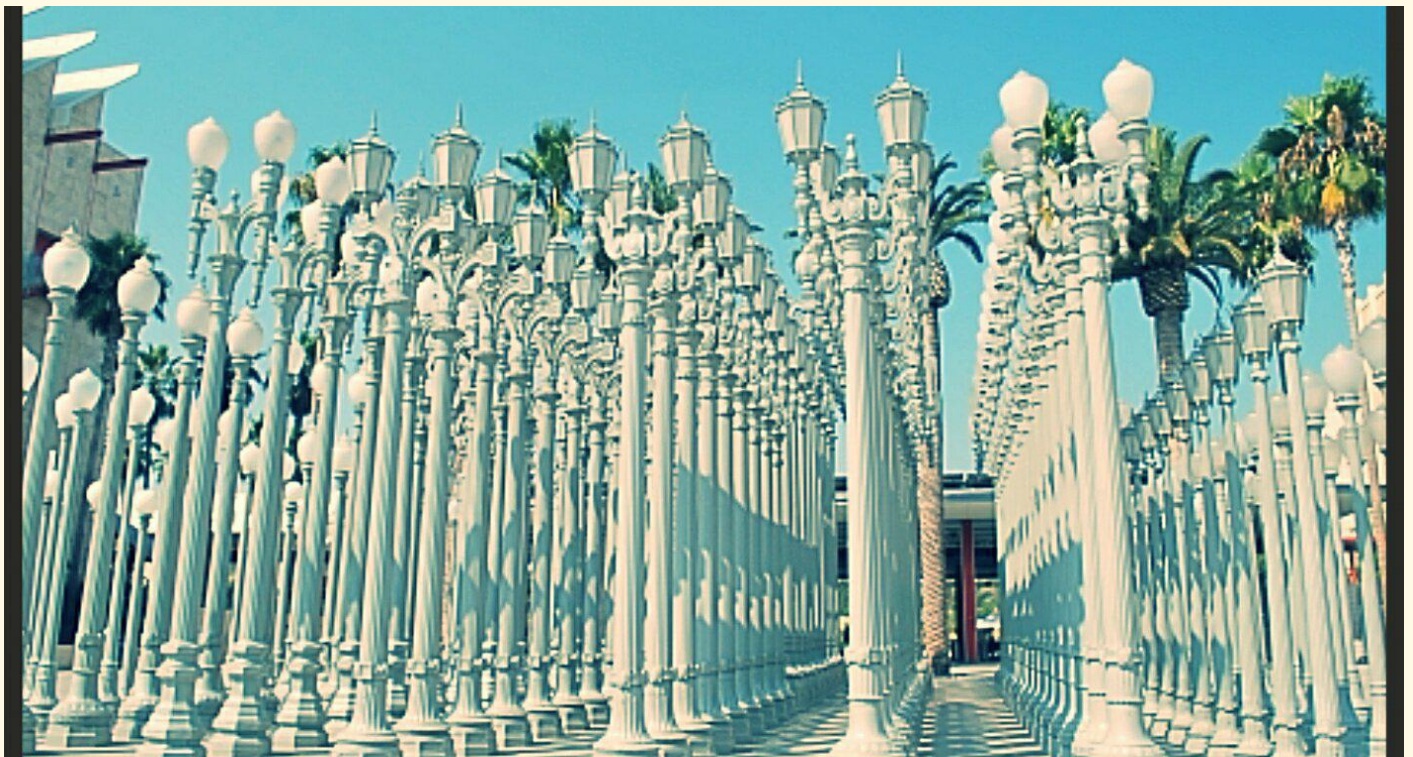

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
IN LOS ANGELES

SINAGTALA

An e-mail newsletter produced by the LA PCG Cultural Diplomacy Section

MAIDEN ISSUE



This is the first issue of the Cultural Diplomacy newsletter of the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles.

The newsletter's title, "SINAGTALA" is a Filipino word for starlight, paying homage to the Consulate General's base in Los Angeles, which is home to Hollywood.

In this first issue, the newsletter will highlight the launch of the 12th Ambassadors' Tour this 2018 and the rationale for the establishment of Sentro Rizal. This issue will also place a spotlight on the rise of Filipino food in Los Angeles.

What is cultural diplomacy?

The furthering of international relations by cultural exchange; the practice of publicizing and exhibiting examples of one's national culture abroad. (Source: Oxford Dictionary)

IN THIS ISSUE

2018 AMBASSADORS' TOUR
SENTRO RIZAL
NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH
RISE OF FILIPINO FOOD IN LA

2018

AMBASSADOR'S TOUR

Join the conversation: #ambatour2018



LAUNCH OF THE AMBASSADORS' TOUR IN LOS ANGELES

The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles launched the 2018 Ambassadors' Tour in LA on 16 February 2018. This year, the Consulate General in Los Angeles takes the helm of organizing the annual event.

In his opening remarks, Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz encouraged the audience to join the Ambassadors' Tour since they are all inherently "Filipino Ambassadors" of goodwill.

The Consul General stressed that this year's tour will not only reacquaint Filipino-American participants to the vibrant culture and history of Manila, but will also provide them the opportunity to explore the rich cultural heritage and wonders of Cebu and experience the peaceful and pristine beauty of Bohol, which is considered the ultimate nature-lover's paradise.

Philippine Tourism Director Richmond Jimenez and Vice Consul Dyan Miranda-Pastrana were among the panel of presenters for the Consulate General.

To sign up for the Ambassadors' Tour, the public may visit the following site: <http://ambassadorstour2018.com>. The Filipino-American Community is also encouraged to use #ambatour2018 for all social media posts.

The Ambassadors Tour is a flagship tourism project of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Tourism, geared towards inviting Filipino-American leaders, community members, influencers and their friends in the U.S.A. to visit and invigorate interest in the Philippines as a prime destination for tourism, cultural heritage exploration as well as trade and investment.

The highlight of this year's Ambassador's Tour will be the Visayas region, specifically Cebu and Bohol.

The 2018 Tour promises a luxurious adventure as well as an opportunity to explore business and investment in the Philippines.

The Embassy of the Philippines in Washington D.C. along with the Consulates General in the U.S.A. will be promoting the Tour in its areas of jurisdiction. The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles has launched the tour in LA and Houston and is set to launch the tour in San Diego and Dallas.

For details on how to join and participate in the tour, please follow us in Twitter @ambatour2018 and visit www.ambassadorstour2018.com.



Philippine Consulate General Cultural Diplomacy

Follow us on twitter: @PHcultureLA

Bagong salita balangay

An ancient Philippine edged-pegged plank boat, reflecting the maritime heritage of Filipinos and depicting the character of Filipino migrants. The balangay also represents the quest of individuals in exploring the real essence of Filipino identity through culture and arts.

(source: ncca.gov.ph)



SENTRO RIZAL

The Sentro Rizal was recognized by virtue of Section 42 of Republic Act 10066 known as the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009 which specifies a center “ whose main purpose is the promotion of Philippine arts, culture and language throughout the world.”

According to the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Sentro Rizal acts as the *balangay* which provides overseas Filipinos and their children the means to connect to their roots – instilling a strong sense of nationhood and pride among them in being Filipinos.

Sentro Rizal is mandated to promote Philippine arts, culture, literature, history and languages around the world through the Philippine embassies/consulates and/or institutions of countries where there are large concentration of Filipinos; to enhance the knowledge of Filipino overseas about their cultural heritage by conducting language courses/ lessons and cultural programs/ events; and to provide interested local and foreign individual or groups with relevant resources on Philippine culture and arts and on other related topics through networking, resource sharing or personal assistance.



The Sentro Rizal at the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles

LA PCG celebrates National Women's Month in this issue.



The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles joins UN Women in celebrating International Women's Day on 8 March 2018

Oras na Ngayon! Time is Now!

This year's theme for International Women's Day is "#TimeIsNow: Rural & Urban Activists Transforming Women's Lives."

Join the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles and UN Women in celebrating activists in all settings who rise and speak up for women's rights and gender equality.

#2018IWD #TIMEISNOW #ORASNANGAYON



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY | 8 MARCH 2018 #IWD2018 #TIMEISNOW



Our backgrounds may be different, but we both want c h a n g e.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.UNWOMEN.ORG



THE PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN LOS ANGELES JOINS THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON WOMEN IN CELEBRATING NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH THIS MARCH 2018



What is R.A. 9710 (Magna Carta of Women)?

The RA 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women (MCW) of 2009 is a comprehensive women's human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, respecting, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in the marginalized sectors.



How can Filipino women living abroad benefit from this law?

Section 37 of the RA 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women mandates the designation of a gender focal point in the consular section of Philippine embassies or consulates.

In compliance with the law, the Philippine Consulate General has gender focal points attending to gender and development issues such as violence against women, human trafficking and gender discrimination, in areas within its jurisdiction.

CONTACT US:

Email: gad.lapcg@gmail.com

FOLLOW US:

Twitter: @GADFocalPointPH

HELP HOTLINES TO REMEMBER

1 (888) 373-7888

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

National Domestic Violence Hotline

DO NOT HESITATE TO REACH OUT TO US AT GAD.LAPCG@GMAIL.COM

Philcongen LA celebrates International Women's Day



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
IN LOS ANGELES

celebrates

INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY 2018

8 MARCH 2018

#TIMEISNOW #ORAS NA NGAYON



Philcongen LA calls on Filipino-Americans to protect coral reefs

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE REEF (IYOR) 2018

How to Save our Reefs

Coral reefs, which serve as habitat for millions of marine species, are increasingly being threatened by climate change, pollution and other man-made activities. But it is not too late to save them. Read on to learn how you can help:

1. LOOK BUT DON'T TOUCH



When swimming, be careful not to touch or step on corals to avoid breaking them.

2. CLEAN UP



Pick up trash littering the beach and bodies of water. Plastic not only pollutes the sea but also kills marine life.

3. TAKE CLIMATE ACTION



Climate change stresses corals. By taking climate action such as using public transportation, conserving energy and recycling, we reduce harmful emissions that cause climate change.

4. SPREAD THE WORD



Share this image and let others know how they, too, can help save our coral reefs! Join the conversation at #iyor2018 and #iyor2018ph.



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

FILIPINO CUISINE IN LOS ANGELES

Kain na tayo! Mangan tayon! Kaon na ta! Karaon na kita! Koman tano!

LA Times food critic Jonathan Gold boldly declared that "the the time for Filipino cuisine is now, and the place is Los Angeles". In this maiden issue, Sinagtala foodies tried four (4) Filipino-owned and Filipino-inspired restaurants in Los Angeles.

Sinagtala will be featuring reviews of Filipino restaurants, food trucks, caterers and products in Southern California, Arizona and Southern Nevada in every quarterly issue.

We visited and tried the food of 4 Filipino restaurants in Los Angeles, for this month's issue.



BIG BOI BY B SWEET

Chef Barb Batiste's first public foray into savory cooking. We highly recommend their chicken adobo and pork sisig. Don't go home without their pan de sal and ube butter. Visit www.gobigboi.com/



LASA

Lasa's interpretation of modern Pinoy cooking will stimulate your taste buds. Try their lechon kawali and lumpia. Visit www.lasa-la.com



SARI-SARI STORE

Sari-Sari Store is a casual resto located in LA's Grand Central Market, dishing out Pinoy food rice bowls. Try their sisig and adobo fried rice! Check them out at www.sarisaristorela.com



OI ASIAN FUSION

A favorite quick dinner bite of Consulate General peeps, Oi Asian Fusion's rice bowls are the bomb! Don't miss their adobo and longganisa bowls! Check their menu at www.oiasianfusion.com