lately, I am part of the Cultural Performers of the Cebuano Association of Hawaii.”

**Sponsors**

The sponsors of the event are Hawaii Senior Medical Group, Hawaii Filipino Health Care, Charlie Y. Sonido M.D., LLC/Primary Care Clinic of Hawaii, Phil-

ippine Medical Association of Hawaii, Hawaii Filipino Chronicle Inc., Hawaii Medical Service Association, Ohana Medical Health Plan, Westlock Park Hotel, Benilda Luz-Llena, M.D., Inc., Mark Chui, CPA/Chris Chui, Esq., Bank of Hawaii, McMann Eye Institute, Flora Medina-Manuel M.D., Ankur & Shlipa Jain, M.D. Inc., Gary Okamura, M.D. Inc., Hawaii Diagnostic Radiology and FMS Hawaii.

Tickets at the 1000-seat capacity FHS Auditorium are at \$75 VIP, \$60, Orchestra Wing, \$50 Orchestra and \$25 Balcony. Donations are accepted at the gate.

Join the fun and be entertained at BCWW’s 20th Anniversary and DOS latest production.

Please call 808-387-8297 or 808-671-3911 for tickets or you can purchase online at <https://bcww.ticketspice.com/dos>.



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## Celebrate and Honor Sakadas at the Annual Sakada Day Commemoration

**B**IG ISLAND, HI--The Filipino community of Hawaii will commemorate and honor the rich history and contributions of Filipino plantation labor in Hawai'i at the annual Sakada Day celebration on Sunday, December 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kula'imano Community Center, Pepeekeo. This year's theme is "Connecting Our Past to Shape the Future."

Officially recognized on December 20 of every year, Sakada Day commemorates the first fifteen sakadas, or Filipino plantation contract labor-

ers, who were the first to arrive in Honolulu in 1906. A total of 126,000 Filipino workers worked in Hawai'i's sugarcane plantations.

"As the few remaining Sakadas leave this Earth, we call on the next generation to recover and connect to the sakada history, as we create our path towards the future," says Cornelia Anguay, one of the planners of the Sakada Day event. "We invite young people and descendants of the sakadas to come and connect to this heritage."

During the event, sakadas will be honored and recognized

with traditional songs, dances, food, certificates and congratulatory messages — a fitting tribute for their valued contributions to our island economy and the rich multicultural identity of our State. A delegation from the University of Northern Philippines will also share in the festivities and sample a taste of aloha from our communities.

This event is sponsored by the County of Hawai'i, Hilo-Hamakua Community Development Corp, Big Island Filipino Community Council and the Sakada Day Committee.

## Help Low-Income and Homeless Families

**H**elping Hands Hawaii (HHH) is seeking donors and community partners to help our Adopt A Family (AAF) efforts during the holidays. This program provides holiday relief and joy to households experiencing poverty, homelessness, extended unemployment, medical hardships and other hardships that make celebrating the holidays difficult.

As a donor, individuals select a family they want to help and are given the family's holiday wish list and narrative describing the family's current situation. As a community part-

ner, businesses can display paper ornaments on their Wishing Tree and serve as an AAF gift collection site. Ornaments list different types of items needed by families. AAF's goal is for every participating household to receive gifts before Christmas so families can be inspired for the new year.

### HOW TO ADOPT A FAMILY

Donors must submit a Donor Information Form to [AAF@helpinghandshawaii.org](mailto:AAF@helpinghandshawaii.org) so AAF staff can match them with participating families beginning in mid-November. The deadline to sign up as a donor and be matched with a

family is Wednesday, Dec. 5. The deadline to drop off gifts for families is Saturday, Dec. 8 at HHH located at 2100 N. Nimitz Hwy. HHH is open on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with extended hours through 6:30 p.m. from Dec. 3 through Dec. 7. Additionally, it will be open on the following Saturdays from 8 a.m. to Noon: Nov. 17, Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and Dec 8.

### HOW TO BECOME A WISHING TREE HOST

Businesses interested in hosting a Wishing Tree should contact [AAF@helpinghandshawaii.org](mailto:AAF@helpinghandshawaii.org) for details.

## Filipino Film to Show at FilCom Center

**T**he Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu will hold a special screening of the Spyron AV

Manila film "Unsundered 2: The Hunters ROTC Guerillas" on Sunday, October 21, 2018, 4-6 p.m. at the Filipino Community Center in Waipahu.

The screening is in com-

memoration of Filipino-American History Month this October. The event is free and open to the public. To reserve a seat, RSVP at [honolulupcg.cultural-section@gmail.com](mailto:honolulupcg.cultural-section@gmail.com).

## Public School Students Can Get Free Flu Shots

**T**he flu season is here and public school students can now get free flu shots.

The Hawai'i State Department of Health's (DOH) annual Stop Flu at School program started and will continue in 177 public schools statewide through Dec. 7, 2018. The voluntary program administers free flu shots to students in kindergarten through eighth grade who are enrolled at participating schools. Approximately 30,000 students are expected to be vaccinated during the eight-week program.

"Vaccination is our best defense against the flu. It can help prevent illness, but more importantly, it decreases the risk of severe illness, which can result in hospitalizations and death," said Dr. Sarah Park, state epidemiologist. "Vaccinating our school-age children will help reduce the spread of flu in our communities and protect those at risk of serious illness, including infants too young to be vaccinated, adults over 65, pregnant women, and those with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease."

Stop Flu at School, Hawai'i's school-located vaccination program, is an innovative partnership between the State of Hawai'i Departments of Health and Education. This pro-

(continue on page 10)



## SOCIAL SECURITY UPDATE

### Social Security Announces 2.8 Percent Benefit Increase for 2019

**S**ocial Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for more than 67 million Americans will increase 2.8 percent in 2019, the Social Security Administration announced.

The 2.8 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 62 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2019. Increased payments to more than 8 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2018. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits). The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$132,900 from \$128,400.

Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail in early December about their new benefit amount. This year, for the first time, most people who receive Social Security payments will be able to view their COLA notice online through their my Social Security account. People may create or access their my Social Security account online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

To get more Social Security news, follow the Press Office on Twitter @SSAPress.



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## CANDID PERSPECTIVE



By Emil Guillermo

# The Importance of Ethnic Press



It's the first draft of history, as they say. And when no one bothers to write about you in the mainstream, the value of the ethnic press rises exponentially.

So once the 15th passes, the confluence of National Hispanic Heritage Month and Filipino American History Month ends, it's time to celebrate. The Filipinos have October all to themselves.

Or so I thought.

October turns out to be a little promiscuous. It's also German American Heritage Month (Oh, yeah that Octoberfest thing). LGBT History Month (Andrew Cunanan, anyone?), and it's Polish American Heritage Month (Hot dog!)

And why stop there? Since there are only 12 months, can you blame breast cancer, dyslexia, anti-bully, anti-vaccine, orthodontists, and even pit bulls from wanting a piece of October? Why not, the more the merrier. It's also ADHD Awareness month.

The ultimate October parade just might be one with a trans breast-cancer survivor, who was bullied and suffered a vaccine injury, but who had a really great smile with straight teeth and good dental hygiene, proudly marching their (gender neutral) pitbull as they patrol the neighborhood. (Didn't you know? it's National Crime Prevention Month.)

That could be the look of the best overall October poster child, if they were at least half Filipino with a Spanish surname, with another parent of German/ Polish descent.

And to top it off, let's sit down to a meal of that Chinatown specialty roast pork, Filipino lechon. What do you know--it's National Cholesterol Month.

Ah, Diversity!

But let's keep it simple, shall we.

We're Asian Americans.

From now until the end of Halloween, Filipinos are the pumpkin spice of the tribe.

Literally, we're the Asian American flavor of the month.

And the month started off with a bang when I won a Plaridel Award for best commentary for a column on the first Filipinos to America that appeared in my column that I syndicate to the Philippine ethnic press like the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle.

I did more serious columns in the last year about Trump and Duterte. But of all my columns, this one engaged the most readers.

Plaridel is the pen name for one Marcelo H. del Pilar, billed as a writer/journalist above lawyer, and known as a Philippine national hero--the father of Filipino journalism--for his passionate writings railing out against the Catholic Church and colonial Spain.

Of course, he wrote in a small publication and died a pauper. What an example for the modern ethnic journalist who writes the first draft of history for the community.

For this amok columnist, it was an honor to receive the award. And another for Best Radio/Podcast for an interview on the Congressional Gold Medal for Filipino vets of WWII. A third column won a merit award, but it was the top entry in the Personal Story category. I wrote about how men can be sexually harassed

by women in the workplace. Don't think it's not a two-way street.

So all of this, to kick off the month, and so close to my birthday, the self-cancelling Leif Ericsson Day, the day Scandinavians celebrate immigration to the U.S.!

## Filipinos Were Here First

The subject of that aforementioned award-winning column is one of the reasons October is Filipino History Month. Filipinos were actually first to step foot on America, Oct. 18, 1587.

That's 33 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. And they get a holiday. And yes, it was nearly 100 years AFTER Columbus, but he was somewhere in the Bahamas. Not in California like the Filipinos.

The Filipino American National Historical Society picked October as our history month based on the scholarship of Eloisa Gomez Borah, a librarian who published her analysis of explorer Pedro de Unamuno's logs in UCLA's Amerasia Journal.

Her article details how Unamuno, sailing for Spain, had at least eight Filipino crew members. It was the Filipinos who led the landing party off the central coast of California in what is now Morro Bay.

Of course, the help never gets any of the glory. And the land was taken for the Spanish. But the Filipinos technically were the first non-indigenous people to step foot on the continental U.S.



Alex Fabros

Being fodder comes with some privilege. Any sliver of mention are points of pride and worth savoring considering how whitewashed mainstream history is.

But the day after I got my award, I had lunch with Alex Fabros, a former FANHS trustee and San Francisco State Asian American historian, who has long taken issue with the accuracy of Morro Bay.

Unamuno's landing is solid. The diaries back the dates. But where did he land?

My column didn't question that. But Alex Fabros, 72, set me straight.

Fabros is somewhat of an American Filipino renaissance man. He's a retired mil-

itary officer, as well as a sailor, and in 2001, he took a boat load of the historically curious off the Pacific coast with the hopes of replicating Unamuno's voyage.

That's when Fabros noticed something fishy.

"Unamuno talks about having to avoid some islands and then he comes inland," Fabros told me. "There are only two places on the California coast that meet that criteria--one is San Francisco, which has the Farallon Islands, the other is Santa Barbara. But if he's sailing south, it's the Farallons, and chances are it could be Half Moon Bay."

As he replicated Unamuno-

(continue on page 8)



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## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## FAUW Hosts Lecture By Filmmaker Miguel "Lucky" Guillermo

The Filipino Association of University Women (FAUW) will host a lecture (also streamed live) given by Miguel "Lucky Guillermo," an award-winning filmmaker at Max of Manila, Dillingham, on Saturday, October 20, 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Guillermo is the Managing Director of Spyron AV Manila whose advocacy for WWII historical awareness has reached thousands of students and young professionals.

He has made six feature films, including "Alabok" in 1978 starring Gloria Diaz. In 2000, he refocused on publishing books and making documentary films on WWII

history in collaboration with former Yale professor Peter Parsons and filmmaker Bani Logrono.

### Film Screenings

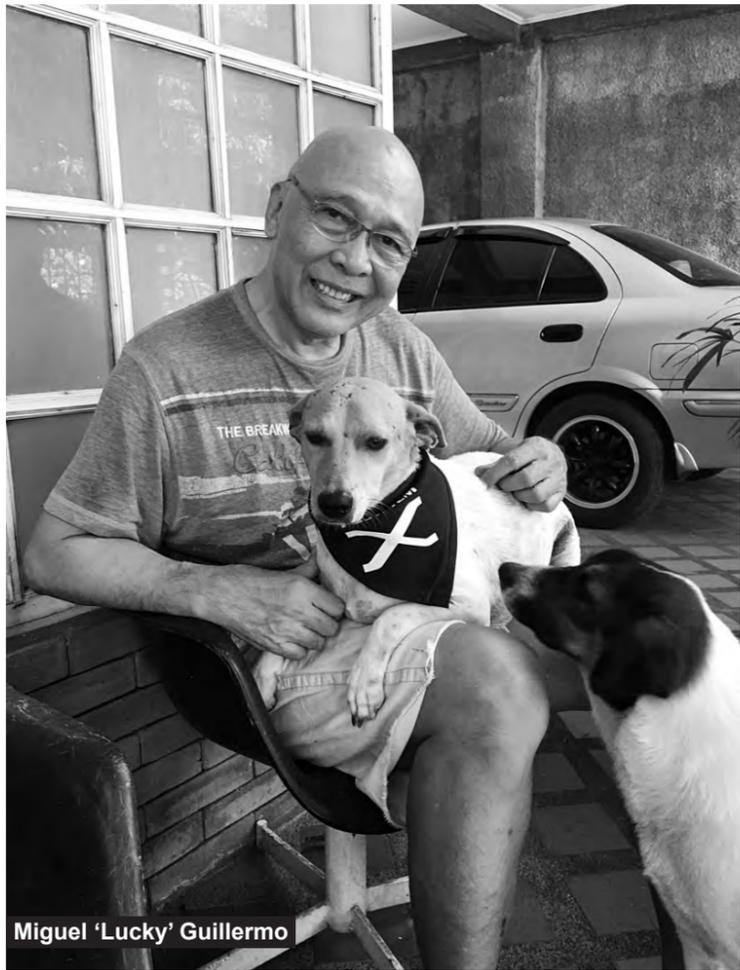
Guillermo's documentary "Unsundered 2: The Hunters ROTC Guerrillas" will be shown at the FilCom Center on October 21, 6 p.m.

The documentary tells the story of some of the bravest Filipinos in the 20th century. When the Japanese invaded the Philippines during WWII, no other country in the world rose up as did the Filipinos, forming an underground army of over 300,000, all of whom fought for a better future.

Among the "unsundered" were the Hunters ROTC Guerrillas, one of the youngest and first to respond to the call of freedom. "Unsundered 2" challenges the youth of today to rise to the occasion as did our WWII heroes.

Some of Guillermo's other documentaries include: The Secret War in the Pacific, Ships from Hell, Unsundered: 100 Voices, Valor: the Legacy of Col. Emmanuel V. De Ocampo, and Honor: The Legacy of Jose Abad Santos.

To attend the lecture hosted by FAUW, RSVP at [fauw1987@gmail.com](mailto:fauw1987@gmail.com). To view the lecture streamed live, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FAUWHawaii>.



Miguel 'Lucky' Guillermo

(CANDID PERSPECTIVE ; THE IMPORTANCE...from page 7)

no's galleon sail, Fabros was armed with an astrolabe and a sextant in 2001, and noticed that he could be 100 miles off. With the island reference and the error factor, Fabros is almost certain that Unamuno landed in Half Moon Bay, about a three-and-a-half hour drive north of Morro Bay on U.S. 101.

Borah mentioned the "crab mentality" of others and stands by her interpretation.

But Fabros is no crab. He's a former adjunct Asian American history professor, who happens to be a decorated vet-

eran, exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War. He's not interested in a fight. Just the truth. He simply says his replication of Unamuno's journey shows Morro Bay is just the wrong place for history.

### Postcards from Salinas

Fabros' challenge goes beyond the first Filipinos. He'll say unabashedly that it was the Salinas Valley, Steinbeck Country, just north of Monterey, where the Filipinos really fought the violence of discrimination and racism in America. Much more so than

Stockton or San Francisco.

The Stockton Filipinos were mostly migrants, Fabros said. Hence, the labor contracts would come and go. In Salinas, the workers stayed, so labor contracts were usually hard fought victories that resulted in stronger more lasting contracts, Fabros said.

Fabros tells the story of the Central Coast Filipinos in a new curated exhibit, "Postcards from Salinas," at the National Steinbeck Center's art and culture gallery.

You'll see the sepia toned photographs Filipinos sent home during the 1920s and '30s to let the family know all was well in America.

Meanwhile, Filipinos were being violently harassed for consorting with and marrying white women. It led to anti-intermarriage laws that were the emotional subtext of the day.

Fabros uses the Caliva family photos in the exhibit. Narciso was a cousin of the legendary Filipino writer Carlos Bulosan.

Caliva is seen with his wife, Lucy, in a key photograph. Just the sight of a Filipino man and a white woman was enough to justify rage and anger among white men at the time.

Love meant courage.

Filipinos stood their ground.



If you don't know Filipino American history, the postcard exhibit in Salinas is a great primer. The evocative photographs are as comprehensive a look at Filipino American life from the 1920s to the 1950s.

Along with the FANHS National Museum in Stockton, they're both worth a visit to Northern California, especially during October, Filipino American History Month.

Of course, I don't mean to give short shrift to the sakadas. They came to Hawaii first from the Philippines. But by

the 1920s many like my father were going direct from Ilocos to California and skipping the plantations.

It's part of our evolutionary journey. It's also proof there's more than enough material in the past and present for journalists and historians to mine.

Too much is still left unsaid, and untold when it comes to Filipinos in America.

EMIL GUILLERMO is a veteran journalist and commentator. He was on the editorial board of the Honolulu Advertiser, and a columnist for the Starr-Bulletin. Twitter @emilamo

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FEATURE

# MERCY GUILLERMO: EVERY FILIPINO'S GRANDMOTHER

By Renelaine Pfister

**O**n a sweltering day in Oahu, when it alternated pouring rain and clear skies, I visited Mrs. Maria Gregoria Mercedes Maulit Guillermo at her home, where she lived with her daughter, Dr. Cielo Guillermo, and Dr. Cielo's family.

Despite having just returned home from the hospital a couple of days before, Mrs. Guillermo was willing to meet with me for an interview. Even when it was hot and she was fatigued, she answered my questions graciously.

I was interviewing her after she received a "Mother of the Year" award from the radio station KPRP 650 AM,

Pinoy Power Radio, hosted by Emmie Ortega-Anderson. Mrs. Guillermo was an avid listener to Ms. Anderson's program, and kept the radio station on night and day. The radio kept her connected to the outside world; she was 86 years old, and mostly stayed at home for health reasons.

Since I started working in nursing homes as a health care professional, I have had a special regard for the elderly. I believed in the popular quote: "Experience is the best teacher." Our elders have seen and experienced a lot, and they have a lot to teach us younger generations.

For example, Mrs. Guillermo could teach us a thing or two about hard work. She worked a variety of jobs such as buying and



selling chicken in Manila, being a dance instructor, a beautician, and working at a tobacco company. Her and her husband's hard work allowed all six of their children to finish college. Dr. Cielo remarked that her mother worked two jobs when Dr. Cielo was attending College of Medicine at UST in the Philippines.

Mrs. Guillermo was able

to accomplish this, despite not having finished grade school and getting married at a young age, as was common in her time. She got married when she was eighteen years old to Jose Guillermo, who later became Vice Mayor of Banna, the same town where she was born and raised.

One of her children petitioned for her migration to Hawaii, where she worked at Maui Marriott as a housekeeper and earned several Employee of the Year awards. She also made and sold draperies to supplement her income.

When I listened to Mrs. Guillermo's life story, I thought she sounded like the grandmothers of many of us who grew up in the Philippines: they nurtured and raised at least five children,

kept their houses in order, and worked in any trade or job they could to help their husbands and their families. They didn't complain, and they didn't expect to be praised. They were strong people.

Mrs. Guillermo's strength was undoubtedly backed by a more heavenly source. Mrs. Guillermo was an active member of the Union Espiritista religion. She went to church every Sunday to gather with her peers. When I asked her questions, she frequently deferred to Jesus Christ, who was her captain.

Meeting Mrs. Guillermo reminded me of my own grandmothers: strong, hard-working, loving, God-fearing, and devoted to their families. It couldn't hurt us to adapt these traits.

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## OPEN FORUM

# No U.S. Aid to Philippine National Police

By Yves Nibungco, Malaya Movement

**W**e call on the Filipino Community and all people in the United States to block the Philippine National Police (PNP) from setting up their “Global Police Community Relations” physical attaches here in the U.S., slated to be established in San Francisco and one in the East Coast. The PNP has been at the forefront of President Duterte’s bloody “war on drugs,” directly implicat-

ed in the killings of innocent people totaling over 20,000 by some counts, as well as numerous other human rights violations.

The PNP Global Police Community Relations is meant to defend the Duterte government’s crimes against the Filipino people, the thousands of civilians killed in the war on drugs, the extra-judicial killings which he openly admits were committed by the military and police, and the other gross violation of

human rights, while trying to rebuild public opinion. Especially with the International People’s Tribunal and other international human rights advocates this past September 20th in Brussels announcement finding the US-Duterte administration GUILTY of the crimes against humanity.

We already see the intensification of Duterte’s crackdown on his opposition with the jailing of more government officials, and even his response to the IPT verdict in which he threat-

ened to add “foreigners as human targets for Filipino soldiers, the Armed Forces of the Philippines.” It wouldn’t be so far off to think that Duterte is following in the footsteps of the Marcos dictatorship in surveilling, harassing and targeting Filipino activists in the United States.

It is also an attempt to convince the US government that the Duterte government and the PNP are doing the right thing in their war against drugs and in the fight against “terrorism” and

deserve the military aid that the US has been supplying to the country. The US government is already supplying \$186.7 million US tax dollars to the Philippines for military and police aid.

Malaya Movement declares that Duterte’s PNP attack dogs are not welcome in the US. We stand firm against allowing them to set up shop in the US and to enact more human rights violations. We demand a STOP to the Killings, END martial law in Mindanao now, and also appeal to the US government to cut all US military aid to the Philippines.

## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

# Chefs to Headline Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival Celebrating October as Filipino-American History Month

**C**hefs Jonathan Pasion (Andaz Maui at Wailea Resort), Kirk Areola (Westin Nanea Ocean Villas) and Dennis Yu-Cua (Grand Wailea, A Waldorf Astoria Resort) will compete for the title of Master P-Noy Chef® at Saturday’s Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival® presented by the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation as part of the month-long celebration of Filipino-American History Month.

October is celebrated as Filipino-American History Month throughout the country but Hawaii was the first state to formally recognize October as Filipino-American History Month, with Act 15 (2008), codified at Hawaii Revised Statutes

Section 8-18. Act 15 (2008) designated the month of October as “Filipino-American History Month” to “commemorate the contributions of Filipino-Americans to the history and heritage of Hawaii and the United States.”

The Maui Fil-Am Heritage Festival®, which will be held on Saturday, October 20 at the Queen Kaahumanu Center from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, is the premier event in the State of Hawaii that celebrates Filipino-American History Month, according to Melen Agcolicol, Event Chairperson. “The Maui Filipino Chamber Foundation started the Festival in 2011 to share our culture, our history and heritage, as well as promote our Filipino business com-

munity.”

The Master P-Noy Chef Cook Off® pits defending champion Pasion against the two challengers. Pasion recently won The Good Taste Series Americas Regional Competition featuring eleven chefs from Hyatt Hotels in North America. No Chef has repeated except for Chef Joey Macadangdang who three-peated (2012, 2013, 2014). Other Chefs who won were Sheldon Simeon (2011), Ritchard Cariaga (2015), and Gemsley Balagso (2016).

A variety of food vendors (Paradise Supermart Fast Food & Catering; CAA Market Place; Pinoy Foodmart & Catering Service; Vidad’s Local Kind Grindz; and Wailuku Seafood Center)

will be on-hand to serve you your favorite adobo, pansit, lumpia, pork and peas, and desserts such as halo halo and ube ice cream. There will also be a M’g Pedring’s Cart selling Ice Candy sponsored by Friends of Michael Victorino.

There’s also a number of contests such as the Any Kine Adobo Contest® sponsored by Tante’s Island Cuisine; The Polvoron Challenge: Eat&Tweet® sponsored by Benjamin Acob, Attorney at Law; the Oh Wow! Parol Making Contest® sponsored by Wailuku Seafood Center; the Speedy Balut Eating Contest® sponsored by Esteban Construction, LLC; and the Pinoy Artist Contest® sponsored by Mass

Mutual Pacific.

Events for youth include the Pabitin at the Fest!® sponsored by Friends of Justin Woodson and the Your Name in Baybayin, which is the ancient script of the Philippines. This year’s We Got History Exhibit® will highlight Filipino Americans in Maui’s tourism industry.

Those in attendance may also enter to win a drawing for one of two round trip fares (Honolulu to Manila) sponsored by Philippine Airlines.

For more information and to keep updated as to the Festival’s program of events, visit the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/MauiFilipinoChamber](http://www.facebook.com/MauiFilipinoChamber), or contact the Event Chairperson, Melen Agcolicol at 205.7981 or [foundation@mauifilipinochamber.com](mailto:foundation@mauifilipinochamber.com).

(PUBLIC SCHOOL...from page 6)

gram is endorsed by the Hawai’i Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Hawai’i Association of Family Practitioners and is paid for by federal funds and contributions from health insurers.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends an annual flu vaccination for everyone ages six months and older. Last flu season, CDC reported 180 pediatric flu-related deaths in

the United States. Approximately 80 percent of these deaths occurred in children who had not received a flu vaccination.

Dr. Park added, “While there were no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported in Hawai’i during the 2017-2018 season, flu circulates year-round in Hawai’i and is unpredictable, which is why it is crucial to get vaccinated each year.”

The traditional flu season

begins in early October and runs through late May. The flu vaccines this season have been updated to provide protection against circulating flu viruses expected to be most common, based on data from the past season.

Since flu can cause severe illness in people of all ages, DOH encourages everyone to talk to their healthcare provider about the vaccine and consider getting vaccinated. For

those unable to be vaccinated through the Stop Flu at School program, flu vaccine is available through healthcare provider offices and clinics as well as pharmacies, for those older than age 11 years. For a list of vaccinating pharmacies statewide, visit the DOH Vaccine Locator online at <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/vaccines-immunizations/vaccine-locators/>.

DOH also recommends other flu prevention strategies,

including staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands frequently. For more information about the flu, visit [http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease\\_listing/influenza-flu/](http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease_listing/influenza-flu/).

To learn more about the Stop Flu at School program, go to <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/about-us/programs/stop-flu-at-school/> or call the Aloha United Way’s information and referral line at 2-1-1.

NEWS FEATURE

# U.S. Rep. Hanabusa Introduces Resolution Designating October as Filipino-American History Month

By Belinda A. Aquino, Ph.D.

**B**ackground U.S. Representative Colleen W. Hanabusa (D, Hawaii Congressional First District) has introduced a Resolution in the U.S. Congress designating October 2018 as Filipino-American History Month. The Resolution celebrates the “history and culture of Filipino-Americans for their immense contributions to the United States.”

Hanabusa is a long-standing supporter of the Filipino-American Community, both in the United States and in Hawaii, where she was the first Asian-American woman to be elected to the State Senate and Senate President for several years. She has also served in the U.S. House of Representatives

for several terms. In the last Hawaii gubernatorial election, she lost her bid to incumbent Gov. David Ige. She has also practiced law in Hawaii as a prominent labor attorney and community leader for many years.

Hanabusa’s Resolution cites a number of historical and cultural contributions that Filipinos in America have made to the State of Hawaii and to the United States since they arrived in the early 20th century.

In 2017, Hanabusa introduced the original Resolution to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Filipino-American veterans for their service alongside the U.S. armed forces in World War II. The Medal is the highest civilian honor given by Congress and the veterans waited 70 years for this Medal to be given to them. It was finally bestowed on them in the Emancipation Hall of the Capitol in Washington D.C. many years later.

### Civilian Honorees

Hanabusa’s Resolution also cited nine Filipino-American civilian honorees who have made significant and remarkable contributions to the United States over the years since they started to arrive in the U.S. at the beginning of the 20th century. It must also be mentioned in this connection that the U.S. authorities reneged on their promise to grant American citizenship to Filipinos who were recruited to serve in World War II along with the U.S. forces. It was only after a long and hard-fought struggle in the postwar period that American citizenship was granted to the veterans who were promised to be naturalized for their service in support of the U.S. during the war.

Heading the list of the nine Filipino-Americans who were included in Hanabusa’s Resolution is the late Thelma Garcia Buchholdt, who was the first Filipina-American to be elected in a State Legisla-



U.S. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa

ture in the continental United States. Buchholdt was born in Claveria, Cagayan in northern Philippines and was an active community leader in California for many years.

### Conclusion

It must be mentioned that this latest Resolution designed to honor Filipino-Americans introduced by U.S. Rep. Hanabusa complements an earlier Resolution designating October as Filipino American History Month filed by former State Rep. Joey Manahan when he was serving as a state representative at the legislature representing Kalihi district. Manahan is currently a member of the City and Council of Honolulu.

It must also be recalled the the State of Hawaii created a Commission in 2006, with Benjamin Cayetano as then Governor of Hawaii, to plan and implement

a yearlong program celebration of the Filipino Centennial in Hawaii since the arrival of the first Filipino “sakada” workers recruited by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters’ Association (HSPA) in December 1906.

Rep. Hanabusa’s latest Resolution once again strengthens the tradition of honoring the presence of Filipinos and Filipino-Americans in the United States and their invaluable participation in the history and development of both the country as a whole and Hawaii in particular. It should also be noted finally that Filipino-Americans are the largest ethnic group in Hawaii according to the latest Census, as well as the second largest in the total state population, next only to the Caucasian group.

But even as we say that, much still needs to be done to translate numbers into real and effective power. Numbers are meaningless without sufficient resources to prop them up. There are still several areas in the whole system that could use greater Filipino participation and stronger influence in the entire Hawaii community.

*DR. BELINDA A. AQUINO is an internationally recognized authority on contemporary Philippine/Filipino affairs, who is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she served as Professor of Political Science and Asian Studies and Founding Director of the Center for Philippine Studies at the School of Asian and Pacific Studies before retiring. She is also a freelance journalist and serves as Contributing Editor to the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle.*

## GLOBAL NEWS

# Philippines Wins a Seat: UN Criticized Over Latest Picks for Rights Council

UNITED NATIONS, United States — Bahrain, Cameroon and the Philippines were among a number of nations controversially elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council on Friday, sparking sharp criticism from rights groups and the United States.

Around a third of seats on the 47-member council, based in Geneva, were open for slots lasting from 2019-2022. A 97-vote majority from the 193 nations that make up the UN’s General Assembly is needed for approval.

For the first time since the council was created in 2006, each voting region agreed in advance on 18 candidates to be in the running for 18 seats -- removing any competition.

New members Bahrain, Cameroon, the Philippines, Somalia, Bangladesh and Eritrea were elected with between 160 and 178 votes -- and immediately drew criticism from activists

in Europe and North America dismissing them as “unqualified” due to their human rights records.

“By putting forward serious rights violators and presenting only as many candidates as seats available, the regional groups risk undermining the council’s credibility and effectiveness,” said New York-based Human Rights Watch.

Louis Charbonneau, the group’s UN director, called the vote “ridiculous” and said on Twitter it “makes mockery of (the) word ‘election.’”

At the start of the voting session, the General Assembly’s president, Maria Fernanda Espinosa, noted that every member state is allowed to apply for a seat.

Her spokesman later declined to directly address the criticism, but instead noted: “It’s clear that the world expects that members of international bodies will abide to a certain set of standards of behavior consistent with the bodies they have been

elected to.”

Five of the new members were from Africa, five from Asia, two from eastern Europe, three from Latin America and the Caribbean, and three from western Europe.

The United States pulled out of the council in June, calling the organization a “hypocritical” body that “makes a mockery of human rights,” in particular in regard to its stance on Israel.

Nikki Haley, who this week announced her resignation as US ambassador to the UN, said Friday’s vote demonstrates why the US was right to withdraw.

“Yet again, countries with poor human rights records ran uncontested. This lack of standards continues to undermine the organization,” she said.

“The United States will continue to support reforms that would make the Human Rights Council credible.” ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))



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FOOD & LEISURE

# FOUR WAYS TO ENJOY 'LECHON MANOK'

Gaea Katreena Cabico

**D**AVAO CITY, Philippines — There is no denying that Filipinos love eating chicken.

Studies show that as of 2017, the chicken production in the country reached 1.75 million metric tons, proof that Filipinos make chicken an everyday fare and they seem to cannot live without it.

“Lechon manok” (roasted chicken) is an all-time favorite just like the original “lechon” (roasted pig). But it surpasses the iconic lechon in terms of affordability and wide presence in the market.

The consumer craze for lechon manok began in the 1980s. Now, thousands of lechon manok kiosks dot the archipelago, even in far-flung municipalities.

This tasty and juicy dish, which goes well with a lechon sarsa (sauce) or pickled papaya on the side, is best served during lunch or dinner.

The dressed chicken is marinated for hours with soy sauce, calamansi, garlic powder, ginger, lemongrass, among others. Herbs are also stuffed in the cavity. The in-

gredients may vary from one stall to another, infusing secret spices to make their products taste unique.

The meat is then cooked over a bed of charcoals or inside oven until it is charred perfectly, without being too burnt.

For those craving for lechon manok, here are some ways to enjoy this Filipino favorite:

**1. The fowl can be cooked over traditional hot coals or a modern rotisserie.**

Every Filipino grew up with traditional homecooked charcoal roasted chicken. Majority of the lechon manok stands in the country—with the biggest names in the business—use hot coals to cook their chicken. The process takes hours but the charcoal essence in the protein hits closer to home.

Although the technique is quite foreign, roasting chicken using gas oven found its way to the hearts of Filipinos.

Using rotisserie does not only preserve the moisture and juiciness of chicken, but it is also good for the health, Bounty Agro Ventures, Inc. (BAVI) group manager Ruben Jaraplasan said.

“The challenge is to give

healthier options to the public, something that is not cooked over charcoal,” said Jaraplasan, adding that the chicken will be cooked inside an oven with a temperature of 230 degree-Celsius. It will then be stored in a food warmer to maintain the temperature of meat at 80 degree-Celsius before consumption.

BAVI, led by president and general manager Ronald R. Mascariñas, is reportedly the second largest poultry integrator in the country. It also operates Chooks-to-Go, claiming to be the largest



roasted chicken chain nationwide. The company is also developing other products such as the ice cream brand Papa Dan’s, the two-in-one snack and drink combination Snok, and the pugon-roasted pork

product line Kamukamo. A study showed that charcoal-grilled meats contained more carcinogens (substance that promote cancer) than meat heated with propane.

(continue on page 14)

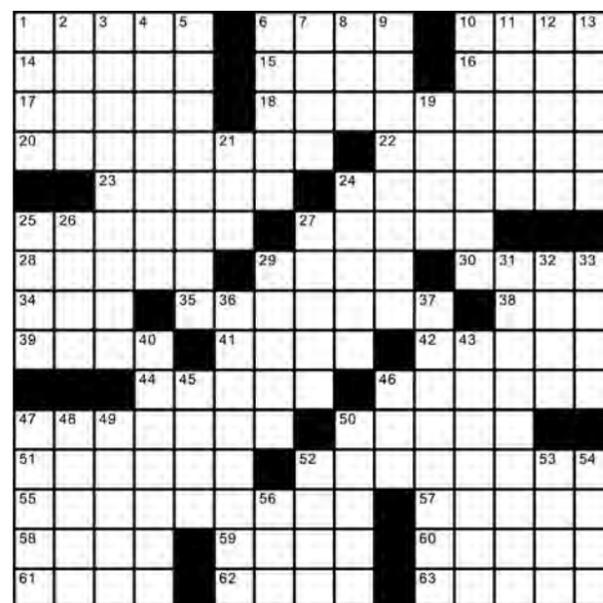
## KROSWORD *Blg. 17* ni Carlito Lalicon

### PAHALANG

1. Isang lalawigan sa Western Visayas
6. Lenguwahe
10. Sakit sa balat
14. Una
15. Ningas
16. Hangad
17. Eskrima
18. Makatwiran
20. Pawiin
22. Biga
23. Anib
24. Garapa
25. Buwenamanoi
27. Bura
28. Kamkam
29. Regalo
30. Bitak
34. Manga
35. Gulay na itinuturing na laman-lupa
38. Hari ng tahanan
39. Taghoy
41. Kuyog
42. Maygawa
44. Aprieto
46. Hayop na kasing-uri ng kalabaw
47. Pumanaw

### PABABA

1. Maamo
2. Salita o ingay ng mga unggoy
3. Aparato
4. Gikgik
5. Naputol ang sanga o nabali
6. Animo
7. Gaano
8. Kuwarta
9. Manik
10. Sumpa
11. Dobleng-baba
12. Kaisipan
13. Eksena
19. Amag
21. Kableng panduong
24. Balbas
25. :Lalaki
26. Alimpuyok



50. Magluwal
51. Ibalik
52. Naantala
55. Asintado
57. Kimkim
58. Pansin
59. Marahil
60. Iwaksi
61. Pahayag
62. Dusing
63. Reyna ng tahanan

27. Balak
29. Abarisyosa
31. Parugo
32. Dumit
33. Kotse
36. Pang-ipit sa buhok
37. Matanda
40. Eksplorasyong paglalakbay
43. Batikos
45. Biyaya
46. Iksamen para sa mga ibig maging abogado
47. Kapayatan
48. Matigas na punongkahoy
49. Kagandahan
50. Altura
52. Kar
53. Ardel
54. Pagkaing may hipon at isinasawsaw sa suka
56. Lugaw

(Ang sagot ay ilalabas sa susunod na isyu ng Chronicle)

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LEGAL NOTES

# 90 Day Misrepresentation Rule



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

**U**nder the recently updated Foreign Affairs Manual (FAM), any visa holder who engages in conduct inconsistent with the terms of his visa within 90 days of entry is presumed to have willfully misrepresented his intention before the Consular Officer during the non-immigrant visa interview or before the Border Officer upon entering the country.

Based on the new guidelines, unless one is holding an H-1B or an L-1 visa or other visa types that allow dual intent, the following actions

may be inconsistent with one's nonimmigrant visa status: (1) engaging in unauthorized employment; (2) enrolling in a full course of academic study without authorization and/or authority and/or appropriate change of status; (3) marrying a US citizen or lawful permanent resident within the 90-day window; and (4) undertaking any other activity for which a change of status or an adjustment of status would be required, without the benefit of such a change or adjustment.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, "any alien who, by fraud or willfully misrepresenting a material fact, seeks to procure (or has sought to procure or has procured) a visa, other documentation, or admission into the United States or other benefit provided under this Act is inadmissible."

What this means is that if B-1/B-2 visa holders enroll in any school or marry someone and adjust status or take up residence in the US within the 90-day period, they will be presumed to have willfully misrepresented their intent to "be a tourist" in the country. This new rule will also affect those people from the 38 countries currently under the Visa Waiver Program like France, Germany, Japan, Australia, Italy, South Korea, Singapore and UK, among others. The Visa Waiver Program admits visitors for a 90-day period. If any person from these countries gets married to a US citizen within the 90-day period and subsequently applies for adjustment of status, he is presumed to have misrepresented himself at the time of admission to the US.

This new rule changed the previous shorter timeframe of 30/60 days. Under the old rule, if a foreign national filed an adjustment or change his status within 30 days from entry into the US, it created a rebuttable presumption that the person misrepresented his intentions. If the inconsistent act happened more than 30 days but less than 60 days after entry to the US, there was no presumption of misrepresentation although the government could infer that there was intent to misrepresent. If the inconsistent act happened outside the 30/60-day window, there was no misrepresentation at all.

Under the new rule, no presumption of willful misrepresentation would generally arise if a foreign national engages in inconsistent conduct more than 90 days after entry to the US.

But, if the facts of the case give rise to a "reasonable belief" that the foreign national misrepresented the purpose of his travel at the time of the visa application or admission to the US, the DOS will request an Advisory Opinion.

It is important to note that this is a Department of State guideline. Although the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and its branches like the USCIS and ICE are not bound by the policies of another agency, it is possible that USCIS may release its own parallel guidance. As of right now, USCIS has not yet updated its Policy Manual to reflect the change.

**REUBEN S. SEGURITAN** has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695 5281 or log on to his website at [www.seguritan.com](http://www.seguritan.com)

GLOBAL NEWS

## Film Released About Philippine Street Children

**T**ORONTO--Filmmaker Niki Norlock released "Beyond Strength," a film about a group of a remarkable group of Filipino children living, learning and growing together in a Children's Home in Metro Manila. The film follows the journey of one young man, Daniel San Jose, who willingly shares his story in the hopes that it will inspire action in others and shed light on the desperate plight of some 250,000 children living in the streets of Manila, Philippines.

The film explores the potential for not just survival but for children to thrive when

connected with and supported by organizations like those highlighted in the film. The movie began as a way to raise awareness and inspire others by focusing on the talents and the inner strength of these children; the filmmakers drive comes from the belief that sharing their story with others may open hearts and minds to all the possibilities that life has to offer. This touching documentary has a running time of one hour and one minute.

With the release of Beyond Strength, a true passion project born of Niki's need to make the lives of all those she meets

better, happier, healthier - she's managed to do just that - on a larger scale than ever before.

The film is a testament to its subjects - it was their example and inspiration that drew Niki to become a film producer just to tell the world their story. Norlock also shared writing duties with Director Lucien Noe (based in Germany.)

"I was in The Philippines working on another project, when I stumbled upon this amazing group of young people who altered how I looked at life," She says. "There's an innate strength in these people, and a unique capacity for love and forgiveness that forever changed how I interact with the

world around me. I felt compelled to tell their story, even though at the time I had no idea how I was going to make that happen," said Norlock.

And make it happen she did. "It took the combined efforts of a lot of passionate people to create this film, but in the end, even though we may have done the work, it doesn't belong to us, it never belonged to us, This is their story, it always has been, we were just blessed to be

a part of the telling of it."

The theme song is as striking as the film itself, and stands alone as a potential hit. When asked what his message is, the songwriter, Anthony Tilotta, says, "We've been held to the ground - but we learned to RISE."

Part of the proceeds for the sale of this single and the film will go back to support the organizations highlighted in the film.





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MAINLAND NEWS

# Filipino American Month Celebrated Across the U.S.

**D**ALY CITY, CA—October is Filipino American History month across the U.S. The month was chosen because the earliest documented Filipino presence in the U.S. was on October 18, 1587 in Morro Bay, California.

In 2009, the United States Congress had passed resolutions recognizing October as Filipino American History Month, urging people across the U.S. to celebrate the significant contributions of Filipino Americans to the enrichment of the country.

It was the late Dr. Fred Cordova and his wife, Dr. Dorothy Laigo Cordova, founder of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FAHNS), a community-based organization whose mission is “to promote understanding, education, enlightenment, appreciation, and enrichment through the identification, gathering, preservation, and dissemination of the history and culture of Filipino Americans in the United

States,” who first introduced October as Filipino American History Month back in 1992.

Some of the events across the nation include:

On October 6, the City of Carson kicked off ceremonies for their 9th Annual Filipino American History Month festivities.

Headliners of the event were singers Fe de los Reyes and Miguel Vera. Other performers were the CSU Long Beach Filipino American Coalition, Shane Selloria, Jason Farol, Kindreds of Carson, and former “Fil-Ams Got Talent” champions Charishma Marquez, Shekinah Austria, and Therese Masangcay. Keynote speaker was Asian Pacific Studies Professor Dr. Mary Talusan-Lacanlale. Consul General Adelio Angelito Cruz and Councilmember Elito Santarina who also graced the kick-off.

In Los Angeles, “12 Million” will be shown in at the Aratani Theater at Little Tokyo on 244 San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA on

October 20, and at the Terra Nova Theater on 1450 Terra Nova Blvd., Pacifica, CA on October 27, 2018. For tickets and other inquiries, visit [www.anglahiexploits.com](http://www.anglahiexploits.com).

In Carson California on October 27, the 9th Annual Larry Itliong Day Celebration will be held at the Veterans Park, 22400 Moneta Avenue, also in Carson, California. The event is from 8:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. with the 2018 Larry Itliong

Labor Awards as highlight of the day.

Speakers for the day are: Johnny Itliong, director of the Larry Itliong Foundation through Education, and son of labor leader Larry Itliong; Fernando Chavez, founder of the Chavez Law Group and son of union leader and labor organizer Cesar Chavez; and Historian Roger Gadiano, who is also a member of the Filipino American National His-

torical Society (FANHS) – Delano chapter.

Silakbo sa Mik Tinig, a local group who performs socially relevant raps about immigration, women, and demilitarization will be performing on that day.

An expression of culture and the recognition of Filipino American contributions take centerstage in these various celebrations of Filipino American History Month this October.

**(FOOD & LEISURE...from page 12)**

But whichever the method—fowl over traditional hot coal or in a rotisserie—lechon manok is a go-to choice across the country that satisfies the tummies of Filipinos.

**2. For many Filipinos, the lechon manok experience will not be complete without a dipping sauce.**

The sarsa or thick gravy, which can be sweet or peppery, makes the dish more flavorful. The chicken can be also dipped in soy sauce and calamansi or sweet-spicy sauce.

But other brands produce

lechon manok packed with flavors that one will not need sauce. Jaraplasan said that instead of providing sauce to accompany their products, the sauce is infused to the chicken so that the flavor will seep through from the glossy skin to the white meat.

**3. When you cannot finish your whole lechon, you can turn your chicken into a new dish the next day.**

Lechon manok leftovers can be deep-fried until they become crispy.

The roasted chicken can be also recycled to become a lechon manok “sisiw.” Just

add liver spread and calamansi or lemon juice.

One can also make the chicken version of “lechon paksiw” by giving a twist to the leftover roasted chicken and lechon manok sauce.

**4. ‘Lechon manok’ is best paired with steaming rice and cold softdrinks or beer.**

This treat goes wonderfully well with hot rice and pickled papaya on the side during lunch or dinner.

For those who enjoy beer, the lechon manok also makes the perfect “pulutan.” ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

(Solution to Crossword No. 17 | October 6, 2018)

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**MAINLAND NEWS**

**Hirono and Senators Oppose Trump's Privatization Plans for the U.S. Postal Service**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-A bipartisan group of senators put forward a measure to block the Trump administration's plan to privatize the U.S. Postal Service.

Senator Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) released a statement in support of Hawaii U.S. Postal Service (USPS) workers' rally to oppose the Trump administration's efforts to privatize USPS:

"To the more than 2,000 hard-working employees of the U.S. Postal

Service in Hawaii, I stand in solidarity with you and strongly oppose President Trump's push to privatize the U.S. Postal Service. Privatization means prioritizing profits over people.

"President Trump's plan would hurt low-income and rural communities in Hawaii because servicing these areas is often less profitable than urban areas. Cutting or outright ending services would be devastating to so many communities throughout Hawaii and the country. We must stand together against yet another harm-

ful effort by the President to hurt workers and our communities."

The Senate resolution was spearheaded by Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., and included five Republican cosponsors. They noted USPS already does not receive taxpayer funds, employs more than 500,000 workers, plays a critical role in the growing e-commerce industry and enjoys high favorability ratings, in suggesting the Postal Service remain "an independent establishment of the federal government and not subject to privatization."

**Legislation Passed to Keep Planes from Shrinking Space on Airplanes**

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Upset over the increasingly cramped space while traveling on airplanes? The U.S. Senate passed legislation to keep seats and legroom space on airplanes from shrinking.

U.S. Senator Brian Schatz (D-Hawai'i), who voted to pass the legislation, has been a vocal advocate for consumers against increased

attempts by airlines to cut the size of seats.

"Hawai'i travelers are tired of getting less and less space for their hard-earned money. This bill, which will soon be law, gives the FAA the authority step in and say enough is enough," said Senator Schatz, a member of the Senate Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security.

The legislation, which was included in the sweeping Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018, will require the FAA to collaborate with experts and consumer advocates to mandate minimum seat size standards consistent with airline passengers' health and safety needs. The bill would direct the FAA to set minimum standards for seat pitch, width, and length on all commercial passenger planes.

**Activists Condemn Duterte's Drug War and the PCR Program**

NEW YORK-- Activists condemned the international exchange and training program between the PNP and the New York Police Department (NYPD) and the whitewashing campaign of the Duterte administration "drug war" at the hands of the PNP. Tens of thousands are believed to have been killed since the start of the Duterte's administration "drug war."

Activists confronted the Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief Supt. (PCSUPT) Rhodel Sermonia, director of the Global Police Community Relations (PCR) program, at its East Coast launch and Town Hall at the Philippine Consulate General

of New York on October 5, 2018.

The Malaya Movement, along with allied organizations Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN) USA North East, Migrante USA, Anakbayan New York and New Jersey, GABRIELA New York and New Jersey, and the New York Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (NYCHRP) collectively expressed opposition to the establishment of the Global PCR program.

Activists picketed and protested outside the consulate; disrupted PCSUPT Sermonia's presentation that activists say were filled with disinformation and empty attempts to mend the PNP's international

image and public relations. They grilled the chief on facts about Duterte's bloody anti-drug and anti-loitering campaigns, which disproportionately target the urban poor, one-sidedly vilify suspected drug users and those who participate in the drug trade as inherently deserving of death, and deny Filipino citizens due process.

Throughout his presentation, PCSUPT Sermonia insisted that the program's purpose was to "win hearts and minds" of Filipino communities abroad by urging Filipinos to utilize the Global PCR's web portals and social media pages to report crimes happening back home, promote tourism and business investment in the Philippines.



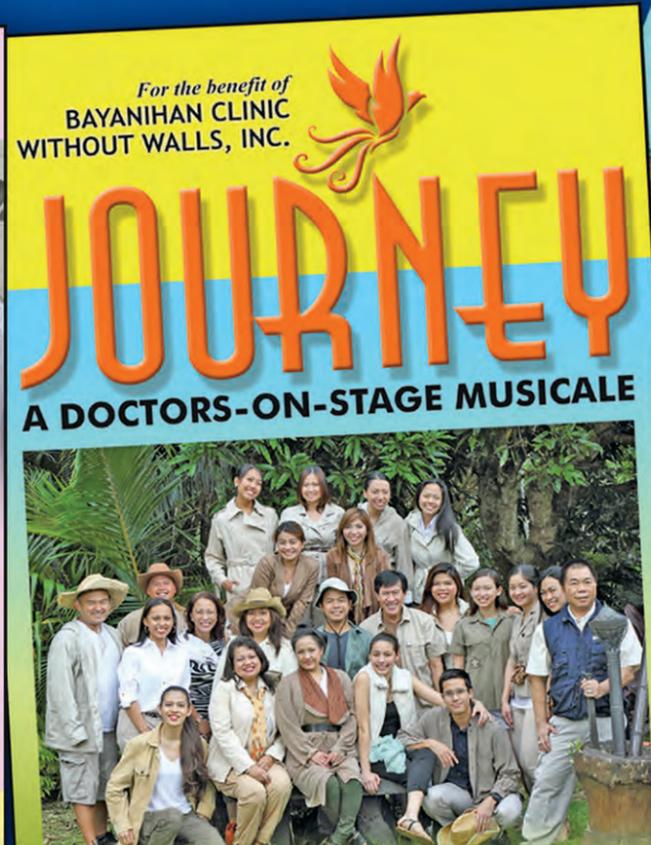
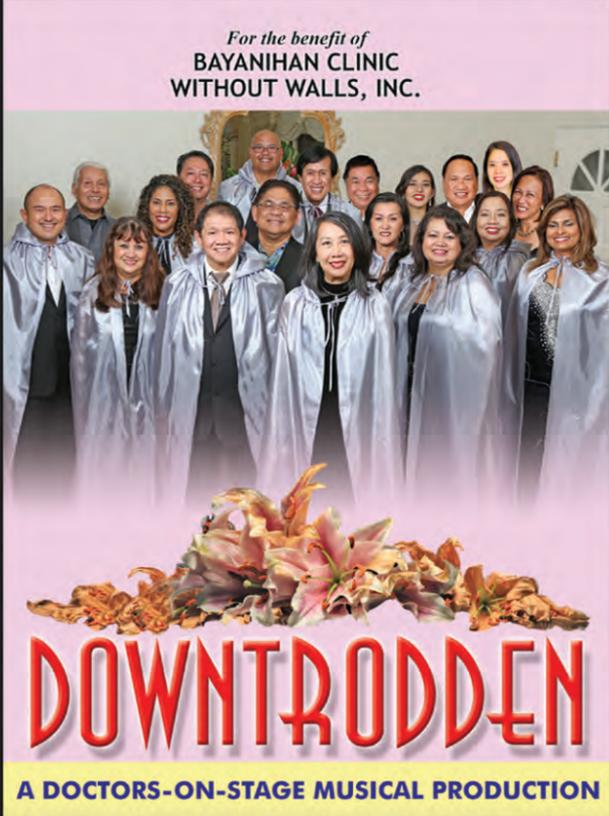
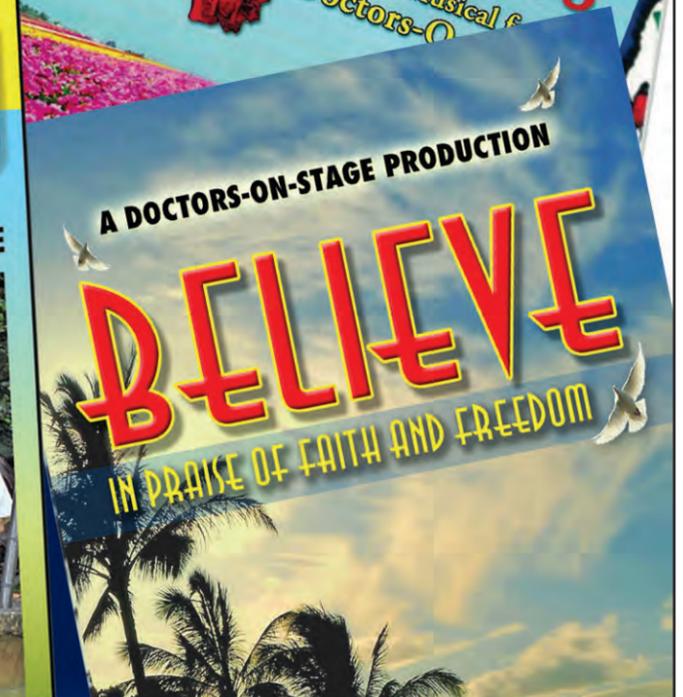
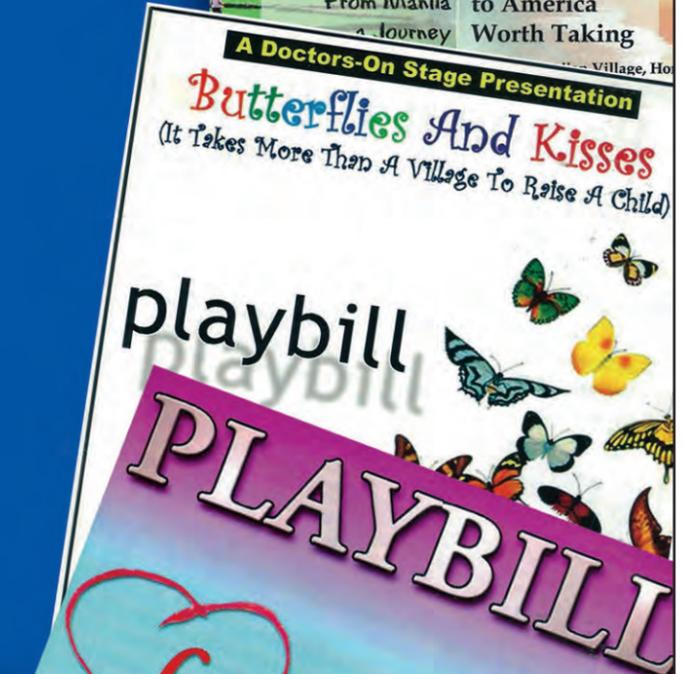
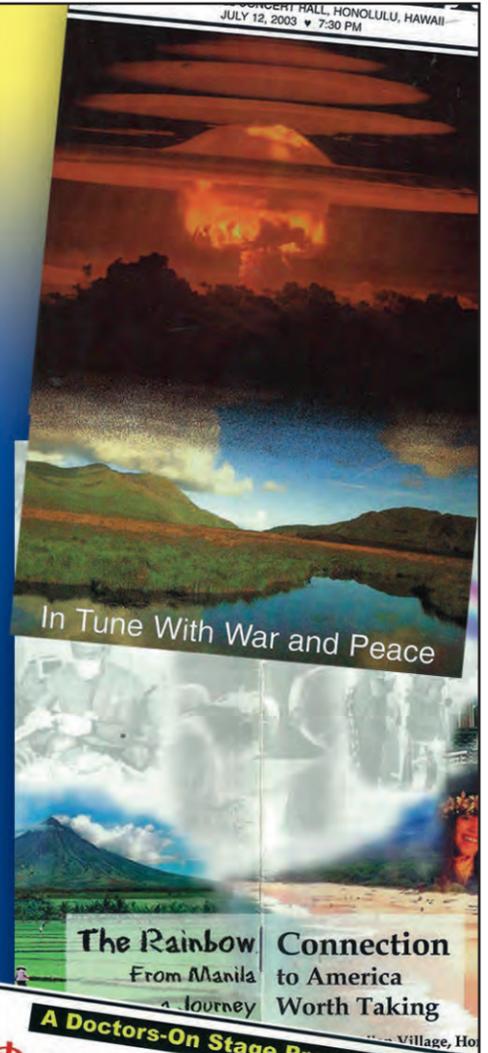
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