



KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION

Media Release

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INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' VISUAL ART SHOW ZAMBOANGA CITY

The Office of Culture and the Arts at Western Mindanao State University (WMSU), Artes de Zamboanga and the *KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION* are working together to bring the Indigenous Peoples' visual fine art of Zamboanga City to the world through an open art show and internet auction at the Social Hall on the campus of Western Mindanao State University, February 23 – 28, 2007.

All Indigenous Peoples' visual artists are invited to register themselves and their work for the exhibition, competition and sale. Registration begins at the WMSU Social Hall on Thursday, February 22, 2007 from 02:00p.m. until 06:00p.m. and continues on Friday from 08:00a.m. until 05:00 p.m.

PHP 36,000 in prizes will be divided among four categories and presented during the Awards Ceremony on March 28 at 04:00 p.m. The categories are:

- Traditional – Pieces based on Indigenous traditional knowledge and/or materials.
- Youth – Open category for artists under 18 years of age.
- Open Two Dimensional – Any two dimensional medium excluding photography. Can include but is not limited to paintings, drawings, tapestries and etchings.
- Open Three Dimensional – Any three dimensional medium, including, but not limited to sculpture, pottery and terracotta

For Indigenous Peoples, the visual arts are central to identity, place, and belonging, as well as an expression of a unique and enduring tradition. Thus, the visual arts have an important place in the continuing survival of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures. The mission of the *KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION* is to build on this inherent talent of the Indigenous People of the Philippines by supporting institutional mechanisms that will assist in the development of a visual fine arts sector that celebrates their culture, promotes talent, develops skills, facilitates training and builds cross-cultural education.

The Western Mindanao State University is a center of excellence and a leading institution in human resources development and research in the country and the ASEAN region with international recognition. Its mission is to educate and produce well-trained, development oriented and forward-looking professional and technical manpower for the socio-economic, political and technological development of the region and country. Artes de Zamboanga is an association of local artists who have been at work for the last seven years to provide a platform for collective and individual visual art exhibitions. As President Gerky Lim Valesco noted, this event “will be the first of its kind in this area where the Indigenous Peoples will take center stage to showcase their artistic masterpieces on visual art forms.”

While the exhibition will be open to the general public from 08:00 a.m. until 05:00 p.m. from Friday, 23 March until the award ceremony at 04:00 p.m. March 28. the formal

opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, 24 March at 07:00 p.m. During this time, the general public is welcome to view the art at the WMSU Social Hall and at www.kalinawa.com. The art will be available for purchase on the Internet at www.ebay.com, from Saturday, February 24 at 06:00 p.m. to Tuesday, February 27 at 06:00 p.m. and at the event from 08:00am until 02:00pm on Wednesday, 28 February to coincide with the end of National Arts Month. The exhibition will be jointly curated by Don Gurrea, Western Mindanao Coordinator, National Commission for Culture and the Arts Committee on Visual Arts, and Rameer Tawasil, a prominent artist. Other activities and scheduled times occurring during the Indigenous Peoples' visual art exhibition include:

- From February 3 until February 28, Rameer Tawasil is giving a series of lectures, titled "Sulu in the Art of Rameer Tawasil" on Tausug culture thru the visual arts at the **Mein College Center**.
- On Saturday, February 24, the Gallery of the Peninsula and Archipelago will be formally opened at **Ateneo University** at 04:00 p.m
- A display of weaving techniques and art of the Yakan Weavers from Calarian will occur at the **WMSU Social Hall** throughout the event.
- On Monday, February 26, Willie Arseña will give a presentation leading to an informal discussion at the **Maria Clara Lobregat Art Gallery** from 02:00p.m. until 5:00 p.m.
- On Tuesday, February 27, at the **WMSU Social Hall**, the curators of the exhibition will give an open forum on the arts beginning at 10:00 a.m. At 4:00 p.m., the judges' panel will be convened.
- On Wednesday, February 28, at the **WMSU Social Hall**, the art will be available for purchase by the local community (cash only, please) from 08:00a.m. until 02:00 p.m. The formal award ceremony will begin at 04:00 p.m.

While no formal arrangements have been made, there is also the opportunity to visit the National Museum at Fort Pilar, Zamboanga City, where care has been taken to mount a display of various local Indigenous Peoples' materials, with a focus on the use of the sea. The Museum is open to the public daily from 09:00 a.m. until 05:00 p.m.

With the participation of the Office of Culture and the Arts at Western Mindanao State University (WMSU), and Artes de Zamboanga this event promises to have a wide selection of art for the appreciation of the patrons throughout the world on the Internet and in Zamboanga City.

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