

Publisher runs for Toronto Mayor

Toronto parks are not for illegal encampments & Stop the Gardiner demolition by Tony A. San Juan, OCT

TORONTO - The race is on to become the new Mayor of Toronto this summer. Out of 102 candidates who registered to run for Mayor of Toronto, two Fil-

MAYOR page 21



Other candidates declare, **We have to do more for the homeless. Sure. But have we done less before?** It sounds good during election. It makes politicians look compassionate or that they are introducing something new or something that has not been done before when we know programs already exist. They can make it sound like we have not done anything before. And it disarms people who want to ask more questions because it makes them look heartless.

How much is enough? Is that a bad thing to ask? Compassion is unlimited but money is not. Anyone can look compassionate if it does not involve spending money.

Stop the illegal encampments of Parks Toronto's public parks are for everyone. They are not for illegal encampments. People who live around the parks are complaining of harassments and racial insults from these occupiers.

Stop the demolition of the Gardiner. Traffic will get worse and traffic everywhere else will increase as drivers try to avoid the area.

Gov't seeks to lessen dependency on 'ayuda'

Food stamp beneficiaries required to look for jobs

MANILA - To fight off the "culture of dependency," the Marcos administration is adjusting its assistance to indigents by setting conditions that would help beneficiaries "graduate" from being

poor. Starting with the state's P40-billion food stamp program, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) said Sunday beneficiaries must enroll in the government's job-generating programs.

AYUDA p15



Miss Supranational Canada 2022 Alexa Marie Grant will compete for Miss Supranational 2023 in Poland this July. Posing with her is LM Confidential publisher and Toronto Mayoral candidate Jose Baking at her fundraising dinner.



Toronto Mayoral candidate Jose Baking poses with debutante Samantha Gavin.



Rianneh (ON THE LEFT) wins second on the 200 meter dash and 1st on their team relay at the Toronto Catholic Schools Athletic Association (TCSAA) South Region Track & Field competition.

Eugene Domingo finds Love

Eugene Domingo finally opened up about her romance with her husband, Italian film critic Danilo Bottoni, confessing she had already accepted a “life of being single” and was contemplating entering a convent before she met him in Italy.



“Yes. At this point, my goodness, I’m a golden girl. This is the second half of my life,” she answered. “I have given the first half to always just about me and helping my family. The second part would be for me and Danilo.” Although Domingo did not immediately disclose details about their wedding, she called him “my husband” in answering one of the “Fast Talk” questions.

Domingo then narrated how they met each other when she attended the Udine Film Festival for her 2013 film “Barber’s Tales,” recalling how she thought he was a “stalker” when he first approached her.

Domingo did not immediately warm up to Bottoni, but she eventually reached out to him, and their friendship would later turn into romance.



Kim Chiu sympathizes with ‘Eat Bulaga’ hosts



Kapamilya actress Kim Chiu sympathized with the hosts of rival noontime show “Eat Bulaga” after they announced that they are parting ways with Television and Production Exponents Inc. (TAPE).

Kim said she supports and respects the decision of Tito Sotto, Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon.

“Change is nandiyang talaga ‘yan, eh. Parang hindi naman natin mababago ‘yan. And then ‘yung, high respect ng



bawat isa sa TVJ is really there, kahit saan man sila mapunta or kung anuman,” she said.

“Susuporta at susuporta. Walang tao na hindi nakakakilala sa kanila. Sobrang taas po ng respeto natin sa kanila. Kung ano yung desisyon nila and whatever is happening sa... among tawag diyan, sa base nila, it’s for them,” she added. Kim said that even rival shows need to support each other for the benefit of the showbiz industry. “But for us, we just have to keep on supporting kung saan man sila magpunta, and that’s what they need also, the support,” she said.

“Lahat naman tayong mga artista kailangan natin ‘yung suportahan talaga. Hindi tayo maghihilahan pababa, we h

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Heart Evangelista reveals sexiest part of Chiz Escudero’s anatomy

Heart Evangelista is not at all bothered that she and husband Chiz Escudero has a 15-year age gap.

She actually thinks it is “beautiful,” noting how she learned to adjust and “mature” in more ways than one.

“We kind of meet in the middle especially with the age gap,” she told Boy Abunda in a recent interview.

She added, “The nice thing of being married to Chiz is that he always respected the many seasons of my life.”

“He’s so supportive. And I really appreciate him because of that. His love is very unconditional, that’s why we’re okay.”

And she learns a lot from him. “It was Chiz’s maturity, his wisdom, his experiences in life that set him apart from everybody else,” she said.

It’s no surprise that Heart considers Chiz’s “brain” the sexiest part of his body.

But there’s more to him than meets the eye.

“He’s very funny! And having someone who’s smart and funny is a good combination,” she said.



As to alleged trouble in their marriage, she said, “You know, I feel like at the end of the day, not just with marriages, friendships, with people you work with, everybody goes through problems.” “You really have to go through certain things and deal with them.”

Heart is at her happiest at the moment.

Apparently, for the first time, she is living life the way she wants to.

These are the things that matter the most for her at this point: “My life and how I live it. My freedom, my choices.”

She added, “I don’t wanna live in a box. I’m so over na ‘yung kailangan sumunod ka sa molde para magastuhan ka ng tao.”

“I kinda really enjoy playing myself now with all the flaws, with all the insecurities, with all the fears because I feel that this is liberation for me and it’s more authentic,” she went on.

Heart likes it that people appreciates her effort.

“I feel like in the long run people saw it and they appreciated me more.”



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Life’s brighter under the sun



Speaker calls Michael V “laos”

Rendon Labrador, the motivational speaker renowned for his straight-to-the-point style, has recently emailed me addressing what I wrote in my column that he has experienced a backlash following his unremarkable comments against popular comedian Michael V.

Last May 12, Rendon released a video calling out the respected veteran comedian: “Yo! Rendon Labrador here, gusto ko lang magsalita tungkol kay Michael V aka Bitoy, at sa lahat ng mga artistang laos. Influencers are the new celebrities!...wala kayong magagawa kundi sumunod sa amin ngayon, era namin ito. Ano yung sinasabi mong alamin muna naming ang content bago kami mag content. Wala kang pakialam doon hindi mo ba alam negosyo naming yan?...Kung hindi ninyo kayang makipag-matalinuhan sa mga influencers sa pag produce ng content... Manahimik na lang kayo.

Mainstream is dead!!! Social media is the new mainstream.” (Yo! Rendon Labrador here, I just want to call out Michael V aka Bitoy, and to all has-been artists. Influencers are the new celebrities!...You have no choice but to follow us. It is our era. What are you saying that we should understand the meaning of content before doing content. Mind your own business. Don’t you know that this is our business. If you cannot ride with the wit of us influencers in producing content, just shut up. Mainstream is dead!!! Social media is the new mainstream.”) While maintaining his unique approach, Rendon has

taken the opportunity to offer sincere apologies to those who may have been hurt by his manner of speaking.

In my last column, I advised Rendon that instead of bashing mainstream artists, why not support them and end this strife once and for all? There is just too much negativity going around. Because Labrador has the right to fair comment, I will print his statement that he has emailed me and he emphasizes that his intention has always been to motivate individuals to stand up, think critically, overcome resistance, and ultimately achieve success.

Acknowledging that his straightforward style may not always sit well with everyone, Rendon expressed his regret for any harm caused. “I would like to extend my deepest apologies to Michael V., Coco Martin, and anyone else who may have been affected by my opinions. It was never my intention to disrespect or hurt anyone personally. However, I cannot promise that no one will be hurt again due to my direct approach. I firmly believe that by targeting the core issues that challenge people, I can motivate them to break free from limitations and strive for greatness. I understand the potential for disagree-



ment but I remain committed to my purpose of inspiring individuals to think more clearly and take action. I am driven by a genuine desire to empower and uplift others, and this mission remains at the heart of my work. Recent events have shed light on for me to visit the office of prominent businessman and media personality Ben Tulfo, with whom I have previously clashed with. The meeting resulted in a reconciliation between me and Sir Ben. We both found common ground in our strong personalities and shared family upbringing. We are both successful businessmen in our own right, thus to motivate more people we are considering a collaboration that aims to create more job opportunities and inspire a greater number of individuals. When I met Ben in his office, we had a genuine conversation where we understood each other better. We both realized that our intentions were ultimately aligned. Our forthcoming collaboration has the potential to make a significant impact on people’s lives, encouraging them to reach their full potential.”

As Rendon moves forward, he remains committed to his vision of motivating and empowering individuals from all walks of life. While he continues to speak his mind unabashedly, he is determined to be mindful of the potential consequences his words may have on others.

Maymay Entrata, inaming mahirap ang long distance relationship

Inamin ni Maymay Entrata ang hirap sa pagkakaroon ng isang long-distance relationship o LDR. Sa “Magandang Buhay” nitong Lunes, naging

bukas si Entrata sa estado ng relasyon nila ng nobyo na si Aaron Haskell na nakabase sa Canada.

“Sobrang hirap po ng LDR... hindi po madali. Parang kung walang maturity sa relationship, hindi po talaga magwo-work ‘yung LDR. Tapos siya po ay sobrang consistent niya talaga na magbigay ng time. Sobrang OA nito pero 24/7 kaming nagtatawagan. Kahit nagtatrabaho siya nandiyan lang ako natutulog or ako nandito, siya natutulog. Hanggang mag-meet ‘yung time namin saka kami mag-uusap or mag-movie,” ani Entrata.

“Mahirap man pero worth it po siya kasi consistent po siya talagang laging ipaparamdam niya sa akin y’ung suporta niya. At peace sa puso ko na wala akong dapat ipag-alala sa kung saan man siya roon basta maging safe lang siya. Pero aside from doon sa mga bagay na mabab-tayo na ‘ano ba?’ o may pag-selos, wala talaga,” dagdag ni Entrata.

Giit ni Entrata, iba ang ginawang naibibigay ng tiwala sa isang relasyon.

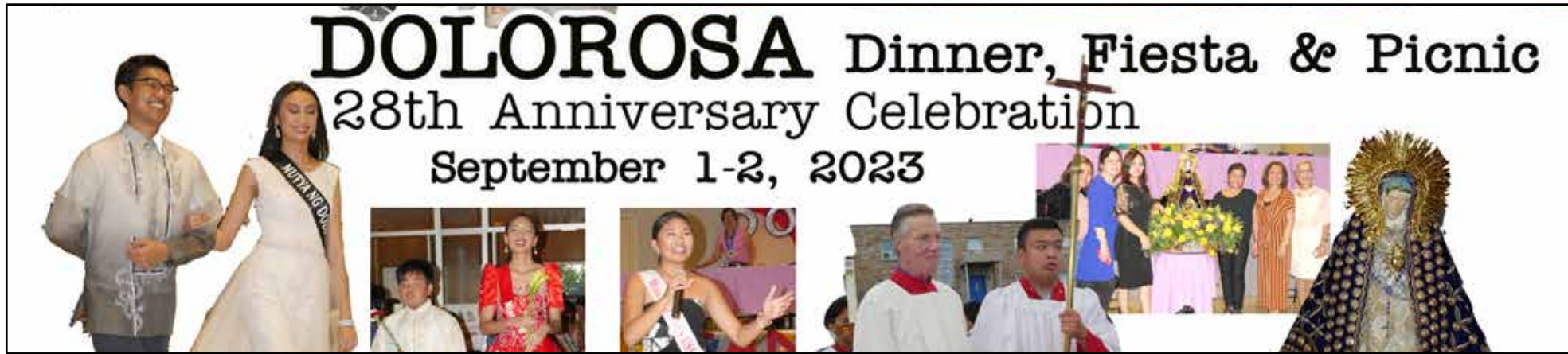
“Grabe kapag may trust ‘yung relationship parang ang dali lang ng buhay,” ani Entrata.

Sa programa, naikuwento rin ni Entrata na noong una ay hindi pa batid ni Haskell na isa siyang artista.

“Six months po ‘yon na wala siyang alam talaga pero nanligaw na po siya nung time na ‘yan. ‘Yun ang maganda kasi hindi niya po alam,” ani Entrata.

Matatandaang nagtungo rin si Entrata sa Canada kung saan nag-aral siya ng acting. Ayon sa aktres isa rin ang nobyo sa nagkumbinse sa kanya na muling mag-aral.

Nito lamang nakaraang buwan ay nakasama ni Entrata ang nobyo sa “ASAP Natin ‘To.”



Fiesta de Mayo becomes Peste de Mayo 🤔🧐🙄

The Festival Organizer (FO) has 2 festivals coming, Fiesta de Mayo (FM) and Taste of Manila (TOM). Unfortunately, FM which was coming first, did not come. It was canceled without any notice. Visitors who came from far away were mad at some people who shared the festival announcement on their facebook pages. The people had to explain that they are not the producer of the festival and that they were just sharing the page to invite people to come. That's just a natural thing to do to make sure the event is successful if your family, relative, or friend is part of the event in any capacity. According to the FO, the cancellation was announced two weeks before. I scrolled down FO's facebook page and found no cancellation notice. FO then asked 3 people to post a cancellation on their pages. What for? It's too late already. And, why would the cancellation notice be posted on somebody else's page instead of the page of the FO?

So, for now the Fiesta de Mayo became Peste de Mayo for some unfortunate attendees. Have no fear, the next event this festival organizer have is the street festival Taste of Manila. So, we still have a bigger street festival everyone can look forward too.

Sus Guinoo ni Roxanne, let's hope for a bitter, este better Taste pala this time. More good news, may isa pang street festival ang mga Pinoy called Fun Philippines. So, two street festivals to look forward, double the enjoyment nating mga Pinoy. Just check your facebook announcement for these two festivals.

Have a happy summer everyone. 🍉

Doug Ford is scared of Bonnie Crombie

The conservatives under Stephen Harper lost to the Liberals under

Justin Trudeau because the people got tired of his face. Sometimes, voters do not change parties because they want new directions. They just get tired of the seeing the same face of the leader of the current party. Trudeau did not really bring anything new except new faces and better sounding promises that were not really new. So, the Provincial Conservative leader Ford is now bashing Bonnie Crombie when he found out she is running for the leadership of the Ontario Liberals. Ford may say "bring it on" but he knows Crombie can beat him. He wasn't worried about the other Liberals competing to be the leader before. They were unknown. Crombie says she will bring the Liberals to the centre-right of the political spectrum because she says the Liberals lost because they went too far to the left. Some say that it's the reason the Liberals won because they kept stealing ideas from the left-leaning NDP and presenting it as their own. Well, as I said, voters sometimes do not care if the other leader has new ideas they like, they just want to vote out the old face of the leader as long as the new leader looks better. And under Crombie, she looks better than Ford. 🙄

Same Office

The Liberals announced a "new" office for processing visas in the Philippine, located in Makati. I wondered if it is at the Canadian embassy. Upon reading the details from the Philippine Reporter and Bulletin, the "new" office is at the embassy. There is nothing new there. It was always there. So, they expanded it. Maybe, space became available. But, can you call it new? Hmmm 🤔

Julia Barretto replaces Bea Alonzo in upcoming film with Alden Richards

Bea Alonzo's loss is Julia Barretto's gain once again after the latter agreed to take the Kapuso actress' place in the upcoming film "Special Memory," which also topbills Alden Richards.

Alonzo had begged off from the project due to her "full schedule."

Barretto's decision to join the cast of "Special Memory" has been confirmed by Viva president and CEO Vincent del Rosario III last Thursday, June 2, per Inquirer Bandera.

"Dating Alden-Bea, tapos nag-issue na naman kami ng statement (VIVA) and GMA na magpapahinga ata muna si Bea. So, si Julia na," del Rosario said. "Ito 'yung remake ng isang hit Korean movie 'A Moment To Remember' local version."

(The film used to star Alden Richards and Bea Alonzo, then Viva and GMA announced in a statement that Bea stepped back from the project to rest. So, Julia will take over. This will be a local remake of the film, "A Moment to Remember.")

Del Rosario was further quoted as saying that Barretto is excited to start working with Richards, who has already co-starred with several other Kapamilya in some movies.



(From left) Julia Barretto, Alden Richards, Bea Alonzo.

Barretto is also set to start working on another project with Aga Muhlach initially labeled "Forgetting."

"Well excited siya, hindi lang dito pati 'yung movie nila with Aga Muhlach 'yung 'Forgetting.' Siyempre isa si Julia sa mga importanteng artista ng Viva so binibigyan siya ng magaganda and malalaking projects," he said.

In May 2023, Alonzo's management confirmed in a statement released to "Fast Talk with Boy Abunda" that the actress had "respectfully beg[ged] off from the movie" due to her "full schedule." Talks of the project started as early as December 2020, and contracts for the film were signed in March 2021.

The original movie stars South Korean actors Son Ye-jin and Jung Woo-sung, as it revolves around the hardships of a couple, where the former's character Su-jin suffers from Alzheimer's disease.



Top three Filipino-Canadian non-profit organizations in Canada have joined forces to bring the first-ever Street Basketball competition at the Fun Philippines Toronto Street Festival on July 22 and 23, 2023.



Teresa Torralba, Fun Philippines Toronto overall Festival Director, is pictured with Clyde Pacis, President & Founder of Battle Canada, and PEC board members Chris Calado, Emmanuel Zarzuela, and Sgt. Philip Mendoza (Ret.). Lei and Dhan Roman, Fun PH's Director of Operations and Logistics, were also present to witness the official signing.

TORONTO, MAY 7, 2023, TORONTO - Battle Canada Inc., Philippine Eagle Canada PEC, and Philippine Legacy & Cultural Alliance PLACA have announced partnership to launch the highly anticipated "Battle on Bathurst" Street Basketball sporting event of Fun Philippines Toronto Street Festival on Bathurst St & Wilson Ave. Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Collaborations with the Toronto cultural and sporting organizations are now made public with the signing of a partnership agreement between PLACA and Battle Canada Inc. and a partnership renewal between PLACA and PEC.

"This is an amazing opportunity to showcase some of the top basketball players in the country, raise funds for a good cause, and contribute to the overall well-being of underprivileged children through the sport of basketball. The Filipino culture of basketball is built on a foundation of perseverance and commitment. From young children playing on the playground to PBA professionals, the sport's passion is evident. No matter how skilled the players are, you can always feel their hearts and passion on the basketball floor." said Clyde Pacis, President and Founder of Battle Canada.

"We are excited to add basketball competitions to the Fun Philippines Toronto Street Festival to make the event genuinely diverse and offer programs for every interest. Everyone will find something to enjoy at our festival, featuring food vendors, local businesses, live dance and music entertainment, cultural exhibits, sports, and more. This brings all the community-requested activities together into a single event." said Teresa Torralba, Fun Philippines Toronto Overall Festival Director.

About Battle Canada Inc®

Battle organizes exciting events such as skills and training camps, dunk competitions, celebrity face-offs, fashion shows and more! Battle Canada partners with various charities and foundations across Canada, including SickKids Foundation and Harris Brand Foundation. It has recently opened an indoor facility that combines basketball, fitness, wellness training, physiotherapy, and rehabilita-

tion with 2 complete basketball courts and 4 half-courts. www.battlecanada.ca

About Philippine Eagle Canada (PEC)

Philippine Eagle Canada is dedicated to promoting and conserving endangered animal species around the world, especially the renowned Philippine Eagle and other endangered species in the Philippines. Through exhibitions and events that feature music, sports, and other social activities, we promote and preserve the Filipino cultural legacy. We provide essential services and programs to help Filipino Canadians improve their quality of life, as well as encourage volunteerism to strengthen Canadian communities and keep advancing trade between Canada, the Philippines, and other countries. www.philippineaglecanada.ca

About Philippine Legacy and Cultural Alliance (PLACA)

PLACA consistently creates meaningful ways to engage members of the community to work well together and impress upon fairness, recognition, and inclusivity. We work to provide a platform and opportunity for everyone to express their ideas, demonstrate their skills, goods, and services on a professional level and to motivate and equip young people with the skills they need to succeed in a global market through volunteer opportunities and practical experiences. www.placa.ca

About Fun Philippines Toronto Street Festival

Fun Philippines Toronto Street Festival is a free public event that promotes Filipino culture with cuisine, entertainment, and massive gatherings. It collaborates with the community to provide a platform for everyone to showcase their skills, goods, and services. Additionally, it helps local businesses get past challenges brought on by social restrictions because of the pandemic. Its inaugural event last year was a huge success and drew over 200,000 people from all over Canada. www.funphilippinestoronto.com

Contact:
events@funphilippinestoronto.com



TikToker gets biggest acting break in web series ‘Ang Lalaki sa Likod ng Profile’



Still on its winning streak in the retail-ainment sector, Puregold Channel is keeping more viewers across the country enthralled by its latest series on YouTube, Ang Lalaki sa Likod ng Profile. Smack dab in the middle of this

engaging series is 21-year-old Tiktok sensation Yukii Takahashi, who plays Angge, the female lead. Yukii first started making videos on Tiktok in March 2022. With her natural charm and humor, she soon amassed a whopping 8.2 million followers on the platform. This caught the eye of Cornerstone Entertainment, which signed her up not too long after.

Tiktok sensation Yukii Takahashi, who plays Angge, the female lead in ‘Ang Lalaki sa Likod ng Profile’

To date, Yukii has snagged various gigs in entertainment: she has hosted the reality survival show Top Class and has released a single titled, “Bounce”.

“Discovering exceptional talents like Yukii and giving them the opportunity to shine is just one of the many joys and fulfillment while creating Puregold retailtainment content,” Ivy Piedad, Puregold Marketing Manager, says.

Acknowledging that retailtainment is the future, Piedad affirms that Puregold Channel strives to provide quality entertainment to customers and viewers through captivating stories.

In Ang Lalaki sa Likod ng Profile, Yukii stars alongside actor, singer, and songwriter Wilbert Ross who plays Bryce, a video game enthusiast who has trouble navigating the dating scene. Angge then agrees to become Bryce’s virtual wingwoman for a fee so she can help her brother pay their bills.

With more fans and viewers thrilled by Bryce and Angge’s chemistry, and fascinated by the story’s twists and turns, Ang Lalaki sa Likod ng Profile is now a Saturday habit for many netizens.

Miss Universe PH 2023 Michelle Marquez Dee comes out as bisexual



In a bold and empowering move, Miss Universe Philippines 2023 Michelle Marquez Dee came out as bisexual in the latest cover of Mega Magazine, where she shared more about her sexuality. She shared more about her sexuality and expressed her admiration for beauty in all its diverse forms.

Michelle’s upbringing allows her to appreciate beauty in all its diversity. Michelle, an actress and daughter of former beauty queen Melanie Marquez, has embraced her bisexuality for as long as she can remember. She spoke openly about her attraction to all types of beauty, regardless of shape or size, reaffirming her identification as bisexual.

Growing up in a world of beauty pageants and surrounded by diverse individuals, Michelle learned to appreciate the beauty in everyone. Consequently, she never felt the need to “come out” to those who mattered most in her life. The newly crowned Miss Universe Philippines 2023 also said she has long been a staunch advocate and ally of the LGBTQIA+ community. By gracing the cover of the magazine, Michelle took the opportunity to come forward and get ahead of malicious rumors.

“When somebody takes away your story, then you should take control of that narrative. Turn it around and make it an empowering story. So that’s what I’m doing,” she said.

Michelle will represent the Philippines at the 2023 Miss Universe pageant to be held in El Salvador later this year.





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Atayde want passage of adolescent pregnancy prevention bill

MANILA - First district QC Congressman Juan Carlos “Arjo” Atayde — the author of House Bill 7276 known as the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Act — is encouraging all his colleagues to get their act together to create immediate policies and finally put a solution to this grave problem.

“We are hoping that this bill on adolescent pregnancy is passed so we can create immediate policies on how we put a solution to this grave problem,” Atayde, a member of the House Committee on Youth and Sports Development, said.

The House Committee on Youth and Sports Development, he said, has recently approved a substitute bill that forms a national policy to address adolescent pregnancy as well as social protection for adolescent parents.

Atayde’s call for the bill’s passage is timely as the Philippines still has one of the highest adolescent birth rates among



ASEAN countries.

Although adolescent pregnancy among those 15-19 years old has gone down to 7.2 percent in 2021 from 14.4 percent in 2013, the number of births by mothers aged 10-14 years have also shown a slight increase (1,903 in 2016 and 2,113 in 2020 according to the Philippine Statistics Authority), according to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Atayde said the bill provides for the establishment of the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Inter-Agency Council that would formulate and implement policies for family-oriented, adolescent-friendly sexual and reproductive health programs.

The Council would also be mandated to develop an evidence-based National Medium-Term Plan for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy.

The plan would serve as the national framework for inter-agency and inter-sectoral collaboration and resource allocation at all levels, to address the various health, cultural socio-economic and institutional determinants of adolescent pregnancy.

The bill is being pushed by The Philippine Legislators’ Committee on Population and Development Foundation, Inc, of which Atayde serves as treasurer.

It is built with members of congress and other advocates that aims to formulate public policies requiring legislation on population management and socio-economic development.

Experts, the 32-year-old veteran actor said, will continue to underscore the negative effect of teen pregnancy, particularly its social and economic outcomes for

both adolescent mother and child.

According to a UNFPA study, adolescent mothers are more likely not to finish high school or college and are likely to be unemployed.

The UNFPA also said that the Philippines is estimated to lose P33 billion a year due to adolescent pregnancy, and that foregone income of teenage girls who get pregnant is P83,000 a year.

Despite the decrease from 8.6 percent in year 2017 to 5.4 percent last year (2022) based on the data from the Philippine Statistics Authority, Atayde said that teenage pregnancies remain a serious issue that “sinks the vulnerable deeper into poverty.”

He also stressed that teenage pregnancy is not just a problem of an individual person, but it could last for generations.

“We need to open our minds and have immediate action on how we resolve this problem,” he said.

Claudine’s promise to Raymart

Claudine Barretto confessed she has no plans of getting married again, saying she wants to focus on being a mom to her children and that she had already given her wedding vows to her estranged husband, actor Raymart Santiago.

The seasoned actress disclosed this during an interview for “Fast Talk with Boy Abunda” last May 5, as show host Abunda asked, “You will not marry again? [Why]?”

“No. I think I already gave my promise to my ex-husband and I think that’s enough. I mean, I have my children—I have four,” she said. “Parang that alone takes so much of my time, my energy, my strength so I will focus on that.” Claudine then spoke about motherhood as she expressed her admiration for her mom Inday for being able to carry on despite her life being “never easy.” “What I learned from my mom is that once you become a mother, once you bear children, your life is not yours anymore. Your life becomes your children’s lives. It’s something that you have to devote your life and time to,” she stated.

During the interview, Claudine also made known that even if she does not get to spend so much time with her sisters Gretchen and Marjorie, all is well among them.

Claudine disclosed that she has been

communicating with Gretchen and that the latter recently sent her a message, saying she was proud that Claudine “is getting [her] life back.” As for Marjorie, the younger Barretto sister said they don’t get to talk as much but “all is well” between them.

Claudine clarified as well that she and her niece Julia are “good” and that they have seen and greeted each other during recent events. The actresses also took a photo together during one of those events, but Claudine said she did not post it on social media because she did not see the need to do so.

Arjo Atayde looking forward to married life with Maine Mendoza

Even with so many things on his plate as an actor, congressman and producer, Arjo Atayde is looking forward to marrying his fiancée Maine Mendoza.

“Oh, I will definitely enjoy [married life] first. We’ll see... Diyos na bahala,” Arjo said when asked if his initial plan to have three kids was still on his mind. “Definitely we’re looking forward to enjoying each other’s

company.”

The actor-politician always tries to find space in his schedule to spend time with Maine and do things together.

The actor only shared that their wedding would take place sometime within the year, “I’m enjoying it.”

Arjo portrays Anton de la Rosa on “Cattleya Killer,” a spin-off sequel series to the 1996 action-thriller “Sa Aking Mga Kamay,” starring Christopher de Leon and Aga Muhlach; the former reprises his role as Joven, Anton’s father.

“I can’t renew what he did. He’s one of the most brilliant actors... to be honest, he’s one of my favorites. We can only do as much as we can,” Arjo said about Aga. “Nagpaalam naman kami. May timbre ito kay Tito Aga and he’s happy about it.”

All six episodes of “Cattleya Killer” started streaming on Prime Video in Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and other select territories June 1.

Xyriel’s ‘pits

Xyriel Manabat is not one to get affected by unsolicited comments as she fired back at a netizen who seemingly tried to ridicule the actress by pointing out her underarm hair on Instagram.

Manabat responded to one @jasminecomfort_00 who left a comment on her Instagram post last May 5, in which the actress was wearing a black spaghetti strap top while giving a closer look at her “Star Magic Hot Summer” makeup look.

“May hair ‘yung armpit,” the netizen said, to which Manabat replied, “Uhm coz tao ako? So what about it?”

Following her seemingly sassy response, fans then chimed in to call out the netizen and stress how body hair is normal.

‘Salamat at na-media at nabayaran’

Vic Sotto disclosed that production company TAPE already settled its more than P30-million debt to him, days after the TV host said he did not mind whether or not he got paid.



Vic revealed this to the members of the press during an interview after the media conference for his upcoming sitcom “Open 24/7.” May 8.

“Salamat at na-media at nabayaran,” he said while chuckling. When one of the reporters asked again if the production company really paid him, Vic replied, “Oo. It’s not a joke.” The showbiz veteran opted not to disclose the exact amount the production company paid him, and reiterated that “Eat Bulaga” mainstays TVJ—composed of Vic, Tito Sotto and Joey de Leon—value principle more than money.

“Yung TVJ sanay sa ga-no’n e. We started nang halos wala kaming sine-sweldo,” he stated. “Well, sabi ko nga nung isang araw, hindi naman pera-pera ang usapan. Mas mahalaga ang prinsipyo sa pera... Ayon nabayaran na. Thank you. Hindi ko naman inaasahan ‘yon pero thank you na rin.”

When asked if the issues between “Eat Bulaga” and the new management under the Jalosjos family have already been settled, Vic did not immediately give an answer.

“I will comment on that when the right time comes,” he said.



‘Nasa baba ka na, aapakan ka pa’

Aga Muhlach recalled a time in his career when there were fellow actors who treated him unkindly when he was at a low point in showbiz.

During his and his wife Charlene Gonzales’s interview with broadcaster Karen Davila, the actor recalled doing his first movie “Bagets” at age 13 and eventually “getting

lost” because of the fame. “Hindi ko alam kung anong mangyayari, then [the movie] became so big and I got so lost there. At 14 years old, solo na ako, nakatira na ako mag-isa and nagre-rent ako ng apartment,” he recounted.

When asked why he left home at an early age, Muhlach admitted, “I just thought this

was life already. I thought this was the good life until you learn it [that] fame is different from finances. It does not mean na sikat ka, yayaman ka,” he continued.

Muhlach disclosed how he then came to a point when he had no money and was being kicked out of his place because he could



not pay the bills and rent. “Bagsak ako that’s why inayos ko ‘yung sarili ko. In 1990, 1991, that’s when I said, ‘No, this is not right,’” he recalled. “I was really down-and-out and there were actors before who would...talagang...grave.” Although Muhlach opted not to name any specific actors, he said this experience made him vow to himself that he would never be like those celebrities despite the fame.



Kim Chiu on sister’s miraculous recovery, dealing with fake friends

It’s as if nothing happened to her,” said actress-TV host Kim Chiu about her big sister, Lakam, who was hospitalized last month.

According to Kim’s Instagram updates on her sister, Lakam was brought to the hospital on April 19 and was in the intensive care unit (ICU) until April 23. She regained consciousness on April 25 and was discharged days later. However, Kim chose not to share what Lakam’s illness was.

“I have been a devotee of Padre Pio. He really works miracles. It’s true! This is another one for me. I didn’t know what to do. I really thought my Ate wouldn’t be able to pull through. I was really scared for her. I couldn’t do anything but pray,” Kim said.



Chiu (left) with sister Lakam

survived it.” Kim said her longtime boyfriend Xian Lim also showed emotional support. “He was always at the hospital. He would drop by after taping,” she said, adding that they are “very happy” when asked to describe the status of their romantic relationship.

True friend “It’s difficult to find true friends in show biz. We’re all busy and hardly see each other. So consider yourself lucky if you have people you consider true friends here; those you can share secrets with, those you can laugh and be silly with.”

She continued: “It’s not a secret that Bela (Padilla) and Angelica (Panganiban) are the people I run to when I need advice about my personal problems. As for friends who eventually became traitors, that’s an old story. It’s as if you don’t know what happened. These days, we’re friends again.”

Kim was referring to the quarrel she had in 2013 with actress Maja Salvador over ex-beau Gerald Anderson. The two girls have reconciled since. “Life is too short to dwell on awful things. For me, being happy is part of living a healthy lifestyle.”

Kim is currently beaming with pride because she has just finished a “vacation house” that she had built especially for

her 63-year-old father, William. “I want him to be able to breathe fresh air. I also want to be able to reward myself with something new for all the times I was away because of work. This inspires me and gives me the energy to work some more,” she pointed out.

Kim, who is involved in several business ventures, claimed she has no mentor to consult with in relation to her investments. “However, I know how it feels to not have money, that’s why I know how to save up now that I have more. The idea that I would return to having nothing is a terrifying thought for me. That’s why I work hard.”

She then recalled a memory of when she was younger and was still struggling financially. “That’s why when I finally had work, I told my siblings, ‘You will finally be able to graduate. We’ll all be OK.’”

‘Eat Bulaga!’ airs live with new hosts

“Eat Bulaga!” aired live June 5. It introduced a new set of hosts, namely, Paolo Contis, Buboy Villar, Betong Sumaya, Alexa Miro, and twins Cassy and Mavy Legaspi. Prior, the show released a teaser video with “EB is LIVE” and then transitioned to “EB is ALIVE.”

A few hours before “Eat Bulaga!” went live, Alexa shared a sneak peek of their first day of airing. ‘



Sana matuloy,’ Viva exec says of Sarah-John Lloyd film reunion

The possible reunion project of John Lloyd Cruz and Sarah Geronimo are still “in very early stages,” according to Viva President Vincent del Rosario III.

Del Rosario shared the backstory of Cruz and Geronimo’s recent photos taken at the Viva office. “Yung dalawa are friends and have been keeping in touch with each other so one day, sinabi sa amin ni Sarah, ‘Mag-mi-meet kami ni John Lloyd.’ Hinost namin sa office,” he said.

Del Rosario said that the two are discussing their potential reunion movie, but it is still in the initial phases.

“Pero very early stages. Sana matuloy. Kami rin wish namin na matuloy,” he said.

As to who suggested for Cruz and Geronimo to work with each other again, del Rosario said the idea came from the two actors themselves.

“I think both of them like to work with each other again. Sila ang nag-contact-an, hinost lang namin sa opisina. Sana [matuloy],” he said.

Last May 25, Geronimo left her followers abuzz after she posted on social media new photos of her with Cruz.

The pictures were taken at the Viva office, with Geronimo seemingly hinting that they are reuniting for a project through her caption.

The pop superstar simply left emojis of video cameras and a clock, which some interpreted as an indication that they are about to start filming a project together.

Others, meanwhile, were just happy to see them together again six years since they worked on “Finally Found Someone,” their last movie together.





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Canada firm that promised bribes to PH officials for police contracts will pay \$10.5M to avoid charges

A Montreal, Quebec forensics firm promised millions of dollars in bribes to Philippine officials, including a cabinet minister and his brother, to try to gain lucrative Philippine National Police contracts, says a statement of facts in a deal the firm struck to avoid prosecution in Canada.

The deal between Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc. and federal prosecutors was approved by the Superior Court of Quebec, in a remediation agreement also known as deferred prosecution.

It requires the firm to pay some \$10.5 million, co-operate with investigations, report to prosecutors on the agreement's implementation and abide by an anti-bribery and corruption program over-

seen by an external auditor hired at the firm's expense, reported Global News Canada.

Attached to the court's ruling is a statement of facts saying two senior officers at the company were involved in a scheme from 2006 to 2018 to bribe Philippine officials to secure \$17 million in contracts with the Philippines National Police.

The bribes were "earmarked and promised to" public officials and others with "sufficient gravitas to exert some influence" on those involved in the procurement process.

The statement of facts says the Philippine public officials included Ronaldo Puno, who was secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government

from 2006 to 2010.

Although the statement of facts does not include evidence linked to the bribery scheme, it says Puno "was a key figure in securing the budget and ensuring the procurement of" the company's flagship ballistics identification product.

Allegedly, beginning in September 2006 through January 2018, two senior company officers enlisted the help of "commercial agent" Rizalino Espino in Manila to help lock down the police contracts.

Espino's company, Concept Dynamics Enterprises, was to receive commissions on a percentage of any contracts, of which "a substantial portion" was intended as bribes.

The statement says Espino enlisted a pair of local businessmen to help with the bribery scheme because of their "close relationship" to Puno and his brother Rodolpho Puno, who was chairman of the Philippines Road Board at the time.

In September 2022, the RCMP announced fraud and bribery charges under the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act against the company and four of its executives, Robert Walsh, Philip Timothy Heaney, René Bélanger and Michael McLean.

The cases against the individual executives continue, while the charges against the company are stayed and will be withdrawn if it complies with the remediation agreement.

Matteo nag-share ng tips para sa mga mag-asawa, hiling sa fans nila ni Sarah: 'Ipagdasal n'yo po kami, sana magka-baby na'

Matteo nag-share ng tips para sa mga mag-asawa, hiling sa fans nila ni Sarah: 'Ipagdasal n'yo po kami, sana magka-baby na'

SA loob ng tatlong taong pagsasama bilang mag-asawa, napakarami nang natutunan at nadiskubre nina Matteo Guidicelli at Sarah Geronimo sa isa't isa.

Looking forward na rin ang celebrity couple sa pagkakaroon ng baby dahil handang-handa at excited na raw silang maging parents.

"Oo, sana. Sana po. With prayers. Ipagdasal n'yo po kami mga Kapuso. Sana, soon, soon, magka-baby tayo," ang pahayag ni Matteo sa panayam ng "Updated with Nelson Canlas" podcast.

Sey ni Matteo okay na okay naman ngayon ang kanyang wifey at busy din sa kanyang career, "Sarah is doing very well, of course."



Elijah on his love for girlfriend Miles: *She deserves it*

I give her the love that she deserves," said actor Elijah Canlas when asked how expressive he is of his love to girlfriend Miles Ocampo.

In a lengthy Instagram post uploaded over a week ago, Miles disclosed that she underwent surgery in March after being diagnosed with papillary thyroid carcinoma. Miles claimed to have not been her

"normal self" since late 2022, and would wake up in the middle of the night due to difficulty breathing. She would also get easily tired and often felt frustrated with her weight gain. She finally chose to undergo thyroidectomy.

Also in her post, she thanked Elijah, whom she called by his second name, Luiz, for "encouraging me to face my

fears with doctors and hospitals, to prioritize myself and love myself."

"Am I a romantic boyfriend? It's better to ask her," Elijah told Inquirer Entertainment. "Actually, I think I am. I express my love using almost all of the love languages—quality time, touch



and acts of service. In fact, during her last birthday, I made her a video, which I arranged to be shown in a movie theater. It actually feels funny talking about it because it's like I'm too proud of myself."

The actor added: "She really deserves it. She deserves nothing but the best from people who love her."

Philippine Consul Inducts FCT Directors and Officers-2023-2025

The elected members of the 2023-2025 Board of Directors and Executive Council of the Filipino Centre Toronto (FCT), were inducted to office on May 12, 2023, at the FCT Social Hall, Scarborough, Toronto, Ontario. The swearing rite was officiated by Consul Rodney Jonas Sumague, Acting Head of Post, Philippine Consulate General-Toronto.

Among the FCT Executive Officers sworn in are Mary Ann S. San Juan-President & CEO, Theresa Lumanlan-Vice President, Judith Gonzales-Secretary, and Wendy Arena-Treasurer. The Board of Directors inducted is composed of Efren De Villa- Chairman, and Directors Philip Beloso, Frank Cruzet, Joy S. D'Aoust, Ma. Antonina De Villa, Faye Roncesvalles Eduave, Alvine Marasigan Flor, Mel Galeon, Leo Mascarinas, Je-



rome Peralta, Juanita A. Redjik, Jeanette Rosales, Steffie Stephens, Pepito Torralba, and Priscilla Tumulak.

The event started with a dinner buffet catered by FV Foods and followed by a program of singing the Philippine and Canadian national anthems by Leo

Macarinas, reading the Land Acknowledgement Statement by Wendy Arena, and Invocation by Carol Banez. Philip Beloso, who emceed the program, introduced the Guest of Honour and Speaker. A musical interlude was performed by Toronto's trio of golden voices, the

singers Martha Joy, Maria Panaligan, and Alyssa Datu.

FCT President Mary Ann San Juan welcomed the guests & attendees and cited her vision of "partnership and collaboration" for FCT. She said, "If we unite, we will be a big political force to be reckoned

with". And, by "understanding and helping one another, we can have reasonable clout with the government and make the Filipino community a very progressive force", stressed M. San Juan.

FCT INDUCTION page 12

Christian Bables on responding to bashers: ‘Don’t attack them with hate’

Christian Bables shared how he usually responds to his bashers. But he is no stranger to playing LGBTQ roles. In fact, he first played a gay role onscreen in the 2017 MMFF film *Die Beautiful*.

His most recent film projects include *Ten Little Mistresses*, *Mahal Kita Beksman*, and *The Panti Sisters*.

Last year, the 30-year-old actor admitted in various interviews that he is heterosexual, quashing rumors about his sexuality. Despite this, Christian shared why he will never be afraid to accept gay roles.

“None at all. Never will I have any hesitations portraying these kinds of characters for as long as young in-o-ffer sa akin are living, breathing, full of life characters, tatanggapin at tatanggapin ko yun. Yung kagaya ng mga netizen na nag-bash noon, for me ang attack ko dun, you don’t attack them with hate, you educate the person na nagsabi,” he told PUSH.

Thankfully, Christian said that gay rumors did not affect his dating life. “Hindi naman. Sa awa ni God, hindi (laughs). Ako kasi I ask a person for a date kapag meron na kaming kahit papanong napagsamahan. Hindi ako ‘yung tipo ng kaka-meet ko lang yun and then I’ll ask her for a date,” he revealed.

“Hindi. More on deep connections ako eh. Kapag mas nakilala ko na ‘yung tao, kapag nakita ko na ‘yung kung paano siya bilang tao. That’s when I get attracted to the person,” he added.

In *Drag You & Me*, Christian takes on his first

villain role opposite Andrea Brillantes as a drag queen mother who goes by the name Bubbles Lacroix. In order to prepare for his role, Christian had to dig deep because he does not have any kontrabida vibes in his real-life personality.

“Sweet akong tao. Alam ng mga nakapaligid ‘yan sa akin. Siyempre meron tayong persona kapag nagagalit, kapag naiinis. Siguro ‘yun ‘yung hinugot ko tapos pinalaki ko na lang siya, minagnify ko na lang siya kung papano,” he explained.

Christian said he sees it as a good sign that he is doing the right thing whenever he gets compliments for looking attractive when wearing drag makeup. “Oo kasi siyempre ibig sabihin I’m doing something right kapag nag-da-drag ako, that’s the role, to be beautiful. So when people see me as someone beautiful, nakakatuwa. Kasi ibig sabihin tama yung ginawa ng makeup artist ko (laughs). Kapag out of drag, I am flattered, honored to be receiving these kinds of compliments. Thank you,” he added.

During the interview, Christian also shared a piece of advice for other actors who might be hesitating to accept LGBTQ roles for fear of being typecast.

“That’s it, ‘yung pagiging scared, ‘yung fear of being judged (yung hurdle). Kasi ikaw mismo, jinu-judge mo na agad yung character. Jinu-judge mo siya base sa mata nung society na tumitingin. So do not do that. I think ‘yun ang key for an effective portrayal ng kahit anong character. You don’t judge the character. Mas piliin mong umunawa kaysa sa humusga,” he said.



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Life’s brighter under the sun



FILIPINO CENTRE TORONTO HONOURS 10 OUTSTANDING FILIPINO- CANADIAN SENIORS

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

The Filipino Centre Toronto (FCT) conducted meaningfully one of its purposeful programs, the “Outstanding Filipino Canadian Seniors Awards”(OFCSA) competition. Starting first in April 2019 the 2nd FCT-OFCSA Recognition Event was held on May 12, 2023, with its theme of “Pamana at Parangal” (Heritage and Homage).

Tasked with the selection of the awardees, is the FCT- OFCSA Committee composed of Tony A. San Juan, Retired Toronto Educator & Filipino Heritage Council of Canada Founder, as Chairman, and the 6

committee members are Carol Banez- Clinical Nurse Specialist & SOSA President, Ted Dayno-Registered Professional Account & THD Consulting Company President, Agnes P. Miranda- WFG Senior Executive Vice Chairman & PIDC President, Juanita Redjik-Entrepreneur & SandBanks Resorts & Campsites Operator, Mary Ann S.San Juan- Retired Library Manager & FCT President & CEO, and Garry Tanuan- Project Manager & TCDSB Trustee.

The 10 Outstanding Fil-Can Seniors who received a special trophy, medallion, and congratulatory

scroll are 1) DPCDSB Trustee and Board Chair Luz Del Rosario, 2) Philippine Lawyer & Retired Justice of the Peace Delano Europa, 3) Retired Accountant & MFFC President Yolanda Ladines, 4) Sculptor-Artist & Community Advocate Ignacio Mogado, 5) Accountant & Past PCCT President Steve Pagao, 6) Real Estate Agent & PUP Alumni Foundation-Canada President Willie Reodica, 7) Toronto Educator & TDSB Vice Principal Fermer Santos, 8) Community Leader & Seniors In Action Association President Alicia Siervo, 9) Business Consultant & Entrepreneur Cora De La

Cruz-Torres, and 10) Philippine Lawyer and Ontario Solicitor- Barrister Antonio Villarin.

The evening programme began with introductory remarks by Hon. Raymond Cho, MPP for Scarborough North and Minister of Seniors. After this, the announcement of the awardees by OFCSA Committee Chairman Tony A. San Juan and the presentation of coveted trophies, medallions, and congratulatory scrolls to the 10 honourees by Federal Member of Parliament

SENIORS page 14



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Heaven Peralejo still prefers to live with mom

Many young stars, once they got a taste of fame and fortune, opt to move out of their parents’ domain and live independently. There’s really nothing wrong with that. The stars get to enjoy their independence and the fruits of their labor.

Twenty-three-year-old actress Heaven Peralejo, however, still prefers to live with her mom, Shiela Luane, whom she considers her “best friend.” She brings her mom to most of her showbiz functions and events, and even to her out-of-town shoots.

In the Boracay shoot of Viva’s newest romantic-comedy series, *The Rain in España*, where Heaven is paired with Marco Gallo, the actress was accompanied by her mom. The latter gamely joined the cast in their nights out.

“She got me drunk,” the mom smilingly complained. It’s easy for Heaven and her mom to



get along since they are always together. The mom had Heaven when the former was only 20 years old. So, their age gap is not too wide. She has a younger brother who also lives with them. Her father is Myk Manarang.

“My mom and I trust each other, although we also fight,” Heaven disclosed. “As you get older, you will see the decisions that your mom makes will

not deprive you of anything. It’s really to protect you so you will not get hurt.”

Heaven’s mom also acts now as her manager and she even feels better about it. “The world I am in, it can get really painful at times,” she allowed. “If I can give the world to my mom, I will. That’s how much I really love her.”

Heaven officially joined Viva during *The Rain in España* when they started shooting in November last year. “Most of the cast members are also with Viva, so when we started shooting, everyone was really friendly,” she said.

“Everything happens for a reason. Six years ago, we never thought that our partnership would happen now and we would work in this series. There was no one who had a star complex.

“No one was above anyone else. When they welcomed me into Viva, I felt I had a safe space. There was love everywhere. I am well taken cared of in Viva.”

Heaven didn’t expect her first series to be well-received and readily popular among viewers in the streaming platform (Viva One).

“I’m not the type who expects so I will not easily get hurt,” disclosed Heaven. “I just did my best, we did our best. I’m just really happy the public received our series well.”

The Rain in España is a popular Wattpad novel by Gwy Saludes with 131

million reads. It has been turned into a 10-episode, 45-minute rom-com series that has a story which spans almost a decade.

The tender and heart-warming romance revolves around two ambitious undergraduate students — Luna, an architecture major at UST and Kalix, a legal management student at Ateneo.

Heaven is indeed grateful that she gets to play UST architecture student Luna in

The Rain in España opposite Marco. “What the readers imagine Luna to be,

we did not change her a bit. They will get that in me playing Luna.

“She’s not the typical demure girl and she’s an achiever. I’m really happy with all my cast-mates, my director and my writer. I’m really thankful.”

Six years ago, when Heaven and Marco were first seen by viewers as teen housemates in *Pinoy Big Brother*. “We were both super young then,” Heaven acknowledged. “When we meet again for the *The Rain in España*, he looked really different. He is really manly. I’m so happy for him that he’s so passionate with his work, with his craft and the people he works with.”

“Everything happens for a reason”

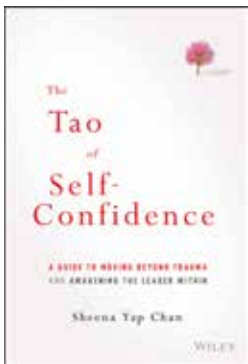
Sheena Yap Chan launches book ‘The Tao of Self-Confidence’

Filipino/Chinese-Canadian Sheena Yap Chan’s mission is to create something she never had: role models who look like she does. “Growing up, I never had any kind of representation,” she says. “Back then, I really wanted to name myself Heather, have blonde hair and blue eyes, because that’s what I thought being beautiful was. I never saw myself as a beauty standard since

I never saw that in mainstream media. I never saw other Asian women go out there and do their own thing, which was to forge their own path.”

Negative stereotypes and low expectations continue to impact Asian women who aspire to lead.

According to a recent survey completed in 2021, only 2.7% of Asian women



in the United States occupied managerial or executive roles. Sheena realizes that the cultural and historical issues affect the leadership potential of people generally, and Asian women specifically.

This is why the Toronto-based Sheena launched her book with Wiley, entitled ‘The Tao Of Self-Confidence: A Guide to Moving Beyond Trauma and Awakening the Leader Within’. The book is an essential and timely guide for early and mid-career professionals who are ready to realize their full potential. It is also aimed at earning a place in libraries as a resource for all Asian women who are tired of repeating past patterns and

ready to conquer the obstacles that have beenholding them back.

Sheena hopes the book will help Asian women recognize their own worth.

“I want Asian women to realize their potential, that they are leaders in their own right when they can learn to heal from the traumas that hold them back from their greatness.”

The Tao of Self-Confidence is available to order on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Walmart, Indigo and all other major book outlets.

About The Tao of Self-Confidence: A Guide to Moving Beyond Trauma and Awakening the Leader Within

In 2021, women represented 54.3% of the US workforce but only held 35% of senior leadership positions. Of that percentage, only 2.7% of Asian women

were seen in management roles. While there have been great leaps for women in the workplace in the last decade, women of color still fall behind. The Tao of Self-Confidence book sets a foundation to help Asian Women start being seen as leaders in work and life rather than by our stereotypes. In order to move forward with true confidence, we must learn the lessons our challenges have taught us and heal our trauma.

With an honest and vulnerable approach, Yap Chan discusses and explores the specific challenges our community faces, historically and now in the midst of the pandemic, intergenerational and historical trauma, false stories we tell ourselves, and how we can rise above stereotypes. She hopes the book taps into our inner joy, celebrate our authentic

SHEENA page 11

Toronto Kapuso Lions Club Embarks on Environmental Projects

Our planet Earth sustains human lives. We have seen how the stewardship of our natural resources can improve quality of life and increase engagement in local communities. Our environment is more than just a background, it is our home. Everyone has to commit to take care of it.

The Toronto Kapuso Lions Club aims to do its part in sustainably protecting and restoring the environment to improve the well-being of as many communities as they can.

On Earth Day, Toronto Kapuso Lions, family and friends joined thousands of Toronto residents, businesses and community groups in doing their part to keep Toronto clean and green. They were assigned to clean Morningside Park



in Scarborough, ON. The clean up was done on April 23, 2023, from 11:00 AM- 2:00PM by 43 participants. Kapuso Lion Mitzi Faigal provided participants with ‘Together We Can Save Our Plan-

et’ t-shirts.

The Club strongly believes in reforestation and in planting trees where there are no trees. Restoring the ecological balance and function of the forests through the

process of regenerating trees in areas where they have been cut down, depleted or destroyed is important.

Toronto Kapuso Lions have undertaken several tree planting activities this year. On May 13th, 200 trees were planted at the L’Amoreaux North Park in Scarborough, Ontario by 53 members, families and friends.

On Club’s First VP Dario Agustin’s visit to his hometown of Mayantoc, Tarlac in the Philippines, he organized a Toronto Kapuso supported tree planting activity to prevent further soil erosion in the Mayantoc River and its tributaries. For manpower, he collaborated with local organizations.

A third tree planting event is scheduled **KAPUSO LIONS page 12**

A man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue shirt, stands next to a large white sign. The sign has the text "VOTE" in large black letters, "Jose Baking" in large red letters, "for" in smaller black cursive letters, and "Toronto Mayor" in large red letters. The background shows a white wall and a bookshelf.

VOTE
Jose Baking
for
Toronto Mayor

First, they demolished the elevated section between the Don River and Leslie Street known as “Gardiner East” in 2001. It was intended for connection to the cancelled Scarborough Expressway. Now, they plan to remove the rest of the elevated portion to bring it to ground level and widen Lakeshore from 6 lanes to 8. Researchers found that removing the eastern portion would add three minutes to the average commute if the Lake Shore speed limit was 70 km/h. If the speed limit was 60 km/h, drivers would spend an extra six minutes on their commute.

Now, they plan to remove the elevated portion where the Gardiner meets the DVP and replace it with a signalised intersection. Imagine being there and it's stop and go traffic. It's a prescription for fender benders as the traffic moves and then stops as drivers try to accelerate. Imagine drivers coming from all directions try to avoid that intersection and traffic transfers to Kingston Rd, O'Connor, Danforth, Gerrard, Eastern Avenue from drivers coming from the east; Bayview Avenue, Yonge St., Mt. Pleasant, Bathurst, and Avenue Rd from drivers coming from the north.

You don't need a traffic expert to know these details. You just need to drive around Toronto to know that if you know that traffic is at a standstill in one area, you will find an alternative route.

A woman with dark hair, smiling, wearing a red dress and a white blazer. She is holding a book titled "Tan's Self-Confidence" in front of her. The book cover is white with red and black text. The background is dark.



Michelle Madrigal deletes photos of 'afam' boyfriend

A close-up photograph of a young man and woman smiling and posing together outdoors. The woman is on the left, wearing a dark blue sleeveless top, and the man is on the right, shirtless. They are both looking towards the camera. In the background, a swimming pool and some greenery are visible under a clear sky.

Michelle and her ex-husband Troy Woolfolk announced their separation on April that year. They have a daughter named Anika, who they co-parent.

A blue Honda Civic sedan is shown in the foreground, angled towards the right. Behind it and to the right is a red Honda CR-V SUV, also angled towards the right. Both vehicles are set against a plain white background. In the bottom right corner, there are two red maple leaf icons, each with the text "HONDA" below it.



HONDA

See Harold for details **All vehicles are plus \$10.00 omvic fee and HST, Licensing and \$40.00 gas extra. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

Janine Gutierrez became an actress to help her yaya who had cancer, promises to buy her a house

Actress Janine Gutierrez revealed that her showbiz origins stem from her willingness to help her Yaya Pat Espera who has been taking care of her since Janine was an infant.

Janine appeared on the morning show “Magandang Buhay” last month and was invited by hosts Regine Velasquez-Alcasid and Melai Cantiveros-Francisco to cook for them. The actress was then surprised to see that her Yaya Pat joined them for the segment.

The actress shared that Yaya Pat been with the family even before she was born, “Hindi pa ako pinapanganak, siya na ‘yung yaya ko. So talagang ‘second mommy’ ko si Yaya,” as she wiped away some tears.

She also said that Yaya Pat would help her do homework back when she was studying and would gift her dictionaries, and then revealed how much of an impact Yaya Pat was to her acting career.

“Actually mahiyain talaga ako, hindi ko naman inisip na mag-artista, pero noong

college ako si Yaya nagkasakit at parang ‘di ako makatulong,” Janine shared. “So sabi ko kay Mom, ‘Ma, gusto ko na mag-artista para may panggamot si Yaya.’”

Yaya Pat recalled the time she was diagnosed with breast cancer and she was only brought to tears thinking of Janine and her younger siblings Jessica, Diego and Maxine, worried that they might behave or grow up the same way if someone else looked after them.

Yaya Pat teased Janine about appearing in a commercial together so that the former could get her own house which she had long been wanting. Later in the show, Janine admitted that she she was still working on getting enough money to buy Yaya Pat her own house.



Janine — a member of the popular Gutierrez clan — finished her basic education at St. Paul’s College - Pasig and graduated from the Ateneo de Manila University with a European Studies degree before fully becoming entering the entertainment industry.

She currently stars on “Dirty Linen” alongside Zanjoe Marudo, Francine Diaz, and Seth Fedelin, with the show just entered its second season this May.

Joshua Garcia, open sa pakikipag-date sa

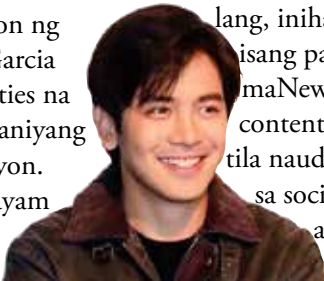


older women

Emotional stability. Ganito kung ilarawan ngayon ng aktor na si Joshua Garcia ang isa sa mga qualities na hinahanap niya sa kaniyang susunod na ka-relasyon.

Sa bahagi ng panayam ng entertainment press sa aktor sa naganap na media conference ng kaniyang newest project na Unbreak My Heart, ibinahagi ni Joshua na posible aniya itong makita sa mas nakatatandang babae sa kanya.

“Oo naman, I mean ako kasi 25 years old turning 26 next year, naghahanap na ako ng mas deeper connection, emotionally stable. Parte na dun ang pagiging masaya ‘yung exciting love part pero mas deeper connection



ang hinahanap ko talaga ngayon,” ani Joshua.

Matatandaan na kamakailan lang, inihayag ni Joshua sa isang panayam ng CinemaNews na single siya at contented ngayon after ng tila naudlot na relasyon niya sa social media personality na si Bella Racelis.

Ayon sa aktor, bahagi ng kaniyang desisyon na maging single muna ay para bigyang priority ngayon ang sunod-sunod na proyektong dumarating sa kaniyang career. “Kasi hindi ako magaling mag manage ng time ko and alam ko baka masayang lang ang oras niya sa akin. Iba pa kasi priority ko ngayon, parang may sariling anak—focus muna sa goal,” paliwang ng aktor sa panayam.

FCT INDUCTION from page 8

Filipino Consul R. J. Sumague in his address, recognized the notable contribution of the FCT in community development. and promotion of Filipino heritage and culture, as well. Sumague also cited the ongoing programs being

undertaken by the Philippine diplomatic post in Toronto. These initiatives include the Credential Recognition Canada, the Philippine 2024 Winter Escapade, and the

upcoming event of the Philippine Independence Day on June 12 with its theme “Kalayaan, Kinabukasan, Kasaysayan” (Freedom, Future, History).

The Federal politicians in attendance were Salma Zahid, a Member of Parliament for Scarborough Centre, and Shaun Chen, a Member of Parliament for Scarborough North.

The Filipino Centre Toronto, established in 2000, is a leading not-for-profit, volunteer-run, and community hub in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in Ontario, the largest province of Canada.



1



2



3

1. FCT Officers and Board members;
2. FCT Officers and power couple Theresa Lumanlan and Frank Cruzet pose in their finest Filipino outfits.
3. Toronto Mayoral candidate pose with Melissa Ventocilla.

Toronto Kapuso Lions Club tree planting at L’Amoreaux Park

KAPUSO LIONS from page 10

for June 3rd at the Topcliff Park in North York, Ontario.





We have to do more for the homeless.

Why? Have we done less before?

Homelessness seems to be the “trending” problem for candidates running for Mayor of Toronto. All the leading candidates are promising expensive solutions without saying where the money will come from.

Meanwhile, illegal encampments at Allan Gardens in downtown Toronto are making life miserable for residents around the park who cannot use the park because they are harassed with racial insults from the illegal occupiers. Regretably, all leading candidates say they will not remove any of them. I guess it is easy to make promises like building more low-cost housing with no explanation where the money will come from than it is to solve a problem that exists in front of you.



Sharon Cuneta reacts to 'balutin mo ako' memes

Sharon Cuneta doesn't mind at all being the subject of memes when it comes to Pinoy "handaan" or festivities.

During her guesting on comedian and talent manager Ogie Diaz's YouTube channel, Sharon shared her thoughts on becoming a meme that referenced her '80s hit song Bituing Walang Ningning.

Pinoys usually poke fun at guests wrapping food to take home from parties with the famous lyrics of Sharon's song: "Balutin mo ako ng hiwaga ng iyong pagmamahal."

"Tuwang-tuwa ako. Kasi siyempre minsan nadadaan mo sa YouTube, TikTok o kaya sa Facebook 'yung mga may picture ko nasa buffet table tapos



"Wag magsha-Sharon, ibig sabihin may ekis."



bawal magbalot (ng pagkain)... tawang-tawa ako," Sharon shared in the interview.

Sharon referred to a viral photo that showed a photo of herself edited with the "NO" sign posted in front of a buffet table, suggesting that guests are not allowed to take out food.

The veteran singer-actress also said she's "not at all" offended by the memes, saying she's amused that she would be called to mind during such event.

"Na-touch ako. Ang cute naman at least naalala ako, nila 'di ba...Naaaliw ako, tuwang-tuwa ako," she said.

Sharon added she's actually the type to tell her guests to pack and bring home food from occasions.

"Ako lang ang may karapatang magsabing 'magbalot na kayo'. Kasi 'yun naman ang ugali ko.

"Pag kakain, 'Balutin niyo na 'yung pagkain, sayang lang 'yan," she shared.



1. Arielle Perez meets Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during the Asian Heritage month in Ottawa.

Andrea Brillantes happy with her solo career: 'Nakalabas na ako sa love team ko!'

Andrea Brillantes opened up about how she feels about breaking free from her love team.

Before she turned 20 years old last March, Andrea Brillantes said she was able to enjoy the tail end of her teenage years after working in showbiz since she was seven years old.

The former child actress admitted that the pandemic was one reason why she hadn't fully enjoyed her life after being a debutante.

"Actually, ngayon ko lang na-enjoy kasi nung parang first two years ng pandemic I feel like ang daming teens who felt like we were robbed of our teenage years kasi nag-start yung pandemic when we were 17-18 and that was supposed to be the time that we could party and we could go out di ba? Pero hindi," she told PUSH during the Drag You & Me exclusive interview.

"Sa bahay lang kami. Walang clubs na open. Na-start ko lang siya talaga when I was 19. Feeling ko okay na naman kasi it was the right age to do it pero ang daming namin sana nagawa," she added.

Unlike her most recent digital series, such as Lyric

& Beat and Saying Goodbye where she saw herself getting her paired onscreen with fellow Kapamilya Gold Squad member Seth Fedelin, Andrea said that she feels happy to have finally been given her first solo project.

"I think this is the start kasi ito yung show ko na wala talaga akong love team and official show ko ito na nakalabas na ako sa love team ko so I think start naman ito. Clear din naman sa management na gusto ko mag-take ng ibang roles," she said.

"Actually, parang naging mutual agreement na din siya na 'yun din ang gusto ng management for me na may solo career na din ako and di na din ako mag-la-love team. Honestly na-e-enjoy ko din 'yun and mas free lang ako makagawa ng mga ganitong klaseng roles and it's fun. Sa magiging next show ko din, iba din yung atake so I'm so excited and hopeful for that," she added.

It was last year when Andrea revealed that she



had a two-year relationship with Seth, whom she also claimed was her first heartbreak. This was amidst dating rumors between her former love team partner and fellow Gold Squad member Francine Diaz. The two have yet to confirm the real status of their relationship.

The talented actress revealed that she is now in a more mature phase in her life, so she can apply her experiences to the dramatic scenes she does in every project.

"Lagi naman pag may pinagdadaanan ako, minsan maiisip ko bakit? Tapos lagi kasing timing eh, pag meron akong gagawing show or kapag may nangyari dito, tomorrow na kukunin 'yung mabigat kong eksena. Lagi ko lang naiisip na may magagamit ako sa eksena ko. May magagamit ako sa show kong bago," she said.

"Siguro madami kaming aktor na ginagawa yun, na dun na lang namin ibubuhos sa eksena na yun yung emosyon namin. Minsan magiging grateful ka somehow na buti na lang sinaktan niya ako, buti na lang heartbroken ako kasi nakaiyak ako sa eksena na ito. Since bad siya, puwede mo siya gawing good," she added.



2. Toronto Mayoral candidate Jose Baking poses with IPEN beauty Margaret Rodrigo.



Kathryn Rodricks (MIDDLE) poses with mom Josie and Basil Rodricks after her confirmation.

Richard Gomez discloses getting indecent proposal from a “supporting actress”

Inamin ni Richard Gomez na nakatanggap siya noon ng indecent proposal mula sa isang aktres. Naranasan ba niyang makatanggap ng indecent proposals noon?

Sinagot ni Richard ang tanong sa pamamagitan ng pagbabahagi ng karanasan niya sa isang kapwa artista.

“There’s one that’s really significant na hindi ko makalimutan, taga-showbiz din, supporting actress...” simula ng aktor.

“Sabi niya, ‘Anakan mo naman ako.’” Ikinagulat daw iyon ni Richard.

“Bakit?” tanong daw ni Richard na natatawa habang ikinukuwento.

“Wala, anakan mo lang ako,” sagot daw ng aktres.

Sundot na tanong, tumanggap ba si Richard ng isang indecent proposal?

“Hindi pa,” nangingiti niyang sagot.



Nagbigay na ba siya ng indecent proposal? “Hindi pa,” sagot niya na natatawa rin.

RICHARD ON WOMEN CHASING AFTER HIM

Sa interview, isa pang finanong kay Richard ay kung naligawan na ba siya ng babae.

“Oo naman,” mabilis niyang sagot.

Humantong daw ba ito sa relasyon?

“Oo, multiple times,” sagot ni Richard. Ibig sabihin, marami siyang nakarelasong babae na humahabol sa kanya.

Natatawag kuwento pa ng aktor: “Cheap lang ako. Easy to get ako, e. Ganon ako nung bata ako, e. carefree. Relax lang ako.”

“Parang, ‘You like me? I like you.’ ‘You don’t like me? I like you.’”

Naranasan ba ni Richard na magmahal ng dalawang babae nang sabay?

“Yes. Three pa nga,” sagot niya kasabay ng tawa.

Kinailangan daw ba niyang mamili?

“Isa-isang nawala,” ani Richard.

Action Honda’s Rafael Nebres visits new Consul General



Steve Pagao, Tony San Juan, Monina Lim-Serrano, Aurora Ticzon Elefano, Suzy Llanera, Rafael Nebres and candidate for Mayor Willie Reodica welcome the new Philippine Consul General for Toronto Angelica Escalona.



1. RJ Greeley (IN RED) poses his family after his confirmation.



2



SENIORS from page 9

OFCSA Committee Member & Award Donor Agnes P. Miranda, and FCT President Mary Ann S. San Juan. Trustee Garry Tanuan introduced the Guest Speaker, Rechie Valdez, the MP for Mississauga-Streetsville. FCT Vice President Theresa Lumanlan ably hosted the event and FCT Chairman Efren

De Villa gave the closing address. The lively ceremony, punctuated by applause and photo poses, was described as an evening of “mabunying pagbati at pasasalamat” as well as a respectful celebration of individual pride, honour, and achievement. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT).

The Distinguished Guests & the 10 FCT 2023 Outstanding Filipino-Canadian Seniors Awardees: From left, Tony Villarin, Ferner Santos, Willie Reodica, Primitivo Pagao, Mogi Mogado, MPP Rechie Valdez, MPP Raymond Cho, donor of the trophies Agnes Pasaporte Miranda, Yoly Ladines, Luz del Rosario, Delano Europa, Alicia Javier Siervo, Corazon dela Cruz Torres, & Consul Rodney Jonas Sumague.



Scenes from The Filipino Centre Toronto Pistahan 2023



Arielle Abrazaldo & Congen Angelica Escalona



Congen Angelica Escalona, Mayoral candidate Mitzie Hunter, Michele and Monina Serrano



Mayoral candidate Mitzie Hunter, Teresa Sevilla and Andrew Alcampado



Maricel Bañaga Salvador of Aki's Bayong



Folklorico Filipino Canada



Nimfa Lim & Congen Angelica Escalona



Philip Beloso & Mayoral candidate Ana Bailao



Folklorico Filipino Canada dancer



Congen Angelica Escalona & Trini James



Danica Halili Laurel, daughter of zumba master Aurora joins the fun at Pistahan.

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Richard, Ian, Jake, and Albert promise nonstop action scenes for ‘The Iron Heart’ shooting in Italy

Star Creatives shared behind-the-scenes footage last Thursday (June 1) and videos showing the warm reception of tourists and locals who requested selfies with the good-looking Kapamilya heartthrobs.

“Iron Heart” stars Richard Gutierrez, Ian Veneracion, Jake Cuenca, and Albert Martinez are currently in Italy to shoot more exciting scenes and take viewers on a gripping journey filled with suspense and intense action scenes.

Flying to the magnificent capital of the south-central European peninsula last Sunday, the popular lead actors immerse themselves in the enchanting backdrop to bring the story of Apollo, Menandro, Eros, and Priam to life.

Star Creatives shared behind-the-scenes footage



Kapamilya heartthrob Richard Gutierrez (center) poses for a photo in Italy

Meanwhile, last Tuesday (May 30), the intense confrontation between Apollo (Richard) and Adonis (Ryan Eigenmann) kept viewers on the edge of their seats. The intense episode propelled “Iron Heart” to achieve its highest online live viewership record of 304,208 views. Find out how Apollo will bounce back and continue his mission to destroy Tatsulok.

Jimmy Santos’ new life in Canada

Former “Eat Bulaga” mainstay Jimmy Santos took to his personal vlog last May 23 to share a glimpse of Canada’s recycling system, where he was spotted at a recycling center.

The former “Eat Bulaga” host also said that every can or bottle is worth a certain value, citing it as one of the reasons why Canadian residents are required to recycle them.

“Malaking bagay ‘yan kaya ito po ay ibinahagi at ipinakita ko sa inyo ang sistema ng mga nagbebenta ng bote dito,” he said. “Maganda, masaya at kunswelo dahil nakakatulong sa pagre-recycle ang mga ibinenta nating bote, karton, at ‘yung mga nabubulok po na ginagawang fertilizer,” he added, noting that biodegradable waste have

a purpose as well.

Santos, however, didn’t clarify in the video if he has already settled in



Canada for good.

It’s also unknown if the actor-come-dian has departed from “Eat Bulaga,” although he was last seen in the noontime show’s Christmas episode of its “Bawal Judgmental” segment in 2021.

PORK from page 1

DSWD officer-in-charge Undersecretary Eduardo Punay said the requirements would push 1 million beneficiaries to join programs from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Punay said these requirements would help end the culture of dependency on government financial assistance.

“This design for the food stamp program is multi-purpose,” he said in Filipino. “The DSWD is evolving. We’re not all just about financial assistance. We’re becoming developmental. We are making sure that our beneficiaries do not become used to merely receiving financial aid or ayuda, and all they do is take and take.”

He cited the case of the 4Ps conditional cash transfer where beneficiaries have become too dependent on government assistance. “Some of our beneficiaries there do not want to leave 4Ps even though they are due for graduation. This is what we want to avoid in the new program,” Punay said.

Punay said the idea is to subsidize one meal for the beneficiaries to allow them to use the money for job training and transportation as they look for jobs.

Earlier, the DSWD said the food stamp program, dubbed “Walang Gutom Program 2027: Food Stamp Program,” will aid 1 million households that have been categorized as “food poor” or those who earn less than P8,000 a month and those who cannot afford to eat more than one meal a day.



Beneficiaries will receive P3,000 a month or a total of P36,000 a year worth of government assistance that will be distributed through electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards provided by the DSWD.

Meanwhile, Albay Rep. Joey Salceda urged the DSWD to integrate its food stamps program with efforts by the Department of Agriculture to buy and market domestic farm produce, saying that “the poorest communities remain the rural poor of this country.”

“Food stamps, as envisioned and implemented in other countries, are agricultural programs. They aim to bridge rural

surpluses with food-poor urban communities. That way, we address both urban poverty and rural poverty,” he said.

“Around 30 percent of farmers are poor. So, if you want to make this program sustainable, you link it with boosting farmer incomes,” he added, noting that the administration’s economic managers have balked at the program’s price tag.

“As it was originally implemented in the United States, where the food stamp program is most prevalent and arguably most successful, you can have a specific amount for general food items, and you can have a special stamp or voucher for

surplus produce,” he said.

“What the farmers can get for surplus produce are food stamps for the general program. So, you help solve their food insecurity issues. You take out the surplus, helping manage prices. And you provide free surplus food to those who need it. It’s a great synergy,” he said.

“So, I think the DSWD should really team up with the DA on this program,” Salceda said.

He also said the government should consider using revenues from the sweetened beverage tax to fund the food stamp program.

Vilmark Viray hopes Lisan brings comfort and hope to listeners

Unlike his previous compositions that would take him several days to finish, Vilmark Viray was able to come up with a song which he titled **Lisan** in only less than an hour.

Lisan is Vilmark's sophomore single released under GMA Music. It speaks about losing someone but at the same time bringing comfort and hope to listeners, who are gripped with sorrow and pain.

Every word in every line of **Lisan** expresses the Kapuso balladeer's longingness for his dad Virgilio whose sudden passing two days after Christmas 2022 left him and his family in grief. They were vacationing in Tagaytay when Vilmark's dad collapsed inside the comfort room of their hotel room.

"He left us on Dec. 27." Understandably, Vilmark was inconsolable, and he dealt with his grief the only way he knew how — through writing a song. "I wrote the song during the first night of my father. I was in my room and I was profusely crying when I began writing the song and finished it in less than an hour," said The Clash Season 4 finalist who also shared how his mom would try hard to be strong, especially because his parents were always together.



"I poured my emotions into the song. I'm just hoping that listeners will like it." "My dad was a joker, even if sometimes he's corny," he mused. His dad would also remind him of the value of "pakikisama." "Papa said that it's important to learn how to get along with people, dapat marunong akong makisama. Nakita ko gaano karami ang nakiramay nung nawala si Papa," he shared.

"Ako kasi, I'm an introvert. But I'm trying my best to get along with as many people and to mingle with them as often as possible," he added. Aside from singing, Vilmark maintains his day job as an electronics engineer. He admitted that managing his time between two careers is never easy.

With a lot of new singers being discovered through talent searches, you can't blame Vilmark for saying that he had moments of doubt about the future of his singing career.

"When I write songs, I always make sure that people can really relate to my songs. I wanted to be an inspiration to those who doubt themselves about what they can do. They just have to continue doing what they love because I firmly believe that there's a perfect time for each of us," he concluded.

Jericho Rosales returns to acting 'in front of the camera' after four-year hiatus

Jericho Rosales couldn't contain his excitement to return to acting, as he unveiled a sneak peak of his character, Cenon Santiago, in the upcoming prison series "Sellblock." "I'm just very happy to be acting in front of the camera again. Hi to my #SellBlock fam. You all are amazing," he said. "I'm honored... and happy I'm not waking up at 3am tomorrow. [tongue out emoji] Sweet meme."

Rosales' last teleserye was "Halik" with Yen Santos and Sam Milby, which ended in 2019, while he made the romantic-comedy film "The Girl in the Orange Dress" with Jessy Mendiola in 2018.

Reports of Rosales headlining "Sellblock" was confirmed by U.S.-based media outlet Variety in March 2022, which will be produced by ABS-CBN and Manila-based BlackOps Studios Asia.

"Sellblock" marks the actor's return to showbiz after a four-year break from showbiz, sharing to Philippine Daily Inquirer that he's set to open up his own production outfit. However, he didn't reveal the name of the company in the report.

"The projects I'm working on take time, patience and a lot of effort. I'm determined to make them happen. My dream is to make excellent projects here, then showcase them abroad. That's what we're working on. It takes a lot of time to write and produce stuff, but I'm patient enough," he was quoted as saying.



When Angelica Panganiban intends to return to acting

Angelica Panganiban admitted she is not yet ready to be in full swing once again when it comes to her showbiz career.

In her most recent vlog, Panganiban expressed that she might feel more at ease with the idea around September, when her daughter Amila Sabine or Bean celebrates her first birthday.

"Pwede ko siyang pag-isipan after mag September, after mag one year ni Bean. Kasi doon medyo less guilt na siguro yung pagtigil ko sa pagpa-

pade," she said. In a few months' time, Panganiban said she will begin taking a look at the scripts of the potential projects being presented her. "Pwede na akong magbasa ng scripts, tumanggap ng offers. Kasi ngayon, nakapila lang sila, but hindi ko pa binubuksan yung pintuan — meaning hindi ako nagbabasa ng script. Kasi kapag nagbasa ako ng script at may nagustuhan ako, mababaliw ako. Baka umalis na lang ako dito at magshu-shooting

na ako. Though hindi ko naman yun gagawin talaga," she said. "Pero kasi 'di ba, ayaw kong makakita ng script tapos napanood ko tapos iisipin ko na sa akin dapat iyan. Ayaw na ayaw ko ng ganung feeling. So iniwasan ko magbasa,"



she added. Once she finds the right script, Panganiban is receptive to the idea of resuming filming again in January.

"Pwede na akong mag-start mag-shoot ng mga January next year, so very, very soon na siya," she said.

Panganiban has been on hiatus from showbiz for close to a year now, during which she welcomed her first child, Bean. She is currently engaged to her fiancé, Gregg Homan.

Her last television projects with ABS-CBN were the drama series "The Goodbye Girl" and "Walang Hanggang Paalam."

PHILIPPINES

Over 2,000 Filipino women died in childbirth in 2021 — UNFPA PH

MANILA, Philippines— In 2021, a total of 2,478 women died due to childbirth in the Philippines— more than double the 2019 figure of 1,458 women, according to The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Philippines.



"That is around 6 to 7 Filipino women dying daily due to childbirth," said Dr. Leila Saiji Joudane, country representative of the UNFPA Philippines in a Mothers' Day statement.

"Women die because sexual and reproductive health services are unavailable, inaccessible, unaffordable, or of poor quality. Human resources are also scarce. There are not enough trained healthcare workers that provide quality sexual and reproductive health information and services," she went on.

The UNFPA also highlighted the gravity of high reproductive health costs amongst poor Filipinos.

As the United Nations' reproductive healthcare arm, the UNFPA also expressed its support for the Philippines' commitment to universal health coverage and reducing preventable maternal deaths as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

"This Mother's Day, let us uphold the right of all people — especially mothers — to reach the highest possible standard of health. Timely health care for pregnant women can make the difference between life and death. No woman should die giving life," Joudane concluded.

Philippines, Israel seek to expand security, economic ties

MANILA, Philippines — President Marcos met with visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Eliyahu Cohen as part of efforts to boost security and economic ties between the two countries.



Cohen's visit aims expanded cooperation between the Philippines and Israel, particularly in the areas of security and the economy.

It was the first time in 56 years that an Israeli foreign minister visited the Philippines since former foreign minister Abba Eban in March 1967.

Malacañang has yet to provide details on the meeting. Israel and the Philippines are celebrating the 65th anniversary of bilateral relations this year.

Recently, the Philippine Navy acquired Israeli Shaldag-class patrol boats to boost the military's capability to strengthen the country's defense of its shorelines. Marcos said the patrol vessels would be deployed to the West Philippine Sea to help protect the country's waters and would also be utilized for disaster and humanitarian operations. The Philippines and Israel signed an agreement that will provide opportunities for both countries to share best practices in addressing common challenges related to the environment and preservation of ecosystems. The agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, with the two countries to share best practices to address the challenges of disaster risk management and promotion and dissemination of environmental technologies, was signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo and Foreign Minister Cohen after their bilateral meeting. He said the relationship between the Philippines and Israel predated the founding of the Israeli state. "These ties have deep roots, going back to the time when president Manuel L. Quezon, through his 'Open Door Policy,' provided safe haven for an estimated 1,300 Jewish refugees who were fleeing the Nazi regime," Manalo said.

The secretary highlighted the need to expand cooperation in areas such as defense and security, tourism, trade and investment, agriculture, science and technology and people-to-people ties.

The Philippine side emphasized the importance of promoting peace and stability, as well as confidence-building with key partners in these regions.

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Kelvin Miranda believes the right girl will come

Kelvin Miranda wishes and aspires to portray and pursue varied roles and stories, as he expressed in a previous interview with this paper. His web designer-gamer-cosplay geek character named Norman is another answer to that. Now streaming on Netflix, the film Missed Connections sees Kelvin's Norman as someone who falls in love with a "grocery girl" and is loved by another "grocery girl," also known as "gingerhead." It's in stark contrast to his Ralph, a friend and admirer of the human clone Hope, in the Afternoon Prime series, Unica Hija, which concluded last March.

"Yung pagkatao niya is very awkward (He has a very awkward personality) and he is an NBSB (no girlfriend since birth)," described Kelvin of Norman."

With the show touching on the "Love-in-the-time-of-social-media-apps" idea, Kelvin said he acknowledged the uses of social media platforms and face-to-face as formal and valid ways for people to meet up and get to know each other.

"It's still up to the persons how they will talk (or start the conversations and move forward from there)," added he. "Nagkakaroon lang ng missed connections kapag hindi kayo nagkaintindihan (Missed connections happen when both parties don't understand one another or misread the signals). I'm not favoring the online or face-to-face way (or I'm not thinking that one is better than the other)."

Asked about the qualities he is

looking for in a girl, Kelvin had this to say: "I don't believe in (having an) ideal girl or ideal woman. For me, as long as na totoo (she is true to herself)... hindi siya hinahanap talaga, kumbaga darating siya kung para sa'yo talaga (The right one is not someone you look for. That person will come (in the right place, at the right time in your life)."

Following his line of thought, one could say that Kelvin believes in making real connections — and a relationship is a work in progress.

"There are people who have been together (for a long time), but they fall out of love," said he, who worked with Miles for the first time and considered the experience a good one. "She's professional and loves her craft. She's collaborative," added Kelvin.

As for Miles' character, he said that Mae is a hopeless romantic. "Kung ano yung pinanghahawakan niya sa pag-mamahal, sa pag-ibig (Whatever she holds on to love), parang kahit ilang beses pa siyang masaktan, kahit ilang beses pa siyang mabalewala (and no matter how many times she has gotten hurt or ignored), for as long as she sees a chance, she will take the opportunity. She is also jolly."

With his Norman, Kelvin likes the fact that the character knows what he wants in love and life and never gives up easily to chase it.

How does it feel that his film is being showcased on the most popular streaming platform?

"Nanumbalik yung feeling sa akin na



sobrang saya at nakaka-proud (I had the same feelings of happiness and pride) dahil siyempre nakikilala yung pelikulang Pilipino sa buong mundo (because another Filipino film gets to be introduced to the world)," answered Kelvin, whose happy memories about the time when his 2019 movie, Dead Kids, premiered on Netflix, came rushing back. These happened when he saw again its logo with the letter "N" and heard the signature sound. "This is a big thing to me and I feel so happy to be part of the film."

From the streaming platform, Kelvin is also seen on TV via the GMA action-comedy series, Walang Matigas na Pulis sa Matinik na Misis, where he plays the diligent student Gary, who idolizes Police Major Bartolome, portrayed by Sen. Bong Revilla Jr.

With that, Kelvin's talent and visibility are showcased and felt on both traditional and new media platforms.

Piolo Pascual raring to step out of his comfort zone for first horror film

With the extremely tight schedule he keeps, actor Piolo Pascual said he was ready to turn down the offer to do "Mallari," which would eventually be his first horror film.

But, shortly after the story was pitched, something happened to him that made him do a double take and eventually com-

mit to the project fully.

Based on a true story "On the night the project was pitched, I went to work with Kyle (Echarri for another project, titled 'The Ride'). We were talking with Joao (Constancia) about the Netflix movie 'Dahmer,' which is a story about a serial killer in the States. I wasn't sure if it was Joao who asked if we ever have a serial killer in the Philippines. Eventually, he googled it and found that there's one documented serial killer in the country. This was Severino Mallari," said Piolo.

"The moment I heard this, I stood up. I had goosebumps because I thought, 'This happened on the same day of the pitch.' I had to catch my breath for a while. When I sat down, I told them about the pitch that same morning about a horror film titled 'Mallari,'" he recalled.

Piolo said he was never informed during the pitch that 'Mallari' is based on a true story.

Challenging character

Piolo then said he was well aware of the challenge of playing the character. "Yes, but it's also quite an interesting topic to talk about. Sobrang hirap nito (This is going to be very tough)! This will definitely take me out of my comfort zone," the actor stressed. "Just like in anything I do, I will cross the bridge when I get there. Right now, I'm focused on doing 'Ibarra' and I will eventually deal with everything after this run. It's the same thing with 'The Ride.' As soon as I start filming that with Kyle, I will focus on that, too."



'I adore her with all my heart': Zack Tabudlo breaks silence over Moira Dela Torre rumored romance

Zack Tabudlo broke his silence over the romance rumors surrounding him and fellow singer Moira Dela Torre.

In a lengthy Facebook post, Zack said Moira's friends just tried to be in her side when she and Jason Hernandez ended their marriage.

"We were all in shock of what happened. We were all then leaning into protecting her and giving all of the love she needed. During the months that past, we were all just present for her," he said.

Zack said that his closeness to Moira was taken out of context.

"I was there for a friend who need-



ed my help and I wanted to give that protection and support that she gave me when I needed it. But that's not what everyone saw and what everyone knew," he said.

The "Binibini" singer revealed that the rumors put so much pressure on him that he tried to take his own life.

"I kept quiet but it all became too heavy for me. The pressure, the accusations, the music, my mental state, and everything just crumbled down for me, and I gave up. I couldn't take it...But thank God he gave me another chance. I was in the hospital in a comma unresponsive, and everyone thought I didn't make it. After hours of them waiting, I woke up in the ER," he said.

He also had a message for Moira who he said is the strongest person he has met in his life.

"I look up to her so much. She's selfless, strong, caring, and so loving to the people around her. And I adore her with all my heart. She was one of the people who were there for me during my healing stages in the ward and I will never ever forget how much she's helped me grow and move pass this phase of mine despite of all the things she went through," he said.

He also thanked his family, friends and fans for the support.

"I am in a better mental state now and I am so excited to give everyone more music that I have ready. I love you guys always and forever," he said.



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Alden Richards says no problem with Coco Martin, Daniel Padilla over love scenes with Julia Montes, Kathryn Bernardo

Alden Richards admitted that he feels pressured to equal, if not to top, the success of his box office hit "Hello, Love, Goodbye" with Kathryn Bernardo.

In his interview with actor and talent manager Ogie Diaz uploaded on YouTube, Richards professed that co-producing his upcoming movie with Julia Montes, "Five Break-Ups and a Romance," is tough given Star Cinema's billion-peso success with "Hello, Love, Goodbye."

Alden, however, said that he is confident with having Julia for their upcoming romance drama because he has seen how good Julia is in her past works and he believes in the material written and directed by Irene Emma Villamor, brainchild behind films like "Sid & Aya," "Meet Me in St. Gallen," "On Vodka, Beers, and Regrets" and "Ulan."

According to Richards, he chooses to continue challenging himself with projects such as "Five Break-Ups and a Romance" instead on just rest on the laurels of "Hello, Love, Goodbye."

"Kung hihintayin ko pa 'yung mga susunod na 'Hello, Love, Goodbye,' Mama Ogs, papa'no naman 'yung ibang opportunities na pwede ko pang gawin? Ayoko naman pong i-limit 'yung sarili ko kasi actor po ako eh. Parang 'yun po talaga 'yung food for my soul, pag-arte,'" Alden said.

"Yung nilatag 'yung storya, binasa ko s'ya, of course, we want a box office hit, but it's really up to the people who will watch it... Pagod na po kasi



ako mag-promo na pinaghirapan po namin 'to... magugustuhan n'yo po ito... Maybe the people should really see the movie because they really want to see the movie."

"(But) I can say, from experience, we have a good movie," Alden assured fans.

The actor affirmed that there is a love scene in the movie with Julia.

"This is a very challenging project for Julia. This is out of her comfort zone. Nu'ng inamin n'ya po sa'min ni direk, we had a lot of private sessions together. Kaming tatlo, pinag-uusapan namin kung anong gagawin. Ako naman, pagdating sa ganyan, alalay lang ako parati lalo na

kung may inhibitions or may reservations po 'yung partner ko. So sabi ko lang, 'Juls, ikaw ang magdala. Susunod lang ako'."

The love scene, however, did not need a take two, he confirmed.

"Sinigurado po namin sa mga manonood na hindi po ito love scene for the sake na may love scene lang," he said. "Hindi po malaswa."

When asked if he will not have trouble with Julia's real-life partner, Coco Martin, Alden said while saluting, "Supportive po si boss Coco natin."

When Ogie reminded about Daniel Padilla allegedly having an issue with Alden's pairing with Kathryn, Alden said: "Very supportive din naman si DJ nu'n. Wala naman din pong naging issue nu'n."



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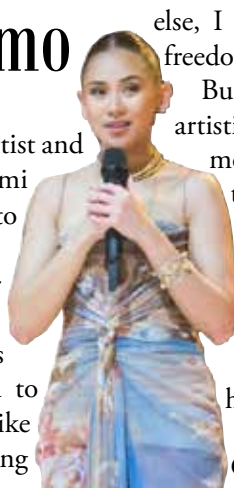
Teacher Georcelle on ‘breakup’ with Sarah Geronimo

Many noticed that G-Force was absent during the 20th anniversary concert of Popstar royalty Sarah Geronimo held recently. This ignited rumors that all is not well between her and the leader of G-Force, choreographer Teacher Georcelle. That Sarah debuted a new choreography for “Tala” added fuel to the fire. Teacher Georcelle has since released a statement

about it through Ogie Diaz. It read: “We’ve been training her and G-Force have been dancing with her for 16 years. She’s looking for growth as an artist and as a person. She wants to try other things. “There were artistic differences and I wanna support her as she embarks on this new chapter even if it means stepping out for a while. “Mama Ogs, I did everything out of

love and respect for her as an artist and a friend. (Parang love team kami for 16 years, but this year gusto niya to try other things). “This process was painful for G-Force. Most of them cried, especially the choreographers who have been training hard to bring out the best in her. It’s like a break up. SG wants something

else, I want her to exercise that artistic freedom. But it’s also my right to exercise my artistic freedom. “I had to pull out two months ago in March. Of course my team will always understand and respect my decision. “This is me encouraging SG to experience that creative freedom and to be the ultimate decision maker in producing and directing her 20th anniversary concert.” Note Sarah gave a shoutout to G-Force at her concert.



A Filipino Publisher and Real Estate Agent vie for Toronto Mayor

MAYOR from page 1

pino Canadians have decided to run for the much-needed leadership post in Canada’s premier city. These two courageous kababayans are Jose Baking and William Reodica. Both Pinoy candidates are from Scarborough, Toronto, Ontario. Jose Baking filed his interest on April 14, 2023, while William Reodica registered on May 4, 2023, for the Toronto By-election on June 26, 2023, to replace the resigned Toronto Mayor, John Tory. In the alphabetical listing, J. Baking is 9th in the list of 76 nominees while W. Reodica is listed as candidate # 59 in the roll. Affectionately called “Joey” by his family and friends, Jose Baking is the publisher and editor of Little Manila Confidential, a Filipino-centred monthly newspaper based in Toronto. He is a noted veteran photographer covering community events and social functions for many years. From

Quezon City, Philippines, Joey studied Communication Arts at the University of Santo Tomas and was a former office clerk at Ogilvy, a creative agency network in Toronto before operating his locally circulated broadsheet. He is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Press Club-Ontario(PPCO). William “Willie” Reodica is active in the Filipino Canadian social, political, and business communities in the Greater Toronto Area. An officer of the Knights of Rizal-Canada Region, Willie is the father of the late Jeffry Reodica who was fatally shot by a Toronto police officer in 2006. A successful Ontario real estate salesperson, mortgage agent & realtor he is a Co-Founder and senior officer of the Filipino Canadian Real Estate Association (FILCREA). A graduate of Business Marketing from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines(PUP), Reodica is

the Founder and current President of the PUP Alumni Foundation of Canada. For 15 years he served as a volunteer Eucharist Minister at St. Rose Lima Parish and Scarborough Grace Hospital. Recipient of numerous business and community awards, he received recent recognition from the Filipino Centre Toronto as one of the “10 Outstanding Fil-Can Seniors” in Ontario.

Politically, according to The Local, a Toronto-based general interest online magazine covering urban health and so-

cial issues, J. Baking “placed 9th out of ten candidates in the 2006 municipal election for the then-Ward 4 in Scarborough”. On one hand, W. Reodica ran for Mayor of Stouffville(Ontario) in 2014 and also, for Toronto Ward Alderman twice in 2003 and 2006. When asked about his candidacy, Reodica said: “You may say I’m a dreamer for Mayor, but I’m not the only one”. His campaign slogan is “STP: Serve The Public, Serbisyon Taus Puso, Serving from your Heart”. Baking, meanwhile admitted: “It will be a reasonable campaign to articulate the voices and interests of Toronto residents on this election.” The mayoral aspirations of these 2 Pinoys are thought of as a real huge and personal challenge at great odds for both but profoundly, a courageous move to try the least and be seriously admired in Canadian politics. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT)



Slater Young apologizes for sexist remark

Former “Pinoy Big Brother” housemate Slater Young was in hot water recently after he shared his two cents on men “fantasizing” about women. He was quick to issue an apology after his remarks went viral. He felt ashamed saying such things and understands the backlash that resulted. “I finally realized: ‘Oh my god, yeah, I really made a mistake because I’m giving it power to say it’s okay. And me saying it’s normal kind of normalizes it and makes it okay - which the last thing in my mind and my heart would be - to objectify women,” Slater reiterated. “...I think yun talaga yung pinaka malaki kong learning. A big eye opener for me. I truly, truly do apologize in my hearts of heart hindi talaga ako pro-objectifying women but yun yung mga words na sinabi ko, yun yung effect na nagawa ko sa mga sinabi ko. It’s a learning experience for me,



especially given the platform that we have.” It all started with a letter sender asking Slater and his wife Kryz Uy advice via their podcast, asking if it’s okay for her boyfriend to be part of an online group chat where photos of women are being sent and discussed. Slater said: “It’s normal. It’s just a fact of life that there are many other women more attractive than you or just as attractive as you. Yung mga groups na nagse-send ng mga photos of girls and like, fantasizing over it, it’s normal.” “We have a lot of chat groups with friends, not necessarily dedicated to that. From time to time, usually comes from dalawa or tatlong tao na mahilig mag-send nang ganyan. May mga comment-comment pa. Siyempre ikaw, as part of that group and as a guy, sakyan mo lang. Wala naman. Hindi mo naman gusto talaga.” Kryz reacted to the issue, saying, “It really happens. It’s reality. But that doesn’t make it okay.”

Gloc-9 remembers humble beginnings in ‘Kamusta Ka Na’

For popular Pinoy rapper Gloc-9, who is everyone’s “Paboritong Makata,” life comes full circle as he reminisces his humble beginnings in a song that he has crafted. He calls it “Kamusta Ka Na,” and it tells the story of his life, beginning as a dreaming lad from the municipality of Binangonan in the province of Rizal, gazing at the sky on a starlit night and wishing that he would one day become a part of the constellation of famous rap stars. And, now, he certainly is. The song is a simple yet profound introspection. It is a monologue, with Gloc-9 talking to his younger self and looking back to the time when he bravely and boldly took the road less travelled. It was a road strewn with seemingly countless rejections, a journey he took despite being armed only with an unwavering belief that each trial he has surpassed is a step closer to turning his dream into a reality. His journey has turned out to be a



very successful one, and what a ride it has been for Gloc-9! His career has spanned 25 years, and he continues to ride the waves. According to his manager, Asintada Management’s chairperson and CEO Thea Pollisco, a.k.a. Mrs. 9, our Paboritong Makata feels that age is starting to creep in, and yet he remains passionate about his craft, but this time as a beacon for young rap artists to follow, instilling in them the very same fire that he once had. Gloc-9 has, in fact, been actively releasing several other projects recently. These include the launch of XXV, which is their first collaboration with Greyhoundz since 2006, as well as a song titled ‘Kwentong Barbero’ with newly signed Universarl Records artist Ramdiss. Going back to his brand new offering last May, “Kamusta Ka Na,” the single artwork of the song was made by CLMarts. It’s out on your favorite digital streaming platforms.

Heart Evangelista describes influencer, reveals Kevin Kwan launched her

Heart Evangelista revealed that she was hesitant to be part of the Harper’s Bazaar 2018 feature on “crazy rich Asians” but book author Kevin Kwan was insistent. She also shared what makes an influencer in her interview with Boy Abunda yesterday.

The actress sat down with the renowned talk show host where she opened up about her relationships and her budding career in the fashion world as one of the top influencers.

Boy asked Heart what an influencer is. “It’s a... Para siyang artista. It’s kinda, I look at it as a character. Basically, you work with different brands and they also tap you to promote the latest bags, shoes. It depends with your rank. If you are just for social media or they invite you to shows. If you’re in front row, if you could be a client, like a couture client and an influencer and an actress at the same time. Even better,” Heart replied.

Boy quipped that she basically describes herself. She shyly answers that she doesn’t know.

‘I cannot conform anymore’

Heart revealed that her career in fashion influencing started about six or seven years ago because she felt that she lacked opportunities.

“I was tired playing a character. I didn’t know what to do. I was bored with my life. I started to paint,” the actress shared. Heart has been in the limelight since she was a teenager starring in youth-oriented shows. Throughout her young adult and adult years, she started in teleseryes and soap operas that usually feature romance and family drama.

In 2016, she started getting noticed for her hand-painted luxury bags, some of which were featured in exhibits where she

goes by her real name, Love Marie. She also started to paint portraits and subjects that matter to her.

“I decided I cannot conform anymore to what the world... Philippines, ‘Kailangan ganito ka, ganyan.’ I just wanted to be myself,” Heart said.

Since she was a self-confessed “kikay,” it was natural for her to be drawn to fashion.

She found herself tapped as one of Inno Sotto’s muses in one of the legendary designer’s shows.

‘Kevin Kwan launched me’

The turning point in her life happened when she met “Crazy Rich Asians” author himself, Kevin Kwan, at a Schiaparelli show in France in 2018.

“I met Kevin Kwan. Nag-click kami

ni Kevin Kwan. I really owe a lot to him. Kevin Kwan, in a sense, launched me with the Harpers Bazaar feature,” Heart revealed. The feature saw Heart with other Asian socialites Feiping Chang and Rachel and Michelle Yeoh. Behind the glamor shots from the shoot, Heart said it was the other way around for her behind the curtains. “Actually, that time was also a tough time for me. I just lost my twins, and I was in a phase in my life, what’s next? Especially nga with the pressures of, you know, kailangang mag-anak ka. What’s next for you? Parang pag-aanak is still a career path.

“I didn’t know what to do. And then I got this call from Kevin Kwan and I even said, ‘I’m not really ‘crazy rich Asian.’ So parang hindi ako bagay.

“But he said something that was very nice. He said I was aspirational and that I should be part of the video,” Heart revealed.



Sunshine Dizon’s powerful weapon

SUNSHINE DIZON did not play the lead role on GMA’s fantasy series “Urduja” (which preceded “Voltes V: Legacy”), but she seemed to have unleashed her weapon in one episode of “Fast Talk with Boy Abunda.”

In her particular case, the freelance actress is – to this day – wielding her might to battle her personal demons brought about by her separation from husband Timothy Tan in 2016.

It took all of eight years for Sunshine to finally process the pain, which she now acknowledges as part of her coping mechanism.

She confessed to harboring nothing but hate, trying to figure out what was wrong with herself.

“I don’t know where did I fall short,” Sunshine told Boy who thought that maybe the culprit was not what his interviewee believed she lacked or fell short of, but rather her excesses.

Still, Sunshine was unable to provide the answer. All she knew is that she tried as much as she could to save her marriage from falling apart.

What Sunshine cared more about was how to make their two children feel that everything was as normal as she and Timothy could be.

“We were living in the same house but in different rooms. I wanted to create a semblance of a perfect household for them,” she shared.

Has Sunshine found forgiveness in her heart? As Boy stressed, only can we set ourselves free if we are able to forgive people who have wronged us.

“Yes and no,” was Sunshine’s curt, quite ambiguous reply.

Then she proceeded to qualify her answer. Yes in the sense that she’s appreciative of Timothy being a good father to the kids.

Sunshine even recalled when Timothy knelt on his knees, saying he couldn’t live to be away from the chil-

dren, hence Sunshine’s agreeing to their co-parenting setup.

But a no answer at the same time for all the sufferings their separation has caused upon her.

“I can forgive but I can never ever forget,” Sunshine later on admitted.

In December last year, it will be remembered that Sunshine was diagnosed with PTSD or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Along with it came a caboodle of other conditions such as depression, panic and anxiety attacks, abandonment issues, etc. which had her in and out of the hospital.

Thankfully, it wasn’t a chronic thing that adversely took a toll on her outlook toward work.

Although she rued she should have undergone therapy at the onset, proof that she’s back on her toes – as she was shortly after their separation – is keeping herself preoccupied with so much on her plate.

Presently trying to rebuild herself, Sunshine left an inspiring message – not to other women trapped in the same situation – but to herself.

“Never give up. Take life as it is. With God’s grace, you’ll be able to get through it,” Sunshine said as she faced Boy’s imaginary mirror.

Looking forward to yet another sunshiny day, the actress’ name isn’t in fact a misnomer.

‘Tanggap na kayo’: ‘Eat Bulaga’ hosts sing rival ‘It’s Showtime’ theme song

“Eat Bulaga” host Joey de Leon challenged his co-hosts to sing the theme song of their rival noontime show “It’s Showtime.”

In a recent episode of “Eat Bulaga,” Joey said he will give P10,000 to anyone who will sing the “It’s Showtime”

theme song. “Sampung libo? Kakantahin ko talaga ‘yan,” Jose Manalo said. Jose, Allan K, Wally Bayola, and special guest Gabbi Garcia accepted the challenge and sang the intro of “It’s Showtime,” to the delight of the studio audience.

After the performance, Joey joked that all of the hosts who sang the song have been fired.

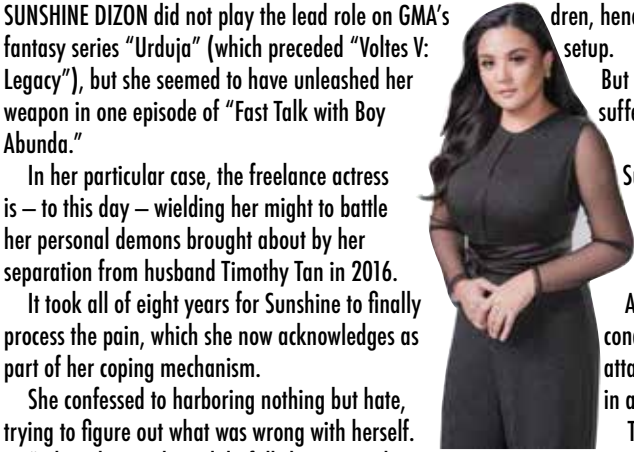
“Okay, wala. Tanggal na kayo,” Joey said.

Last month, Vice Ganda could not contain his joy upon hearing that the hosts of “Eat Bulaga,” led by Joey de Leon, sent him birthday greetings. “Oh wait lang guys,” he said to co-hosts Ogie Alcasid, Ka-

rylle and Vhong Navarro. “I’m so happy! Binati nila ko ng happy birthday sa ‘Eat Bulaga!’”

“Thank you very much! Kay Tito Joey, sir Joey de Leon, maraming maraming salamat. Binati nila ako do’n. Ang saya.”

“Mabuhay kayo ‘Eat Bulaga.’ I love ‘Eat Bulaga.’ My God, nabati ako sa ‘Eat Bulaga.’ Masabi ‘yung pangalan mo ng mga Dabarkads. I love it!” the host said.



Candid SPOOF

(Pop-ups are not supposed to be taken seriously - EDITOR)



MPP Aris Babikian addresses the crowd at the Filipino Centre, Toronto Pistahan 2023.

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Look for Macky or Monica..

Mark Rivera wants to show he’s a multi-faceted performer

MANILA, Philippines – “Multi-faceted” is how one will describe actor-singer-songwriter and athlete Mark Daniel Rivera, who joined the star-studded cast of the landmark teleserye, *Unbreak My Heart*, that premiered last May 29 on GMA 7. The primetime series is a joint production of GMA 7, ABS-CBN and Viu.

“I’m not scared to try new things,” admitted Mark. “I always tell myself I should be uncomfortable because once you’re uncomfortable, there’s growth.”

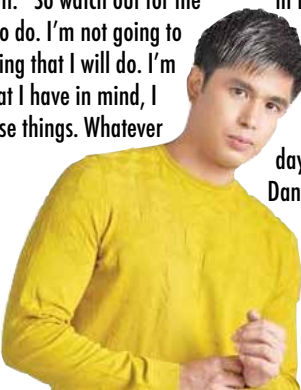
Mark is part of the star-studded cast of *Unbreak My Heart*.

Turning 26 in October, Mark wants to experience being part of a loveteam and do action, heavy drama and romantic-comedy films. Then, he also wants to venture into singing. In the third or last quarter of 2023,

he is slated to release his debut album under Universal Records, with original tunes and covers.

“I’m really excited to learn and grow,” said the newest talent of ALV Talent Circuit. “So watch out for me with everything that I plan to do. I’m not going to get tired easily with everything that I will do. I’m going to keep on going. What I have in mind, I will really try to achieve those things. Whatever that I’m panning to do.”

Mark is even open to do theater. “It’s a different discipline compared to the other arts. There’s body language, there’s voice that will also be helpful to



my singing career. There’s audience on the spot. One take only. I want to get challenged to do theater.”

Born and raised in Milan, Italy, Mark has been here in the Philippines since 2012, when he turned 15. “I still return to Italy because my parents are still there,” he said. “When it’s my vacation there, July-August, I would visit the Philippines.”

In 2015, he made his TV acting debut in the daytime series, *Be My Lady*, with Erich Gonzales and Daniel Matsunaga, in a role close to his heart.

“They were looking for a varsity football player,” Mark shared. “I got the role and I got lucky because I know how to play football. Bagay sa akin ang role. Very challenging because of the language.”

The series proved to be a real challenge for Mark. At that time, he was still not yet fluent in speaking Tagalog. “Acting-wise, it was totally different from commercials,” he said.

Mark also acted in *Mga Batang Poz* (iWant TV), an advocacy series about HIV awareness. “I have no problem playing gay roles,” Mark said. “I grew up in Italy, so we had sex education from grade school.”

“What I noticed here in the Philippines, we didn’t have that. So, I really wanted to support this project. We need to tell people, tell kids or people about certain things about sex, the process,” he added.

“I know that our Filipino culture is very religious and conservative. It’s also the virtue of our country. Let’s bring awareness. Let’s talk about it for our sons and daughters because it’s really important knowledge. They will really regret not knowing about these things.”

AC Bonifacio celebrates independence in ‘4 Myself’

New gen dance princess is now part of the Tarsier Records family

New gen dance princess AC Bonifacio embraces independence and self-love in her latest single “4 Myself.”

The upbeat pop track radiates positivity and self-assurance combined with danceable rhythms and catchy melodies. AC composed the song with ABS-CBN creative director Jonathan Jeremy G, member Nate

the same powerment



message that I really want to put out there. It’s a song that gives you the confidence and power to get through everything you’re going through. It’s a reminder that ‘kaya mo yan!’” AC shared.

Before its release, she performed “4 Myself” at the Star Magic All-Star Games at SM MOA Arena last May 21.

As a recording artist, she has released several singles such as “Sumayaw, Sumaya,” “Slide Into My DM,” and “Fool No Mo.” Her latest single “4 Myself” marks her first release under Tarsier Records.

Aside from her music, AC is also known as grand champion of “Dance Kids” along with Lucky ta. In 2017, she joined the third season of “Your

Face Sounds Familiar” where she placed third. She was also able to showcase her talent to the international audience following her feature on “The Ellen Degeneres Show” and her appearance in the hit American series “Riverdale” as one of the Star Vixens in 2021. Last year, she portrayed the role of Cadence in the youth-oriented musical series “Lyric and Beat.” Now, she is a regular performer on the musical variety show “ASAP Natin ‘To.”

Dance to the beat of AC’s new single “4 Myself” available on various streaming platforms and watch its lyric video on Tarsier Records YouTube channel. For details, follow Tarsier Records on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.



6. Kathryn Rodricks’ (2ND FROM LEFT) team won 3rd place in the relay at the Toronto Catholic Schools Athletic Association (TCSAA) track and field competition.

7. Toronto Mayoral candidate Jose Baking poses with IPEN model, singer and actress Arielle Fina Abrazaldo.



Alexa Grant Fundraising Dinner

Miss Supranational Canada 2022 Alexa Grant and her family held a successful fundraising dinner for her Miss Supranational 2023 pageant in Poland in July 2023.

1. Alexa’s dad celebrated his birthday. 2. The Ventocilla family of Melissa, mom Flora and Ricky pose with Alexa Grant. 3. Alexa poses with realtor Joy D’aoust. 4. Melissa Ventocilla, Alexa Grant and Margaret Rodrigo perform a dance number. 5. Alexa Grant makes an entrance.





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Where do we go from here: Jodi, Joshua and Gabbi on ABS-CBN-GMA 7 collab

Sometimes, there are events in our lives that need to happen no matter how painful because it's going to redirect us to something more beautiful."

Thus said actress Jodi Sta. Maria, referring to the controversial nonrenewal of broadcast network ABS-CBN's franchise in 2020 that eventually led to a groundbreaking collaboration with rival channel GMA 7: The romantic drama series "Unbreak My Heart."

The series, currently streaming on the Viu app and airing on the Kapuso network, also features Joshua Garcia, Richard Yap and Gabbi Garcia.

"ABS-CBN was hit with a double whammy at the time. A few months into the pandemic, it was announced that our franchise would not be renewed. What happened was that nada-pa ka na nga, nasubsob ka pa nang sobra. I believe most of us thought, 'Where do we go from here?' 'How do we move forward?' It's hard to refer to it as a 'blessing in disguise.' If you will try to look back, you will realize that there were things that you couldn't find any logical explanation for," Jodi told Inquirer Entertainment in a recent interview to promote the



series that was shot on location in Switzerland and Italy.

"If ABS-CBN was still on free TV, I don't think this partnership with GMA 7 would be possible at all. There will still be that rivalry. I also don't think the partnership with other streaming platforms would happen. I'm just so thankful that I'm part of this redirection," the actress pointed out.

'No more competition'

"Today, there's no more competition. Everyone is considered an ally. We are doing this for the audience and for the people working in this industry. This was the best thing that came out of a painful past experience," Jodi declared.

Meanwhile, Gabbi Garcia, the Kapuso network's main figurehead in the landmark project, agreed with Jodi and said: "I also didn't think it was a 'blessing in disguise' because a lot of people got displaced as a result of what happened. I'm friends with a lot of people in ABS-CBN. Nobody wanted that to happen."

"I'm just so grateful that, at least, something good came out of it. Let's pray that more doors will open for everybody. I also

hope that there will be more partnerships because, after all, we're all in one industry," Gabbi pointed out.

In December 2022, executives of both networks began discussions for the collaboration. ABS-CBN's production unit, Dreamscape Entertainment, was tasked to develop the show. In February 2023, the cast and crew flew to Europe to shoot the series.

In "Unbreak My Heart," romance blossoms between a young man (Joshua) and a woman (Jodi), who is incidentally searching for her estranged daughter in Europe. After their relationship fails, a twist of fate brings him and her daughter together.



Asked what viewers can expect from the series, Joshua, who plays the lonely and troubled Renz, said:

"This features different stories of love. It is also about how a number of characters try to 'unbreak' their hearts, meaning heal from previous experiences. You can learn a lot from the series, depending on which perspective you hold. It tells the struggles of OFWs (overseas Filipino workers) in Europe, as well. It also shows the undying love of a parent, a partner and a friend."

Not the typical boy-meets-girl story

For Gabbi, "Unbreak My Heart" is not the typical boy-meets-girl story. "A lot of twists are going to happen. As one of the actors, I get to read the script first. I tell you, every time there's a fresh one, we always look forward to reading it. There's always something new and exciting in terms of character development of all the leads in the series. This definitely offers a different flavor to the audience. They should watch out for the crazy love story that happens among our characters, as well as with Papa Chen (Richard)."

An interesting promotional teaser for the program described it as such: "Destiny finds its way to show you a love that's beyond ordinary." When asked whether or not she believes in the idea of destiny, Gabbi replied: "My character, Alex, doesn't believe in destiny but, as Gabbi, I do. My mom would always tell me when I was younger, 'Kung para sa 'yo, para sa 'yo.' That's destiny for me. I would always get frustrated when I was a kid, especially when my contemporaries in the industry—those I see doing VTRs with me—are already professional actors. She



would always say to me: Your time will come."

Destiny

Josh agreed with Gabbi and said: "Everything that's happening in our lives is part of a bigger story. This will all lead to what is meant for us in the future."

While Jodi claimed to believe in destiny, too, she offered this interesting thought to mull over. "I have been thinking about the idea for days now. Has

everything really been written for you and you're just walking the story of your life, or do we have some sort of freedom to control the narrative of our

stories? If you're going to ask me now, my answer would be, I believe that even before we were conceived in the minds of our parents, there has already been something that's laid out for us."

"But we cannot negate the fact that we have to be responsible also for the choices we make in life. Yes, maybe life has destined you to be a writer, for example, but if you don't act on the opportunities given to you or if you don't take care of the gifts meant for you, then how will this materialize? For me, it's 50-50. Yes, you're destined for something, but you also have to do something to achieve it," she explained.

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Kim Chiu reflects on past struggles, embraces success in showbiz

Actress Kim Chiu’s path to success in show business was not without its obstacles. Her journey reflects a story of resilience, determination, and a strong drive to overcome adversity.

Through her own reflections and open sharing, Kim has revealed the challenges she faced and the steps she took to create a better future for herself and her family.

“My life is an open book, so I share my story with anyone who is interested in my life. Since I started in a reality show, it feels like my life has become public, and I have nothing to hide,” she told the entertainment press during her launch as the new face of the leading feminine hygiene brands in the country.

In her earlier years, Kim’s family faced financial hardships, which necessitated moving to different cities and relying on the support of relatives. This constant change of environment and schools could have easily deterred her, but it instead fueled her determination to succeed and create a brighter future.

“Before, I didn’t know which school we would attend. It



Kim Chiu took to social media to ‘flex’ her new vacation home

depended on whoever would temporarily take us in. It was difficult,” she told the press in the vernacular.

With unwavering perseverance, Kim worked tirelessly to ensure that her siblings would not have to endure the same difficulties she faced. She became the pillar of strength for her family and strived to provide them with stability and security.

“I understand the struggle of having no money, so I know the importance of saving and working hard. I don’t want to go back to that

state. Appreciating the value of money, I strive to work diligently for a better future,” she added.

As a testament to her dedication, Kim even built a new vacation house for her dad and family, creating a sense of stability and a place they could relax.

Kim’s journey serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of resilience and the impact of determination. Her experiences have shaped her into a strong and compassionate individual, inspiring others to overcome their own challenges and strive for success.

It is these very values that led Sisters Sanitary Napkins and Pantyliners to select Kim as their latest celebrity ambassador.

“We are delighted to welcome Kim as our brand ambassador as she embodies qualities that align with their premium product and resonate with consumers. Despite her prominent status in the industry, Kim’s



Kim (right) with Vice President of Megasoft Hygienic Products Inc. Aileen Choi Go

basher kaugnay ng pagsasama nila ng asawang si John Estrada.

Noong Abril 2023 ay dumaan sa marital problem ang pagsasama nina Priscilla at John, pero ngayon ay unti-unti na nila itong inaayos.

Noong nakaraang linggo, nag-post si Priscilla ng kanyang mga larawan sa Instagram.

“Perfection is overrrated,” caption ng beauty queen-model na kinoronahang Miss Earth 2003.

Sa comments section ay isang basher ang nagbanta sa kanya ng ganito (published as is): “Mlpt kna plitn Kabahan kna [laughing with tears emoji]”

Isang “laughing with tears” emoji rin ang tanging ni-reply ni Priscilla, indikasyong hindi siya nagpadala sa pananakot ng basher.

Nagsunod-sunod din ang pagtatanggol ng supporters ni Priscilla laban sa “bastos” na netizen.

Sumagot ang basher: “wow c Janice Nga Pinalitan Aftr How Many Years Sya pa Kaya [laughing emojis] mlpt na Ma Expired”

Malinaw na ang tinutukoy ng basher ay ang ex-wife ni John na si Janice de Belen.

Sumagot si Priscilla. Ipinagdarasal na lang daw niya ang basher.

Sabi niya, “[S]ending Love and prayers your way po. It saddens me that you think that way and you get out of your way to say such things.”

Kalakip nito ang tatlong Bible verses ukol sa hatred at pagmamahal.

Komento ni Priscilla: “Nevertheless I just want to let you know God loves you and I am praying for you. 1 John 4:16 NIV

[16] And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

“Proverbs 10:12 NIV

“[12] Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs.

“1 Peter 4:8 NIV

“[8] Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”

PRISCILLA POSTS FAMILY VIDEOS

Samantala, patuloy na inaayos nina John at Priscilla ang kanilang pagsasama.

Nito lamang weekend, nag-post ng maikling video si Priscilla sa Instagram na nagpapakita ng bonding time nila kasama ang anak na si Anechka, 11.

Nagkaroon sila ng weekend bonding sa isang Japanese restaurant.

Ginamit pa ni Priscilla ang mga salitang “family” at “partners in crime.”

Caption niya: “Bonding with my 2 partners in crime over good Japanese Food. #weekendvibes #family”

Katapusan ng Marso nang magpakawala ng mga makahulugang posts si Priscilla via Instagram, ukol sa mga babaeng nang-aagaw ng may-asawa.

Sa exclusive interview ni Priscilla sa PEP ay kinum-pirma niyang may pinagdadaanang nga ang pagsasama nila ni John.

Hindi rin itinanggi ni Priscilla na ukol ito sa mga babaeng pumapatol sa mga may-asawa.

Pero makalipas lamang ang isang linggo ay nag-post si John ng sweet photos nila ni Priscilla, indikasyong sinisikap nilang ayusin ang kanilang relasyon.

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Why Filipinas are beautiful

English poet John Keats eloquently expressed the timeless concept that “A thing of beauty is a joy forever.” He further describes how its delightful qualities continue to grow, never fading away but rather perpetually bringing happiness and pleasure.

These famous lines from “Endymion” have been quoted numerous times, taking on various interpretations. And in today’s millennial era, two Filipinas embody the essence of these words by the British poet. Miss World Philippines 2021, Tracy Maureen Perez, and Abdania Galo are the epitome of beauty and wisdom, personifying the ideals of Beauty Wise with their captivating faces and charismatic personalities.

Perez believes in using her beauty to inspire and encourage young individuals, particularly those with a similar morena skin tone. She embraces her brown skin and wants others to see themselves as beautiful as well.

“If you go to the provinces, most people are morena. I want them to look at me, see me on TV, and say, ‘She’s morena. But she’s beautiful.’ I want them to realize that they are beautiful, too,” she said.

Brown-skinned individuals are fabulous, she affirms: “Beauty is subjective, and

accepting and embracing your own beauty should start from within. Tell yourself that you are beautiful and capable of achieving anything in life.”

As a Beauty Wise ambassador, she also dreams of entering show business: “I won’t deny my desire to be part of the entertainment industry. Being Miss World Philippines opens doors to many opportunities that I can’t overlook. I’m ready to take that step and give my best wherever I go.”

Tracy expresses her aspiration: “I would love to become a TV host, perhaps on a noontime show. I’ve also taken acting lessons, so I know it will be a new and enjoyable challenge where I can learn a lot. We should never stop learning and exploring new things, regardless of our age. Just go out there and live our lives.”

She admires local actors such as John Lloyd Cruz, Jericho Rosales, and Joshua Garcia.

The other miss with a face that refreshes Beauty Wise is Abdania Galo. This miss of eighteen summers holds the distinction of being Manila’s youngest chief executive officer of the company which her mother started.

Galo admits: “When I was a little girl, a part of me wants



Beauty Wise ambassadors Abdania Galo (left) and Miss World Philippines 2021 Tracy Maureen Perez

to join show business but As I grow up, I had a change of mind and heart.”

“My inspiration in life has always been my mom. She’s so into business, and I’m watching her every day, doing struggles and inspiring me a lot. And that’s something I am willing to learn,” Galo declares.

As a young CEO, she understands the immense responsibility: “Being in this position

feels heavy, but it’s what I’ve been searching for. I’m committed to giving my best and leading the company to success.”

Galo shares her mother’s advice as she begins her CEO journey: “My mom told me to keep learning, give my best, and explore. I’ve always wanted to be a CEO, and it’s something I’m proud of.”

Tracy and Abdania exemplify the enduring joy of beauty through Beauty Wise, showcasing the beauty of Filipinas.

Julie Anne San Jose thrilled for duet with Sarah G

In a recent TV interview, Julie Anne San Jose was asked if she feels ready to perform in a concert alongside Sarah Geronimo. The singer-host-ac-

tress from GMA jokingly exclaimed, “Oh my God! I’m feeling the pressure!”

Julie Anne, known as Asia’s Limitless Star, made it clear that she doesn’t view the concert as a competitive event against Sarah.

“First of all, there is only one Sarah Geronimo. There can only be one. It would be an honor, of course, to do a duet with her. I look up to her,” she emphasized.

When asked if she would be prepared for such an opportunity, Julie Anne expressed her willingness to prepare diligently. She acknowledged Sarah’s influence on her music and highlighted her admiration for Sarah’s achievements in the industry.

Julie Anne also shared a fond memory of watching Sarah perform in a church where she regularly attends mass.

“Yes, I was part of the choir. It was Christmas then and I saw her perform. I experienced fangirling during that time.”

If given the chance to perform a duet with Sarah, Julie Anne

expressed that it would be a tremendous honor, concluding with her declaration of love for Sarah.



'Here Lies Love' Imelda musical slammed by Broadway union

NEW YORK — “Here Dies Love of Live Music,” notes one comment on social media reacting to the latest hurdle faced by the Broadway-bound musical “Here Lies Love.”

The musical has already been provoking strong sentiments due to its subject matter, the life story of Imelda Marcos. (Read about it here.)

Now it has angered the industry’s musicians union because it will not be using a band or orchestra for its production.

The musical is staged in a dance club setting with its cast singing to recorded music. The producers say this staging device is,

“part of the karaoke genre inherent to the musical.”

“Here Lies Love” features all Filipino American actors leading the cast, with Arielle Jacobs as Imelda Marcos, Jose Llana as Ferdinand Marcos and Conrad Ricamora as Ninoy Aquino.

Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians says its contract with the Broadway League, the trade organization representing Broadway producers, guarantees the use of a minimum number of musicians for musicals in certain theaters, specifically 19 for the Broadway Theatre.

The union’s president Tino Gagliardi has said, “A show with no live music ... is absolutely an existential threat to Broadway ... by using just pre-recorded tracks, it not only cheapens the art, it’s putting jobs and livelihoods at risk.”

Explainer

A statement from the producers, which include Tony Award winning costume designer Clint Ramos and Pulitzer Prize winner Jose Antonio Vargas, said, “Since ‘Here Lies Love’ was first conceived 17 years ago, every production has been performed to pre-recorded track; this is part of the karaoke genre inherent to the musical and the

production concept. The music for ‘Here Lies Love’ was inspired by the phenomena of ‘track acts’ which allowed club audiences to keep dancing, much like this production aims to do.”

Tony Award winner Lea Salonga and Grammy Award winner Fil-Am singer H.E.R. (Gabriella Wilson) are part of the producing team.

The show’s producers have been negotiating with the union to have the show declared a “special situation” to allow for the pre-recorded tracks instead of live instrumentalists. In a statement, the producers said, “We will continue to work in good faith with the union to move through the steps of the contractual process.”

Social media

In the show’s social media accounts, it has posted a lengthier explanation of its staging conceit, that composer David Byrne intentionally employed performance styles that are conceptually aligned and because of the show’s subject matter. Disco track acts and karaoke, which both use vocalists singing along to pre-recorded, synthetic tracks.

“Disco Track Acts, popular in the 1970s and ‘80s disco scenes, were disco singers who popped into dance clubs unannounced, handed the DJ a cassette tape of a song, and sang live to it on a temporary platform as the crowd danced.

“Karaoke, or sing-along, is deeply rooted in Filipino Culture—and the diasporic Asian culture at large. In the Philippines, karaoke is ubiquitous, crossing class, generational, and economic lines. Almost every Philippine home has a karaoke machine.

“While visiting the Philippines to conduct research, Byrne realized that not only was Karaoke inescapable, it was also prevalent in Imelda Marcos’ political strategy.

“The slickness and artificiality of the music relates directly to the synthetic seduction of political figures... [the musical’s] every moment is informed by the concept of dance club Track Acts and Karaoke.”

The posts go on to say that “Here Lies Love” is “not a traditional Broadway musical” and denounces “artistic gate-keepers.”

Reactions in the comments support and oppose the situation. One comment reads, “If it is not a traditional musical, it should not be in a traditional musical theater.”

Another states, “As a Filipino musician and scholar, I already find the subject matter of this show deplorable, but to disregard live musicians? Musical theatre is about the liveness of performance.”

One comment states, “The criticism is all from people who haven’t seen the show. There is nothing for live musicians to play. Do you go to Fatboy Slim and DJs performing at dance clubs and lament they don’t have live musicians?”



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