



KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION

12 October 2007

Media Release

2nd Annual Indigenous Peoples' Visual Art Show in Dipolog City

The Second Annual Indigenous Peoples' Visual Art Show in Dipolog City was held at the Goodtimes Café and Art Gallery from October 1-8. Thirty-six Indigenous Peoples' visual artists from Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur brought 115 visual artworks to build the exhibition. Don Gurra, President of Zamboanga del Norte Federation of Visual Artists (ZANFEVA) curated the exhibition. Prior to the formal opening of the exhibition, the partners for the event, ZANFEVA and the *Kalinawa Art Foundation* organized two special art related presentations for the public at the venue:

- Mr. Nestor Horfilla, a Davao-based artist, researcher, theater director, teacher and administrator, presented *"Organizing and Curating Indigenous Peoples' Focused Events and Exhibition, Insights on Process and Outputs"*; and
- Mr. Wilfredo Arsena, visual artist and researcher/writer based in Zamboanga City, lectured on the *"Intangibility of Art and the Tangible Need of the Artist"* as well as giving two workshops on different techniques and methods for sculpture.

For the second year in a row, Mayor Evelyn T. Uy participated in the Annual Indigenous Peoples' Visual Art Show in Dipolog City with the formal ribbon cutting and by providing some remarks at the opening ceremony on 4 October 2007. The honorable Roseller L. Arios, Vice Governor of the Province of Zamboanga del Sur. Attorney Ivan Patrick Ang, Provincial Tourism Officer also spoke. The Subanen Cultural Masters of Pagadian and the Subanens performers from Barangay Cogon provided the audience with opportunity to see and hear traditional dance and music. Other special guests at the opening ceremony included Tribu Dipag, who provided a musical performance, the Honorable Rolando Tablezo, Municipal Mayor of Leon Postigo; Mrs. Teresita Cascolan, Superintendent of the Dipolog City Schools Division; Mr. and Mrs. Roberts from Cebu; Mr. Noel Bazan, Department of Trade and Industry Provincial Director, Mrs. Renefe M. Tremedal, Cultural Programs Coordinator for the Province of Zamboanga del Sur, and Engineer Farolito Q. Isaw, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples.

To address the rumors that have been swirling around Dipolog since last year's event that the *Foundation* is a front for mining companies, a joint press conference with Carlton Hughes, *Kalinawa Art Foundation* and Vincente Laput, ZANFEVA was held after the dinner at the opening ceremony. Mr. Franklin P. Gumapon, Officer in Charge of the Philippine Information Agency, moderated the open question and answer session. Among those attending were Mrs. Edith Pagente Tomang, President of Zamboanga del Norte Press Club and Mr. Leo H. Cimafranca, President of Zamboanga del Norte Correspondents Inc. as well, as several other journalists and members of the public. While the rumor was factually addressed and dismissed, it is regrettable to note that not all seem to understand this.

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Two of the highlights of the awards ceremony on 6 October were a surprise concert by Orchid Strings, the Zamboanga del Norte National High School Rondalla conducted by Mr. Jay Sarita and a strong speech on the arts by Attorney Alanixon A. Selda. He has agreed to share his remarks more widely, so they will be published in the Commentary Section of the *Foundation's* website by the end of November. (Please see <http://www.kalinawa.com/cultures.php?pagename>About%20the%20Cultures>.) The program for the award ceremony was curtailed somewhat by the threat of rain which also cut short the performance of Tribu Dipag, but not before acknowledging the work of the volunteers (including the judges) with the presentation of certificates, and all of the awards and certificates to the artists. The first prize winning artists and titles for their pieces for each category are as follows:

Charlene Atayan Isaw – “The Orchid” - Youth Contemporary Category
Julieta M. Malangan - “Pulaw Belt” - Traditional Category
Juni Grapa - “Man and the Machine” – Open Three Dimensional Category
Ricky Bendong - “Timoay – Open Two Dimensional Category

Additional information on the prize winners, as well as the artwork and the artists can be found at: www.kalinawa.com.

Judges for the competition were Ronald A. Forinas, Vicente C. Laput, Jr., Ku T. Gamalinda, Lorilyn T. Wilcom and Emma B. Prima. As was the case last year, strong community support was expressed not only through the work of ZANFEVA representatives, Don Gurrea, Emma Prima and Pinky Rabino, but also through the hard work of the volunteers who enabled this to be a successful event: Sheila Mae Baes, Dorie Berojela, Venus Lucero, Karl Bryan Carreon, Val Moses Tumulak, Ronel Montallana, Andre Lou Mendoza, Marvin Rabino and Dojie Tabat Yrañela.

Following on this event in Dipolog, the *Kalinawa Art Foundation* will participate with other institutions at several other events to bring Indigenous Peoples visual art to the public eye:

- Tagum City, Mindanao at the Tagum Trade and Culture Center Pavilion from October 13-19;
- Salcedo Village, Makati, Art in the Park on 17 November; and
- SM Mall of Asia, 1st AHPADA International Arts and Crafts Expo from November 21-26

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' VISUAL ART SHOW DIPOLOG CITY

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