



KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION

Media Release

20 May 2007

FULLFILLING COMMITMENTS: SECOND ANNUAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' VISUAL ART EXHIBITION IN PUERTO PRINCESA

From Saturday, 5 May 2007 through Wednesday, 9 May 2007, the *KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION* held the Second Annual Indigenous Peoples visual art exhibition in Puerto Princesa at the Asturias Hotel. Mr. David Gilinsky, who along with his wife, Mrs. Margarita Gilinsky, is responsible for creating the *FOUNDATION*, insists that the *FOUNDATION* build sustainable relationships. One of the important ways this can be realized is through the commitment of the *FOUNDATION* to undertake ongoing and recurring events in different communities. Puerto Princesa was the site of the inaugural event for the *Foundation* last year, so it was entirely fitting that Puerto Princesa be the venue for the first of the *Kalinawa Art Foundation's* return events. The report on this event can be found on *the Foundation's* website at: <http://www.kalinawa.com/UserFiles/File/Puerto%20Princesa%20Report%20-%20criss%20m.pdf>.

Nineteen artists provided 105 pieces of art in a variety of different mediums: oil, acrylic, pastel, charcoal, found objects, tapestry, rubber- cut prints and terra-cotta. This provided a challenge to the curator of the exhibition, Mr. Jonathan Benitez. His response was to design the structure of the exhibition as "an installation piece that would reflect the coastal community and diversity of themes to be represented- like a bountiful harvest of fish." Please see: <http://www.kalinawa.com/report.php?pagename=Reports%20and%20Forms> for his full report.

To open the event, Mrs. Margarita Gilinsky and Mrs. Ellen Hagedorn formally cut the ribbon. The opening ceremony continued with musical performances by Ems Lucasan and family, and Grupong Kudlong, headed by Pat Marquez. The entertainment for the evening was enlivened with the performance of traditional dances by the group Batakapa, composed of seven charming children led by Narino Maniapao.

Approximately 100 people attended the exhibition. In conjunction with the art exhibition, the *Kalinawa Art Foundation* hosted an Invitational Symposium on Indigenous Peoples' Visual Arts and Tourism held at Asturias Hotel 7 - 8 May 2007. As part of its mission to assist in building the Indigenous Peoples' visual art sector in the Philippines, guests were invited to consider the possibilities for developing an international conference to consider greater participation of Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines in the tourism sector based on Indigenous Peoples' experiences elsewhere (Canada, Australia, United States, Latin America and New Zealand).

The award ceremony and dinner on Wednesday, 9 May 2007 began with invited remarks from Dinggot Conde-Prieto. She provided a reflection on the progress the *Foundation* had made from one year to the next. Mr. Gilinsky, in his remarks thanked Jonathan Benitez and his family for all of their exceptional work and clearly noted to those attending “See you next year”. Through out the evening, Waway Saway provided the audience with selections from his music.

In order to assign prizes for the artists choosing to participate in the competition, several individuals volunteered as judges: Ems Lucasan, Ofelia Rondina, Paterno Marquez, Sergio Pontillas, Lui Oliva and Dan Haberadas, who acted as the captain. The first prize winners for each category are as follows:

- Open Two-Dimensional: **Lalake** by Mary Frances Esa
- Open Three-Dimensional: **Fisherman** by Elorde Mesac
- Traditional: **Gimbal** by Narino Maniapao

All of the art, as well as background information on the artists can be viewed on *Kalinawa Art Foundation* website at: www.kalinawa.com.

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