

We're Alone

Just like Canada with China and India, Philippines stands alone against China

TORONTO - In 2018, Canadian police acted on a U.S. warrant and arrested Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou while she was changing planes at the Vancouver International Airport. Former Canadian diplomat Michael Kovrig and entrepreneur Michael Spavor are detained on espionage charges in China, nine days after Meng Wanzhou was arrested in Canada. **FOREVER p15**



PHILIPPINE CANADIAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION MRS. PHILIPPINES WINNERS: FROM LEFT, MELODY MEDINA (Mrs. Visayas), IMELDA BARTOLOME (2nd r-up), ROWENA ABAD (1st r-up), GREATCHEN MAY GRIFFITHS (Mrs. Philippines Canada 2024), ELLEN PANERIO (3rd r-up), HELEN ESPINOLA (People's Choice Award)

PCCF MRS. PHILIPPINES CANADA 2024 CROWNED DURING GALA by Ian Ian

TORONTO, ON – The 14th annual Mrs. Philippines Canada Pageant took centre stage last October 12th, 2024. It was a resounding success that drew an enthusiastic crowd of over 440 attendees from all across Ontario during the Coronation Gala. “A true role model can come at any age,” said Rosemer Enverga, PCCF President. “The pageants with a cause is not just about crowns, trophies **PCCF page 21**

PUBLIC FORUM ON THE FILIPINO DIASPORA IN CANADA HELD

By: Tony A. San Juan, OCT

TORONTO: The Philippine Consulate General in Toronto and Ontario's York University jointly conducted a public forum on October 28, 2024(Monday) from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. The meaningful event was organized to celebrate in part the 75th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Canada and was carried out at the Tribute Communities Recital Hall and CIBC Lobby, Keele Campus, York University, Toronto, Ontario. **DIASPORA page 9**



Postcard
Session Rd., Baguio, 1968

TRUMP WILL WIN OR WON

already, depending on when you pick this newspaper. This prediction was written November 4. **PAGE 4**

Family Runs For The Cure



Luth Esguerra and family joins the CIBC run for the cure and Canadian Cancer Society. They ran for Lourdes Torreno and Vone SimMalavong.

Nathalie Hart, willing mag-all-out pa-sexy ala-Demi Moore “for the right script.”

Wala raw qualms si Nathalie Hart sa mga sexy roles basta't disente ang script. Pero kung meron man daw siyang goal sa kanyang pagbabalik-showbiz after a one-year hiatus, iyon ang makasali sa isang teleserye.

Hindi naman bago kay Nathalie Hart ang mga sexy roles. In fact, ang isa sa mga pelikulang natapos niya, ang Isla Babuyan, also required her to bare some skin.

But having spent one and a half decade in the industry, naghahanap na rin naman daw siya ng substance sa mga roles na gagampanan.

“I’m okay [with sexy roles] but it’s really about the script,” tsika ni Nathalie sa entertainment media during her Viva Artists Agency contract signing kamakailan.

“Kasi may binigay sila sa akin dating script, someone came to me...nakakaloka [ang script]. What’s the point? When you become an actress, it’s really not about showing skin, it’s really about why did I have to do that? Bakit ko ginagawa ‘yon sa istorya? If the story is great, why not?”

“Cause, I don’t know if you guys have seen it... even



PCCF President Rosemer Enverga, Awardee Felicia Magpantay, Rosel, Mely Titus, Senator Asha Seth, Congen Angelica Escalona

PCCF’s 14th Year Anniversary Gala

More than 440 attendees joined in celebrating PCCF’s 14th year anniversary gala and to honour the legacy of my husband, the late Senator Tobias Enverga Jr. It was a night filled with fun, dancing, and entertainment with the vibrant spirit of our community.

The event was highlighted by recognizing two individuals Dra. Felicia Magpantay and Mely Titus, who received the Senator Tobias Enverga Jr. Medals of Excellence.

Thank you for the support of the different organizations, performers, PCCF Officers and volunteers! Great appreciation to our Media partners GMA Pinoy TV, Atin Ito and Little Manila Confidential!

like Demi Moore, she’s in her 60s—this is [in the movie] The Substance...My God! I was surprised. She’s 60 and you know, she was naked in the film! I mean, if the movie needs it, I will do it.”

But at 32, willing na raw s’yang mag-experiment sa mga roles. Why, she’s even game to do mother roles now.

“Pero di pa nila ako binibigyan,” natatawag dagdag niya. “I want mas seryoso na. But maybe because of the way I dress up. I don’t know. Maybe I don’t look very mommy?”



Pero kung meron man daw siyang goal sa kanyang pagbabalik-showbiz after a one-year hiatus due to marital discord, iyon ay ang magka-teleserye.

Taong 2018 pa nga naman kasi ang huling teleserye niya, ang Blood Sisters ng ABS-CBN. Hindi naman ito impossible dahil reliable actress na rin si Nathalie at varied na ang roles na kaya niyang gampanan. Sa Viva naman, bukod sa acting ay type

na rin daw n’yang subukan ang pakikipag-co-prod dito. Kailangan daw niya kasing magsipag dahil hindi na siya bumabata.

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MISSISSAUGA CENTRAL SCARBOROUGH

Bringing the 80s Back at New Wave Invasion Concert

by Rose To of OnePinoy



TORONTO - The 80s were very much alive with the much-anticipated New Wave Invasion concert, produced by Tala Entertainment in cooperation with Tinuno and in association with 2D Max General Solutions. Fans gathered to party like it was the golden era of new wave music, celebrating iconic sounds that shaped a generation.

The evening kicked off with Strangelove, a tribute band to the legendary Depeche Mode. They electrified the stage with spot-on performances of the band's greatest hits. From "Enjoy the Silence" to "Personal Jesus," Strange Love captivated the audience, setting the perfect tone for a night steeped in nostalgia.

Next up was A Flock of Seagulls, one of the most iconic new wave bands of the 80s. It felt as if the decade had never ended, as they performed their hits "The More You Live, The More You Love" and "Transfer Affection." The crowd was instantly transported back in time,

singing along and dancing to every note.

The main act of the evening was none other than Fra Lippo Lippi, with the original voice of the band, Per Øystein Sørensen, leading the charge. Sørensen expressed

his joy and gratitude, sharing that it was the band's first time performing in Canada, and he felt overwhelmed by the warm reception. In a touching moment, he introduced the gentlemen playing with him, including his own son, who played the keyboard. Sørensen's pride was evident as he spoke of continuing the band's legacy with the next generation.



The audience was treated to Fra Lippo Lippi's timeless hits, including "Some People" and "Stitches and Burns," with the crowd

on their feet, dancing and swaying to the melodies. Memories flooded back, making everyone feel like they were reliving the 80s.

A highlight of the night was when Sørensen shared a heartfelt announcement of the band's latest song, "Stay This Time," set for release on Spotify this coming Friday. The song, written during the pandemic, reflects

the heartache of being separated from loved ones, a sentiment that resonates even more deeply as the holiday season approaches.

As the night drew to a close, Fra



Lippo Lippi returned for an encore, performing their iconic hit "Everytime I See You." The entire venue was filled with joy, as fans danced and sang along, closing the concert on a high note with smiles and swaying bodies.

The New Wave Invasion concert was a night to remember, proving that the music of the 80s still holds a special place in the hearts of many. It was a perfect mix of nostalgia, live performance excellence, and the celebration of an era that continues to inspire new generations.

Sid Lucero, Beauty Gonzalez, director on why family matters in 'Outside'

While "Outside" was initially described as a zombie film, director Carlo Ledesma and lead stars Sid Lucero and Beauty Gonzalez pointed out that it also explores complex relationships and generational trauma.

The film tells the story of Francis (Lucero), his wife Iris (Gonzalez), and their children Joshua (Marco Masa) and Lucas (Aiden Tyler Patdu) who seek refuge in an abandoned mansion owned by Francis' parents to flee a zombie outbreak. Along the way, the family is confronted with dark secrets, which pave the way for Francis' inner demons to take full effect.

"Yes, it's a film about zombies. But it is also a film about an imperfect family trying their best. No one here is perfect. But at the same time, I also feel like everyone is not a bad guy. No one is evil in the traditional sense," Ledesma said during a dialogue.

Dealing with generational trauma

This, according to Ledesma, is where the topic of "generational trauma" comes into play. In the film, Francis struggles with facing his dark past with his father, which then reflects in his harsh treatment of Joshua — who turns out to be the biological son of his brother, Diego (James Blanco).

The filmmaker also pointed out that the "patriarchal" up-



Sid Lucero, Beauty Gonzalez

bringing of several Filipino families is reflected in Francis' character. "It's something I want to change. I want us to talk about our feelings."

"We don't need to pass on this particular abuse to bring that to their child, and I'm seeing that with

the younger generation," continued

Ledesma. "I want people to take care of themselves so they can be better parents."

Bringing a vision to life

For Lucero, "Outside" follows "versatile" themes, which allow the public to have their own perceptions of what they're about. "Whatever you take, the film is all about you... If you're left to feel [in the film] that you can't trust Francis, then that's exactly what you can feel. You're probably feeling that through Iris and the kids' eyes."

The actor, who previously said the film was "personal" to him, stressed that it's a project where the cast, director, and produc-

tion team brought an artistic vision to life.

"What everybody takes about the film doesn't matter. We spent our blood and tears into [making] it," he said. "It almost doesn't matter what you guys think because we love what we did. We're just people trying to make a vision — our director's vision — and we did it as honestly as we could."

Meanwhile, Gonzalez shared that working on the film taught her about the zombies that can lurk in people's lives.

"Life is full of zombies. Ang daming problema na binabato sa'tin na sanay na tayong ayusin ang mga bagay (There are many problems thrown at us that we're used to fixing them). It was close to my heart," she said.

Siné Institute presents "Cleaners" at the Filipino Film Caravan 2024

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of Philippines-Canada diplomatic relations and Philippine Film Industry Month, the Philippine Consulate General in Toronto, in collaboration with the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP), Siné Institute, and York University presented the Filipino Film Caravan 2024.

Sponsored by CRD College of Health Care, the special event took place September 7, 2024 at The Royal.

The highlight of the evening was the screening of "Cleaners," a critically acclaimed film by Glenn Barit. Additionally, the event put a spotlight on the TIFF Talents of the Philippines, showcasing the exceptional creativity of Filipino filmmakers at one of the world's most renowned film festivals.

As part of the event, there was also a meet and greet with the Film Development Council of the Philippines, where attendees learned about film incentives offered by the Philippines and gain insights into the international growth of Filipino cinema.

"Cleaners" is an anthology film set in 2008 at a rural Catholic high school. It follows a group of student cleaners as they navigate societal pressures to be "clean" and "proper," while confronting a world that is messy and superficial. The film offers a coming-of-age story that ranges from humorous school experiences to deeper social and political commentaries.

PHOTOS BY RAYMOND SANTOS





Did Trump win? 🤔🤔 😊🤔

THIS IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BUT... I predict Donald Trump will win

WRITTEN NOVEMBER 4, 2024 - After the celebratory 'run-over, shove, or push-out' from running for second term of incumbent President Joe Biden, the expected big bump in the surveys did not exactly cause a euphoria. While there were congratulatory and gushing coverage all over the place, it did not exactly translate into big "noticeable" boost in numbers for Harris nor did it result in big reduction in numbers for Trump. And right now, the numbers are tied.

The "decided" voters for Harris will go down. More likely, voters who will vote for Trump are likely to lie. They may say they will vote for Harris. So, Harris' voters may not be solid as the survey shows. Those who already said they will vote for Trump are surely voting for him. Ironically, Trump's image is impervious to insults and defy explanation. He is anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim. On January 28, 2017, Trump banned Syrian refugees from the USA indefinitely and prevented anyone (including refugees) from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen from entering the USA for 90 days.

Yet, a Muslim, Mayor Amer Ghalib, of Hamtramck, Michigan welcomed him. While a majority of the 6-member city council is Muslim, only the Mayor welcomed him. Mohammed Hassan, a city councilman, publicly backed Vice President Kamala Harris. Mr. Hassan rallied two others from the City Council to the cause.

Then, there's the Hollywood elite. Whenever Hollywood jumps on the candidate bandwagon, it's bad for the candidate. It turns off people. If you watch late night hosts Stephen Colbert and Jimmy Kimmel, their anti-Trump monologue are tiring and not funny. To his credit, Jimmy Fallon has avoided politics in his opening monologue. While this may not be a big factor for majority of voters, it might be for some. And if the race is really

close, those few voters who get pissed off at stars endorsing candidates might just be enough to make a difference.

Then, there's Kamala Harris appearing on Saturday Night Live or SNL. As Uncle Roger will say, "haiya" to express disappointment. Why waste time going to a love-fest?

Yes, the surveys show that it's going to be close. My gut feeling is no. My prediction is Trump will win by 65 to 75% of the vote.

I feel like the whole USA is Las Vegas and Trump is the adopted son. Crazy he may be, but what can we do? If you cannot land a knockout punch, Trump wins. In this case, a knockout punch is a big lead in the survey. Then again, Hilary had a big lead in the survey in 2016 and she still did not win.

Why does America love Trump? He talks tough. Will he be able to carry out all his crazy promises? Probably not. They don't care. Even the actual agents catching illegals know that deporting 1 million illegals a year is impossible. They don't have enough personnel to do it.

As for armchair experts on the Canadian side, they all say that they prefer Kamala Harris she will bring predictability to trade.

They're in denial.

Why do they overlook that we did not have a trade problem when Trump was President? In fact, Trudeau, with representative Freeland masterfully protected Canada's side when Trump renegotiated the free trade deal?

Under Biden, he offered incentives to anyone who will build an electric battery factory in the US which is against the terms of our free trade agreement. We filed for arbitration and we won. But the damage was done. It made investors think twice before they build anything in Canada that has to be exported to the US. So much for the democrats being good for trade.

I may be wrong. But I hope, you, at least had fun reading this rare article who predicted a Trump win.

Los Sabungeros movie censored like Russians in War by Rodeo Berlin

The Toronto International Film Festival paused screenings of the film Russians at War in September.

The first-person documentary by Russian Canadian filmmaker Anastasia Trofimova spurred protest from Ukrainian officials and community groups who say the film amounts to propaganda. The move is a reversal for the festival, which said earlier this week the film was "in no way" Russian propaganda and that screenings would go ahead as planned.

Organizers blamed "significant threats to festival operations and public safety," in a statement.

'Lost Sabungeros' director thanks QCinema for docu-film's inclusion in 2024 lineup

Following the cancellation of its supposed Philippine premiere in another local independent film

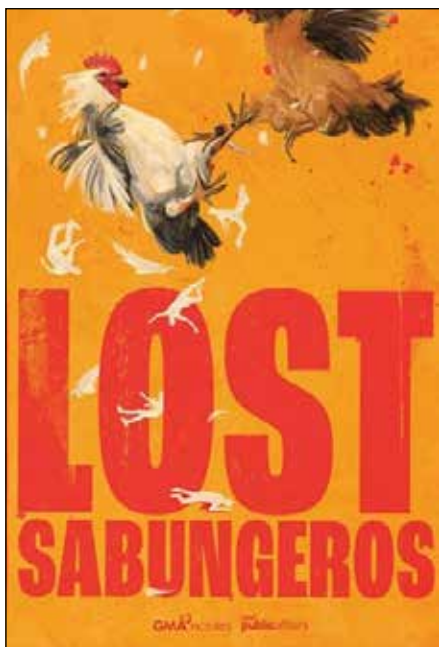
festival, the documentary film "Lost Sabungeros" is going to be finally screened at the QCinema International Film Festival 2024.

Screening of GMA Public Affairs and GMA Pictures' first investigative docu-film was canceled at the 20th Cinemalaya back in August due to "security concerns."

Helmed by Bryan Brazil, "Lost Sabungeros" aims to investigate and find answers after 30 sabungeros (cockfighters) went missing in various incidents since 2021.

Brazil extended his gratitude to QCinema for the inclusion of the film in its 12th edition.

"Thank you very much, QCinema. This film has gone a long way and we're really happy to be given this platform in QCinema," he said during the QCinema's presscon held recently at Max's Restaurant, Scout Tuazon. "Lost Sabungeros" is the story of the families of missing cockfighters who have still not been found. This is not just their story



but also the story of our nation and the solutions for our society."

QCinema festival director Ed Lejano explained the film's inclusion at the film event. "QCinema has its own classification system so we have a platform for that na dapat maging ganito yung point of view na 'to (so we have a platform that should reflect this point of view)."

"And thank you GMA Films for allowing us to show this. 'The Gaze (theme of QCinema 2024)' also applies to the gaze of documentary filmmakers, not just to (full-length feature) filmmakers, but also to the shorts, documentaries. Maybe we have four to five documentaries this year that have their place in every film festival," he added.

Lejano also felt the need for it to be shown in the film festival

after watching the docu. "Because it's investigative journalism and it's a quest for justice. There are victims. And paano pa 'to malalabas? Feeling ko baka mahirapan sa TV (And how can this come out? I feel like it might be difficult on TV.) So maybe just for its quest for justice, we can help in its own way through the festival."

"Lost Sabungeros" will be screened under the Special Screenings section, alongside "An Errand" by Dominic Baekart; "If My Lover Were a Flower" by Kaung Zan; and "A Thousand Forests" by Hanz Florentino.

The QCinema will also feature QCinema Project Market which is a platform for filmmakers and producers to connect, secure funding, expand their networks, gain exposure, and develop their pitching skills. It aims to support the creation of innovative and globally relevant films, contributing to the growth and development of the regional and international film industry.

Filipino Centre Toronto To Honour Top Fil-Can Students by Tony San Juan

TORONTO - The Filipino Centre Toronto (FCT) will hold its "19th Annual Rosalinda C. Javier Outstanding Students Awards" event on November 17, 2024 (Sunday) at 2:00 pm at the FCT Social Hall, 4395 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario.

The RCJOSA Awards is an annual awards presentation project of the Filipino Centre Toronto, a 25-year-old community-based, service-focused, and volunteer-run organization in Toronto. For the past 19 years, the established initiative has been in pursuance of the FCT's established mission and mandate to develop and offer programs and initiatives impacting the community.

Specifically, the yearly competition encourages and challenges Filipino Canadian students to perform and achieve academic excellence and exemplary performance in their respective educational pursuits in Ontario. Ten (10) outstanding students will receive awards this year.

The yearly event is held to celebrate and recognize deserving student graduates in the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels. Since 2005, a total of 154 Filipino-Canadian Ontario student graduates have been given honours.

The selection criteria include Academic Grades (50%), Extracurricular Activities (15%), Community Involvement (15%), and In-

terview Performance (20%). During the one-hour afternoon program, the ten (10) selected honourees will receive plaques of recognition, congratulatory certificates, and cash prizes.

Besides the Guest of Honour and Speaker, Ms. Agnes P. Miranda, World Financial Group Senior Executive Chair and Founder, and the Inspirational Speaker, Philippine Consul General in Toronto Angelica C. Escalona, other special guests invited are some Federal Members of Parliaments and Members of the Provincial Parliament of Ontario who will present their Congratulatory Scrolls, as well as members, supporters, and volunteers of the community centre.

The FCT-RCJOSA Awards Committee is composed of Jodelyn Huang- TCDSB Community Relations Officer, Steve Pagao- President of the Philippine Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Nitz Rejdik- Sandbanks Resort & Campsites Proprietor, Fermer Santos- TDSB Vice-Principal of Agincourt Collegiate Institute, Mary Ann S. San Juan-FCT President & CEO (Co-chair), and Tony A. San Juan- Filipino Heritage Council of Canada Founder (Chairman). RCJOSA is named in honour of the late Rosalinda Cerrudo Javier, the first FCT President & CEO, and a former Ontario schoolteacher. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT).

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Bianca Umali advocates for Filipino soldiers

Even though she's only 24, Sparkle artist Bianca Umali has figured it all out. This is evident when you hear her speak about dealing with criticism and dispelling other people's preconceived notions about her.

Having grown up in show business early on, Bianca revealed that she has learned to take negative comments in stride.

"Naging malinaw sa akin ever since na you can never please everyone. At kahit na anong perfect mo, kahit pa anong polido mo o galing mo sa lahat ng ginagawa mo, meron at meron silang masasabi tungkol sa iyo," she pondered.

The Genz Z actress noted that getting older has given her a different perspective, especially when dealing with negative things.

"Regardless if maganda o hindi maganda ang sabihin tungkol sa akin ng mga tao, I respect that because opinion nila yun, just as much as they should

respect my opinion as a person as well," she reasoned out.

Bianca observed that she's often misunderstood because she's an introvert and her strong mestiza features make her look like a snob. But being self-aware, she has learned to turn these negatives into her own superpower.

"A lot of people tell me that I have a strong presence but I actually see that now as a superpower. I tell myself: okay, when you walk into a room, people may feel you're too strong but let them know you're not. Ikaw yung mag-approach, bumati ka, make the most out of it and make them know you all the more. Kasi yun yung masarap. Pag narinig nila na hindi ka pala masungit, masarap ka pala kausap, ganyan ka pala bilang tao. It feels more fulfilling."

If Bianca acts and thinks more mature than her years, blame it on the fact that she was orphaned early. Being raised as

a young girl by her grandmother, Vicky taught Bianca the value of simplicity.

The appeal of being "simple" enticed Bianca to accept her latest endorsement for Pina Beauty. This all-Filipino skincare brand makes its unique soap and lotion infused with watermelon.

It also helped that Bianca aligned herself with Pina's advocacy to espouse the welfare of Filipino soldiers. "I know who I am; I know what I stand for and believe in. I will endorse brands that I am confident align with things and my values," she stated.

Aside from her beautiful face, people can't help but admire Bianca's toned body now. She's doing this as part of the bigger picture because her mother died when



she was only 5, followed by her father when she turned 10.

"I want to take extra care of my body so that when I have kids, I will be able to live longer and make more memories with them," she intoned.

Bianca credits her boyfriend of seven years, fellow actor Ruru Madrid, as a "big factor" in her "motivation" to be fit.

"We work out together, and

it means so much that we live a healthy lifestyle together," she pointed out.

She added that she wants to be an excellent example to her followers and fans.

"I want to share with the new generation that taking care of ourselves is important. It may be hard at first, but when you feel the change and understand what benefits you get from working out, from knowing which products are for you and prioritizing self-care, you will be happier. You will live your best life," Bianca stated.

Save the date. See you all

**BCCA Christmas Party
December 14**

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International aid surge for 'Kristine' victims in the Philippines by Rodeo Berlin

What happened to the Filipino community in Toronto? Are we experiencing donor fatigue? We used to rally the community for donations in goods and money whenever a natural disaster hits the Philippines. Now, if I were to base it on facebook postings, only a handful of organizations have called our kababayans to donate aid.

Bicol Canada Community Association President Earl Dacara has asked people for help. They are selling T-shirts to raise funds.

PADAGOS PO ANG PAG-TABANG TA SA MGA TUGANG TA SA KABIKOLAN. *Tanging maka sustenir po kita sa pagtabang, available po ang T-shirts 'TABANG BICOL' and BCCA mugs.*



Von Canton of MCBN asked our Fians to help our kababayans **Tulong muna tayo! CALLING FOR DONATIONS! BANGON PILIPINAS: Urgent Aid for Typhoon Kristine Victims.**

We are accepting cash donations and canned goods to support those affected by this calamity. Join us and our partners—MCBN Foundation Canada, Philippine Chamber of



Manolo Arnaldo of Smiles also answered the call for help.

Ang Smiles ay Naghatid ng Ayuda sa mga Apektado ng Bagyong #KristinePH sa Bicol Region

Noong Oktubre 26-27, sa tulong ng mga opisyal ng Zone 5 Bulan, Sorsogon, namabagi ang Smiles Mobile Remittance ng tulong sa mabigat 160 senior citizens at kanilang mga pamilya.



Commerce - Toronto, Umac Toronto, Toronto Magd-iwang Elite Eagles Club—in this vital humanitarian effort.

Arlene Martirez Volpentesta asked for help from Filipinos working at Bombardier. The drive closed October 24.

THIS IS NOW OFFICIALLY CLOSED!!! *The recipients of the assistance will be publicly disclosed. We prioritize the safety of all individuals. We appreciate the opportunity to provide support, no matter how small. NOTE: RESERVED FOR THOSE WITH GENUINE NEEDS!!! 30 FAMILIES RECEIVE 1,000.00*



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not the only country devastated by disaster-natural or man-made.

Spain was devastated by a severe flooding brought about by rain equal to what they usually get in one year.

Right now, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza is taking the world's attention.

Meanwhile, other countries have sent assistance to the Philippines. Foreign governments and humanitarian organizations are scaling up assistance in the Philippines to aid hundreds of thousands affected by Typhoon Kristine, which struck several regions over the past week.

Last October 26, a C-130 cargo aircraft from the Republic of Singapore Air Force and a Eurocopter EC725 transport helicopter from the Royal Malaysian Air Force arrived at Col. Jesus Villamor Air Base in Pasay City. The aircraft will provide airlift support to help bolster the Philippine Air Force's operations in delivering humanitarian aid supplies to typhoon-hit communities.

"During this challenging time, Singapore stands with our friends in the Philippines. This response underscores our warm defense ties and close Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) cooperation, as well as the enduring friendship between Singapore and the Philippines," the Singapore Embassy in Manila said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Australia's emergency food truck, called "Bluey," was sent to Camarines Sur. **TYPHOON AID page 16**

The lack of urgency among Filipinos can be attributed to lack of coverage from mainstream media. With the war in the Middle East raging on and shows no signs of abating anytime soon and the war in Europe between Russia and Ukraine still going on, a storm in the Philippines does not rank high on newsworthiness. After all, the Philippines has a storm every few weeks. So, if only a handful of Filipino organizations are spearheading an aid drive, it's understandable. If Filipinos in Toronto and Canada in general get news on Canadian TV and newspapers and do not see the Philippines in the news, then, they wouldn't learn about the typhoon.

"If it bleeds, it leads" is a saying in news broadcasting that means the most traumatic stories will get the most attention. So, war trumps a storm news.

Let's remember that the Philippines is

Pinoy Vibes World Celebrates 5th Anniversary with top Filipino artists in GTA by Rose To



TORONTO: This past weekend, October 5, Pinoy Vibes World celebrated its 5th anniversary with a concert, bringing together local talents, community partners, and supporters from across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The event was filled with gratitude, excitement, and of course, good vibes.

The concert featured an impressive line-

up of artists, including talented performers from DK Talents, the Good Vibes Kids from JDL Performing Arts, The Arcelis Dance Group, Toronto's Finest Academy, Pitch Perfect Academy, and many more. Each act brought their unique energy and talent to the stage, representing the rich cultural and artistic diversity of Toronto's Filipino community.

According to DJ Ryan, founder of Pinoy Vibes World, this event was more than just a celebration—it was a way to give back to the community that has supported them over the years. "This concert is our way of thanking the incredible community and the many people who have collaborated with us over the years. It's a special event that brings

together artists, community partners, sponsors, producers, and event organizers who have contributed to our journey," Ryan shared during the show.

The evening was a showcase of Toronto's vibrant Filipino talent, with a variety of performances that highlighted the creativity and passion of local artists. From dance groups to vocal performances, the concert was a celebration of unity, talent, and the spirit of giving back.

Founded in 2020 by DJ Ryan and Coco Martini, Pinoy Vibes World began as a blog during the pandemic. Over the years, it evolved into a community platform on Facebook, now with over 164,000 followers. Known for entertaining Filipinos worldwide with interactive online games, raffles, and community outreach, the platform has become a beacon of positivity for Filipinos both in Canada and abroad. With its dedication

PINOY VIBES WORLD page 13

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PUBLISHER & EDITOR

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Rufa Mae Quinto reunites with director Joyce Bernal for new film

Actress Rufa Mae Quinto is set to make a comeback with director Joyce Bernal for a new VivaMax film titled "Ang Babaeng Na F**k Up ng Sistema."

The film marks a reunion for the actress and director, who previously worked in some films including the hit comedies "Booba" (2001) and "Super-B" (2002).

In an interview, Quinto expressed her excitement about working with Bernal once again. "Mayroon po ako for VivaMax with Direk Joyce Bernal. Babalik siya. Magre-union kami," she said, describing the new

film as a powerful statement on the female experience. "Maganda 'to! Para sa lahat ng kababaihan." The screenplay is penned by actress Alessandra de Rossi, who brings a fresh, bold narrative to the project.

The film will premiere on VivaMax, with plans for an international release shortly after, broadening its reach to a global audience.

In addition to her role in "Ang Babaeng Na F**k Up ng Sistema," Quinto will also join the cast of an upcoming movie starring Kim Chiu and Paolo Avelino.



THE 2025 GENERAL ELECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

By Tony A. San Juan, OCT.

TORONTO : The 2025 general election in the Philippines will be held on May 12, 2025, where the winners take office mid-way through the 6-year term of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. In the Senate, 12 of the 24 seats are up for election. In the House of Representatives, all 317 seats will be contested and these include the 254 seats representing geographic congressional districts while 63 seats are apportioned among party-list winning candidates.

The general election will determine the composition of the 20th Congress of the Philippines. The electoral winners will take office on June 30, 2025, for a term ending on June 30, 2028. Local elections will also be held for the executive and legislative branches in every province, city, and municipality.

Local elections above the barangay level will also be held, with the following positions being contested, excluding sectoral seats:

All 82 governors and vice governors, and 792 out of 1,038 provincial board members

All 149 city mayors and vice mayors, and 1,690 out of 1,988 city councillors

All 1,493 municipal mayors and vice mayors, and 11,948 out



Toronto singer Maria Panaligan with Governor Vilma Santos

of 14,934 municipal councillors. Meanwhile, the 2025 Senate election will be the 35th election of members to the Senate of the Philippines. The 12 senators who will win in this election will serve until 2031, joining the 12 senators elected in the 2022 election who are serving until 2028. Senators are limited to serving two consecutive terms, although they are eligible for a third (and succeeding) non-consecutive term. Only half of the seats are up in every senatorial election.

Constitutionally, the Philippines has a 24-member Senate elected at large. Every three years since 1995, 12 seats are disputed. Each Filipino voter has 12 votes, of which one can vote for one to twelve

candidates or a multiple non-transferable vote, and the twelve candidates with the most votes are elected.

The Commission on Elections (Comelec) noted a total of 18,280 positions up for election in 2025. COMELEC released on October 9, 2024, the full list of the senatorial aspirants in next year's midterm polls. A total of 183 Senate hopefuls filed their certificates of candidacy from October 1 to 8, 2024.

Hopeful politicians from across the country filed their certificate of candidacy for the position they are eyeing. Up for grabs includes senators, party-list representatives, house of representatives, and local government positions.

In the Senate election among the aspirants are senator reelection-ists, former senators, former representatives, cause advocates & activists, professionals, celebrities and personalities who filed their respective Certificates of Candidacies (COCs).

The end-of-term senators who are running to be reelected are Ronald Dela Rosa, Christopher Go, Manuel Lapid, Maria Imelda Marcos, Ramon Revilla Jr., and Francis Tolentino. The former senators who wanted to

return are Bam Aquino, Pilar Cayetano, Gregorio Honasan, Panfilo Lacson, Emmanuel Pacquiao, Francis Pangilinan, and Vicente Sotto III.

Among the notable "neophytes" who are aspiring to become senators, are Benjamin Abalos, Norberto Gonzales, Rodnte Marcoleta, Dr. Willie Ong, Apollo Quibuloy, Willie Revillame, Philip Salvador, Luis Singson, Bienvenido Tulfo, Erwin Tulfo, Leandro Verceles, and Camille Villar. The known cause advocates and activists are Arlene Brosas, Teodoro Casino, and Francisca Castro. In other elective positions, some of the noted celebrities, TV and movie stars are Aljur Abrenica, Peter Advincula, Arjo Atayde, Nora Aunor, Marjorie Barreto, Jimmy Bondoc, Angelika Dela Cruz, Angelu De Leon, Ejay Falcon, Marco Gumabao, Mark Leviste, Brian Poe Llamanzares, Luis Manzano, Aiko Melendez, Ara Mina, Isko Moreno, Migs Nograles, Vilma Santos-Recto, Jolo Revilla, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Shamcey Supsup, Lucy Torres, Mocha Uson, Alfred Vargas, Sam Verzosa, Roi Vinson,

and Anjo Yllana.

Many critics "at mga ordinaryong mamayan" observed that some candidates and politicians "seeking to win in the general elections next year are painting themselves to be the saviours, offering quick fixes to daunting challenges such as poverty and inequality, and making promises that if they get elected, then citizens' lives will just suddenly turn for the better. This then brings up the hope and expectations that the upcoming elections will make our "kababayans" realize that they have the power in their hands to change their fate by electing the right people to the government—those who have a proven track record in public service instead of those who have nothing to offer other than a popular name. Indeed by rewarding the real representatives of the people and punishing those who are in for themselves and their vested interests by not electing them or voting them out of power and influence, then Filipinos stand a better chance of changing not just their lives but also those of their families and their communities. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT)

Apple Dy sa pagsabay ng career at love life: "Ang healthy relationship ay 'di dapat sagabal sa career."

Para kay VMX star Apple Dy, kayangkaya isabay ang love life at career kung hindi sagabal ang una sa pangalawa!

On cloud nine ngayon ang VMX star na si Apple Dy dahil may bago nanaman siyang proyekto sa streaming platform titled Baligtaran kung saan pino-portray niya si Kat, isang DJ, na makikilala si Denise (played by Skye Gonzaga) sa isang club kung saan siya nagtatrabaho.

After nito, magkakaroon sila ng sexual relationship after tulongan ni Denise si Kat sa isang agresibong club-goer.

Dito, maguguluhan si Kat kung na-attract na nga ba siya sa nakilalang liberated pansexual woman, lalo na't meron

siyang past trauma sa mga lalaking minahal niya. Dito, magdedesisyon si Kat kung mapapagtiwalaan niya ba si Denise o isa lang siya sa mga sasaktan ang puso niya muli.

Natanong si Apple kung okay lang ba sa kanyang ipagsabay ang career sa love life, dahil nga sa pelikula na ito, nakilala ng karakter niya si Denise sa kanyang trabaho.

"Depende po sa relationship," sagot ng aktres. "For me, ang healthy relationship, hindi dapat siya nakakasagabal sa career. Para sa akin, depende po talaga sa tao. Kung tingin ko na 'yong love life ay nakakasagabal sa career, I think it's time



to think. Pero kung kaya niya naman mag-grow sa career niyo together, okay lang.

Tinanong din si Apple kung nagbigay ba ng pointers ang kanyang co-star na si Skye, na DJ din in real life, ukol sa kanyang karakter.

"Ang daming niyang tinuturo sa akin," recall niya. "Nagulat din ako na totooang DJ pala siya ta's may tinuturo siya sa akin, sa pagspin, sa style, moves, hand gestures, character, and personality."

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Graphic artist jailed in France over child rape livestream in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines — A French court sentenced a graphic artist who worked on beloved animated feature films for Pixar and Disney to 25 years in jail for ordering the livestreamed rape of preteen girls in the Philippines.

The Paris court late Thursday found Bouhalem Bouchiba guilty of paying women in the Philippines between 2012 and 2021 to rape and sexually assault girls aged between five and 10 in front of a camera while he watched via livestream and issued instructions.

Bouchiba, 59, had confessed to

the charges during the four-day trial.

“I am aware of everything I did. I ask the victims’ forgiveness,” he told the court, admitting during his testimony that the violence resembled “torture.”

Bouchiba worked at the Pixar and Disney animation studios, contributing to blockbusters like 2004 hit “The Incredibles” and “Ratatouille,” released in 2007.

“On the one hand you have a graphic artist who delighted children,” said state prosecutor Philippe Courroye.

“On the other, Bouhalem Bouchiba was a pedophile filmmaker who staged his own horror movies,” he said.

Each show cost between 50 and 100 euros (P3,000-P6,000), with the total Bouchiba spent on the performances coming to just over 50,000 euros or P3 million.

Police became interested in Bouchiba when Europol, the European Union’s law enforcement agency, sent out an alert about suspicious money transfers to the Philippines.

On Oct. 4, 2021, Bouchiba

— who was living in the United States at the time — was arrested at San Francisco’s airport and extradited to France.

The suspect was already known to police, having been found guilty in 2009 of the sexual abuse of his stepdaughter.

Following Bouchiba’s conviction, Gabriela party-list yesterday sought stronger financial intelligence monitoring against online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC).

“The fact that this predator was able to facilitate these heinous crimes for nearly a decade through money transfers is absolutely unacceptable,” House assistant minority leader and Gabriela Women’s Party congresswoman Arlene Brosas said.

“We demand justice for all Filipino children victimized by foreign predators who take advantage of poverty in our country. We must strengthen our laws against OSEC and ensure proper implementation of Republic Act 11930 or the Anti-Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children Law,” she added.

Kim Mahistrado wins Asia’s Man of The Year Award by Kim Mahistrado

Success is not final, Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts. The harder you work, the more luck you seem to have.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the wonderful people behind Asia’s Man and Woman Excellence Award - To Direk Primo Gusiand Ate Phill - Pilita Parker -Your guidance and expertise have made a significant impact on my life and I really appreciate your assistance.

To my Mahistrado Fashions Family both from Canada and Philippines - Thank you for all the thing that you do. I am so humbled to be the person fulfilling



their dreams and become the best version of themselves. We can never take for granted the hard work you

did guys.

To my family especially to my Inay Doris and Tatay Melchor - I hope you are so proud of me. This is all for the both of you. I am nothing without you Inay and Tatay.

To the Holy Mighty God! Thank you for the Continuous Blessing and Guidance .

Again - This is Kim Hazen Mahistrado Belen your Asia’s Man of the Year Excellence Awardee for an outstanding Pageant Director and Inspiring Model.

Once a Mahistrado - Always a Mahistrado.



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Was CJ Opiaza’s Miss Grand Int’l gown a ‘malfunction?’

Well, a different kind of malfunction.

Filipino fashion designer Leo Almodal gave his two cents on Miss Grand International 2024 first runner-up CJ Opiaza’s evening gown, pointing out how the dress supposedly did not accentuate the beauty queen’s physique.

Opiaza donned an embellished silver cut-out dress with hints of rose gold beads, designed by Filipino fashion designer Mak Tumang.

“Whoever designed CJ’s gown... First of all, I am

very forgiving and easily pleased with other designer’s work but her dress is wrong in so many aspects,” Almodal said in a now-deleted post on his Facebook page. “Una, nagmukhang flat ang dibdib. Anong nangyari? Pwede naman maglagay ng seamless pads.”

Almodal also noted that the “torso looked long and straight. “Nawala curves ni CJ dahil mali ang patterns ng lines. Nagmukhang tuod. The design should emphasize and enhance the curves, and not the other way around.”

Almodal further pointed out that the gown was not long enough which, he guessed, might be the reason why Opiaza opted for short heels.

“Para hindi bitin tingnan? [Nagmukha]



CJ Opiaza advances to Miss Grand International 2024’s Top 5

siyang pandak itabi sa ibang candidates,” he said, also stating that the gown’s rose gold belt “came out of nowhere” and was “out of place.”

Tumang, Opiaza, or even the Miss Grand Philippines organization have yet to comment on Almodal’s remarks as of this writing.

Melai Cantiveros reveals her dream role as an actress

Melai Cantiveros gets candid about the role she’d love to play.

Melai Cantiveros shared why she prefers doing hosting at the moment than acting in a teleserye.

Melai highlighted that hosting has allowed her to split her time well between work and her family.

“This moment of time ini-enjoy ko kasi ang hosting kaya kung mapansin ninyo hindi ako nagte-teleserye kasi ini-enjoy ko ‘yung mga parang offer na hosting Lord talaga na nabibigyan ako ng time sa mga anak ko,” she said.

Melai further explained: “Kasi ‘pag teleserye kasi kinakain ‘yung time mo eh, kinakain ‘yung panahon mo sa asawa mo, sa pamilya mo, sa anak mo, so ngayon sobra akong



happy na aside from hosting naghahanapbuhay ako tapos nabibigay ko naman ‘yung time ko sa mga fans ko and nabibigay ko ‘yung time sa family.”

The Kapamilya star relayed that hosting has allowed her to travel back and forth to General Santos City to spend time with her father.

“Lalo na sa parents ko, may time ako ngayon na umuwi-uwii ng GenSan kasi nga ‘yung papa ko kasi siyempre may karamdaman na kasi kaya kailangan talaga nabibisita kasi time is running,” she said.

Nonetheless, Melai said that she is open to acting projects like starring in FPJ’s Batang Quiapo. “Walang problema, siyempre naman,” she said.

The comedienne was also asked about her dream role when it comes to acting. Melai said that she wants to star someday as a mother in an action movie.

“Actually gusto ko rin ‘yung para akong nanay tapos dedicated na nanay sa anak ko and then ‘yung anak ko, di ba may movie dati sa America tapos kinuha ‘yung anak nila tapos nagsumbong ka sa mga pulis pero walang naniniwala na pulis kaya ilalagay mo sa kamay mo ang pagbabalik ng anak mo so gusto ko action,” she stated.

She went on: “Ang pagmamahal kasi ng isang nanay eh talaga namang todo-todo, lalabas yan, beyond, so gusto ko talagang maging action na nanay.”

Kathryn Bernardo, Alden Richards appear on CBC News Canada

Kathryn Bernardo and Alden Richards are distracting not only Calgary, where they are shooting ‘Hello, Love, Again,’ but all of Canada.

CBC News’ breaking news report video is now being celebrated on TikTok and X where crazy crowds were reported during the filming of the sequel to the box office hit KathDen’s ‘Hello, Love, Goodbye.’

Here are some parts of the voice report used as the original audio in the viral TikTok video, “The reverberation on this Calgary movie set - easy to see, harder to contain. The director of the movie (Cathy Garcia-Sampana) was caught by the crowd,” the video also shows Director Cathy begging fans to be quiet and calm while watching the shoot to allow them to take photos with Kathryn and Alden.

Reporter Ayon pa sa, “Those fans are persistently following the shooting locations, no matter how remote.”

The Canadian reporter also had an interview with Direk Cathy and KathDen on the set of ‘HLA’.

But it’s not just on social media platforms that KathDen and their upcoming film are being discussed, even on the CBC News website you can read some articles about the film.

Ayon nga sa reports ni CBC News writer Boshika Gupta, “The cast and crew of the highly anticipated Philippine film, ‘Hello, Love, Again,’ got a pleasant surprise when they were

greeted by a crowd of fans recently at a shooting in southwest Calgary.



“The film stars two renowned actors from the Southeast Asian country — Kathryn Bernardo and Alden Richards — and is set to be released in November. It is a sequel to the 2019 blockbuster, ‘Hello, Love, Goodbye,’ which became one of the highest-grossing Filipino films of all time.

“The presence of the stars in Calgary created excitement among local fans, who turned out in droves to show their support and catch a glimpse of the actors.”

It’s a good sign that the film will get worldwide attention and promotion when it airs on November 13.

PUBLIC FORUM ON THE FILIPINO DIASPORA IN CANADA HELD

DIASPORA from page 1

The theme for the event was “The Filipino Diaspora in Canada: Celebrating Successes and Addressing Persistent Challenges”. According to the Philippine Consulate General in Toronto, the forum featured a “panel of distinguished Filipino Canadians and trailblazers who will share their journeys towards professional leadership positions “in various fields such as government service, politics, the judiciary, and the academe. The early evening discussion also addressed “the role of family, community, education and mentorship in navigating career success” in the Canadian environment.

Moreover, besides reflecting on their successes, the panel members likewise considered “what Filipino identity now means in the Canadian context, and the barriers and challenges still faced by the



Senator Flordeliz (Gigi) Osler,

Filipino Canadian community.” Those who presented their topics were:



Dr. Patrick Alcedo



Hon Steve A. Coroza



Dr. Marisa Largo



Dr. Glenda Tibe Bonifacio

- The Hon Senator Flordeliz (Gigi) Osler, Senate of Canada, Canadian Senators Group, Manitoba
- The Hon Steve A. Coroza, Justice of the Court of Appeal for Ontario
- Dr. Glenda Tibe Bonifacio, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay & Orillia, Ontario.
- Dr. Patrick Alcedo, Professor of Dance, York University, North York, Ontario.

- Dr. Marisa Largo, an associate professor at York University, emceed and facilitated the lively forum.

The highly informative event provided a good opportunity to the guests, community leaders and attendees to network, share and exchange ideas and insights on how Filipino Canadians and influencers can further elevate the profile of the Filipino diaspora in Canada. (Tony A. San Juan, OCT.)

Shanaia Gomez's Toronto family support her as she opens her first starring film *The Gatekeeper* by Phoebe Yap Chan

Congratulations @shanaiaomez!!! I know I've said this a million times, but we are so proud of you. It's super surreal that this is happening! You're very first movie and lead role! You're very first black (red) carpet event! So happy that one of us was there to experience this with you! This is just the beginning! Praying for your happiness and success everyday! Thank you to @iwantffc for this opportunity! This is truly a blessing! Thank you to all the fans for the love and support all these years! SHAnatics and SHANSHAIN!!! Family and friends all over the world, please download the #iwantffc app and stream #thegatekeeper on Oct 19!!! Don't worry non Filipino speaking friends, I think there are subtitles.

SHANAIA UNRAVELS THE DARK SECRETS OF THE UNDERWORLD IN iWantTFC ORIGINAL "THE GATEKEEPER"

Unravel the horrific pits of the abyss as Next Gen Multimedia Star Shanaia Gomez unlocks the gates of the underworld in the newest horror original "The Gatekeeper," now streaming on-demand on iWantTFC.

In her first lead role, Shanaia plays the antiques dealer, Cita Mendoza, whose life is about to take a drastic



turn when she comes across a strange cabinet owned by a dead priest that apparently serves as an ark holding troubled spirits from the depths of hell. With the help of newfound acquaintances, Cita tries to uncover the mysteries behind the underworld's gateway to Earth as she also tackles her troubled past, worsening her ongoing paranoia.

From the creative minds behind the award-winning biopic "Quezon's Game" Matthew and Dean Rosen,

the new iWantTFC horror Original is unlike other local flicks of the same cerebral genre, focusing this time on the blending of Hebrew myth and biblical references into Filipino folklore.

Director Matthew Rosen then added that the film took years to make, stemming from his initial visit to the Holy Land of Jerusalem in the '80s.

"I've been working on it since 1984 and it took a lot of research. There's a lot of stuff to get your head around through it. From the initial discovery that I had in the Holy Land of something mystical that happened 3,500 years ago. I have had to research it because it's not very commonly known," Matthew said in a prior interview.

Meanwhile, viewers have praised "The Gatekeeper" for its unique take on the horror genre, as well as Shanaia's portrayal in her first lead role.

"From the very start of the film, it will already shock you not only with its frightening scenes but also with



the trajectory of its twists and turns that surely make it a must-watch horror flick. As for Shanaia, she definitely nailed her portrayal as Cita, given that this is her very first lead acting role in any film!" Bandera Inquirer's entertainment editor Ervin Santiago said.

"Finally, Filipino film outfits are trying something new. They are experimenting with different takes on the horror genre in the Philippines. If you're up for a religious horror movie, watch 'The Gatekeeper' on iWantTFC," content creator Jezreel Ely added.

Uncover the lurking horrors of the underworld in the iWantTFC Original "The Gatekeeper" streaming on-demand on iWantTFC.com and its official app (available on iOS and Android).

Alongside "The Gatekeeper," iWantTFC brings more fright to its viewers this Halloween season, with its curated horror watchlist as picked by Shanaia herself—featuring "Feng Shui," "Segundo Mano," "Seklusyon," "Wag Kang Lilington," "The Ghost Bride," "Shake, Rattle, Roll XV," among many others.

'Such good singers!': Olivia Rodrigo recalls Philippine concert, fans

Filipino-American singer Olivia Rodrigo looked back at her first-ever concert in the Philippines and praised the Filipino fans who attended it.

Olivia performed at the Philippine Arena last October 5 as part of her "Guts" tour where all the tickets were sold for only P1,500 and donated all the show's proceeds to women's healthcare charity Jhpiego.

The singer-songwriter recently appeared in "The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon" to promote her tour's concert film on Netflix and recounted the Philippine stop as one of the tour's highlights.



"I got to go to the Philippines, which was really cool. I'm Filipino and I'd never been," Olivia said.

Jimmy said that he would also love to visit the Philippines.

Olivia said going to the Philippines was so special and everyone was great, adding that Filipinos are "such good singers," as she noted the popularity of karaoke in the

country.

"Everyone in the arena were singing in harmony — it was like insane — singing my lyrics back to me, perfectly on pitch and cue, it was awesome," Olivia added.

Jimmy also asked Olivia if she got to eat any Filipino food, which Olivia described as incredible, because the host shared he loved Lumpia.

The conversation then pivoted to the "Guts" tour stop in Australia, where Olivia went viral for falling into a hole in the stage.

Olivia went to the hospital after that show to make sure she did not have a concussion, and she shared the nurse assigned to her was a Filipino with the same name as her late grandfather.

Julia Barretto international starrer "Secret Ingredient" to air on Viva One

Viu original drama series Secret Ingredient is streaming on Viva One

The international drama, which has been nominated for Best Original Digital Series at the 2024 Asian Television Awards, stars Julia Barretto, Sang Heon Lee, and Nicholas Saputra.

Lee is best known for making his acting debut in the Netflix series XO, Kitty, a spin-off of the To All The Boys film fran-

chise. Saputra, on the other hand, is an award-winning Indonesian actor who rose to fame with his roles in the films Ada Adapa Dengan Cinta? and Gie.

Secret Ingredient centers around a Korean social elite who gives up his entire luxurious life in Seoul in search of his childhood girlfriend.

Julia plays Maya in the series, a chef who wants to win a cooking competition so

she can use the prize money to pay for her mother's medical bills.

The actress has been enjoying success in showbiz recently.

Apart from being part of the blockbuster triumph of the film Un/Happy For You, which she starred in along-



side Joshua Garcia, she is also nominated for Best Leading Actress in a Digital Series for the aforementioned awards night, which will take place in Jakarta, Indonesia from November

29-30.

Moreover, she is set to star in Hold Me Close alongside Carlo Aquino in the 2024 Metro Manila Film Festival this coming December.



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Joey Baking The Socialist

Celebrating with Family & Friends

Pinoy Vibes World held their 5th anniversary concert with artists from Toronto, Canada and from the Philippines.

Prior to the concert, PVW was posting posters featuring different artists on social media. Some of them feature groups.

“Are all of these going to perform” and “how long is the concert going to be” were questions that entered my mind.

Surprisingly, the concert lasted just as long as one of those regular concerts featuring one or two artists from the Philippines. And just as enjoyable, if not more so. I’m not sure how many performed but all I can say is it was entertaining and I enjoyed



it. Their closing artist is Janah Zaplan, a rising singer from the Philippines. Janah is one of the rising acts under ABS-CBN Music who is also juggling her time as a student pilot. She was named Best New Female Solo Artist at the PPop Awards 2023. Congratulations PVW and keep up the good work of sending good vibes to all Filipinos in Toronto and worldwide.

Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation held their Mrs. Philippines pageant and gala in one. It was a very well-attended affair as more than 444 guests crammed the St Clement Of Ohrid Macedonian Church Banquet Hall.



They had to add more tables and chairs. The organization is still led by the indefatigable Mrs. Rosemer Enverga, widow of the late Canadian Senator Tobias “Jun” Enverga.

Rosemer is keeping the legacy of the senator by keeping the faith of helping the poor in the Philippines.

ANCOP the acronym for ‘Answering the Cry of the Poor’ is a registered non-profit Canadian charity established to alleviate poverty in poor countries like the Philippines through holistic community development program that includes shelter, education, livelihood, health, value formation, community development and humanitarian relief.

ANCOP is one of the beneficiaries of PCCF and has completed a village of 33 houses named, “PCCF-ANCOP Village” in Tala, Quezon City, in which the recipients of the houses are rehabilitated victims of leprosy.

In January, they will be going to the Philippines to distribute money and goods to some charity organizations there.

Congratulations and may PCCF get stronger to be able to continue helping the less fortunate of our kababayans back home.

Friends and family of Agnes Miranda held a 79th birthday party for her at Rembrandt Banquet Hall. Every community leader, friends were in at-

tendance. Known for her philanthropy of helping charitable causes, Agnes is will-loved by everyone. She is a highly recognized financial expert and the co-founder and executive chairman of the World Financial Group (WFG). Since 2001, WFG has



Birthday celebrant Agnes Miranda is joined by Janet Lim and Toronto Congen Angelica Escalona.

helped more than 4.6 million families prepare for their financial futures.

She is so well-loved that she had more than one celebration. She dined out more than once with different circle of friends also. It wasn’t easy to keep track.

Happy birthday Agnes Miranda and may you keep going strong.

Canadian Government acts to improve the economy and help Canadians by MP Shaun Chen

TORONTO - Despite inflation now stable at its normal levels, there is more work to be done.

Our federal government’s plan is to grow the economy, support Canadians, and deliver fairness for every generation.

We are delivering the Canada Carbon Rebate, with the latest payment made on October 15 – put-

ting more money back in the pockets of Canadians. We are investing in \$10-a-day child care; giving more support to seniors; and enhancing the Canada Workers Benefit for low-income workers.

Growing Our Communities Responsibly:

- In response to labour shortages due to the pan-

demie, Canada took steps to meet the urgent needs of businesses and support our economic recovery.

- Since then, the labour market has changed – and we are adapting to that change. On September 27, our government announced new measures.
- We are making temporary resident levels in Canada more sustainable and predictable with new caps on international students for 2025 and 2026.
- In addition, there will be new requirements for Post-Graduate Work Permits, in order to better align with immigration goals and labour market needs.
- There are also more stringent rules on spousal work permits for students and temporary workers. As our economy evolves, so must our policy measures.

Keeping Our Communities Safe:

- Every Canadian deserves to be safe. That is why our government announced the first-ever Canada’s Action Plan on Combatting Hate (CAPCH).
- This is an unprecedented effort to combat and prevent hate by empowering Canadians, while providing more support to victims and at-risk communities.
- As well, we have launched the new Canada Community Security Program (CCSP), which replaces the previous Security Infrastructure Program.

- The CCSP is a stronger, more straightforward program that will make it easier for vulnerable communities to protect themselves from hate-motivated crimes.
- Organizations can apply for funding as of October 1. More information is available at: www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crm-prvntn/fndng-prgrms/

Supporting Small Businesses Through New Initiatives:

- Since 2015, we have been helping small business owners reduce their costs, so they can keep growing their businesses and keep creating good jobs.
- Most recently, we announced payments for the new Canada Carbon Rebate for Small Businesses, which will deliver over \$2.5 billion to 600,000 businesses.
- We also announced a revised Code of Conduct for the Payment Card Industry in Canada, effective October 30, to better protect 1 million businesses.
- Finally, our government has implemented new credit card fee reductions for small businesses that are now in effect as of October 19.
- These fee reductions allow over 90% of small and medium businesses to reduce interchange fees by up to 27%, saving them \$1 billion over 5 years.

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BINI Aiah visits elderly center for her Aiahdvocacy: ‘It was a day filled with love and gratitude’

Aiah Arceta of Nation’s Girl Group BINI successfully conducted another outreach program with her friends and fans as she visited an elderly center this October.

On her social media page, Aiah expressed how much she enjoyed spending time with the elderly at the Golden Reception and Action Center for the Elderly and Other Special Cases (GRACES) in Quezon City.

“With my monthly advocacy, which I call Aiahdvocacy, we aim to visit different facilities or communities to extend our help, love, and blessings. This month, we focused on the elderly, and it was such a fun time bonding with them, even if it was just for a day. We sang, danced, played games, and even did multiple rounds of bingo, which I think is everybody’s favorite part of the program,” she said.

She added, “It was a day filled with love and gratitude.”



Fans couldn’t help but express admiration for the BINI member and her mission. “Keep up the good work, Aiah. I’m so proud of you. Continue to inspire those around you and continue to help those in need because you are truly blessed. It’s always a great feeling when you get

to share your blessings with others. Love you! ❤️❤️❤️,” a fan commented.

Aiah started her Aiahdvocacy, an outreach initiative where she visits different communities to share blessings. Last month, she visited a community in Tondo, Manila, and donated goods.

“Through my Aiahdvocacy project, I hope I not only help others but also inspire them to do the same for those in need. The world is already filled with so much noise and chaos; let’s instead fill it with love,” she stated.



Happy 9th Birthday PRESTON

Preston celebrates his birthday early with his family. On his birthdate, he celebrated with his Undfnd teammates by bringing donuts.

Celeste Cortesi reinforces acting dreams under Viva, hopes to do action film with Anne Curtis

Celeste Cortesi, Viva Artist Agency's newest signee, on pursuing acting: "It's not an easy thing to do. You really have to put a lot of work into it. Again, I'm up to the challenge and it is something that fascinates me a lot. So, I really hope that I will be able to make the most out of it and have



good projects." Avidly watching movies and television shows when she was a kid, Celeste Cortesi always had this fascination with acting, hoping that, one day, she too would be one to watch out for on the screen. And,

now, she fulfills that dream with her recent signing with Viva Artists Agency (VAA).

After her journey in the Miss Universe 2022 pageant came to an end, the Filipino-Italian beauty queen ventured into the world of show business, showcasing her acting chops in projects such as the finale episode of Darna, which starred Jane De Leon and Janella Salvador, and the second season of Walang Matigas na Pulis sa Matinik na Misis, which had Bong Revilla and Beauty Gonzales as lead stars.

And now, looking for an avenue where she can further improve her craft, Celeste found Viva, where

she believes is the perfect company that can do that.

"To be honest, at the time, I was really really looking for an agency, in general. Someone that can really manage me and I always had the desire of doing movies and I think that Viva is really the perfect fit to guide me into this industry," she told pikapika.ph in an exclusive interview after her VAA signing last October 9.

Celeste added that she always wanted to be part of the VAA family, wanting to see how they could possibly put her under their wing to be an actress.

"I always wanted to be part of [VAA] but I never

got the opportunity to meet the people behind Viva so, fortunately, when I had the opportunity, it just came about. I needed someone that could make me grow as an actor so I feel like Viva could really give me the right opportunity, especially when it comes to movies," she said.

Knowing Viva's reputation of transforming beauty queens into talented actresses, including the likes of Charlene Gonzales, Anjanette Abayari, Cindy Miranda, and Kylie Verzosa, Celeste couldn't be more excited to follow their path.

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Happy 80th Birthday
FRANK CRUZET



Christine Santos is elected new chair Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and to host this year's Commissioning Mass and event for the new and returning School Council Chairs, Co-chairs and Principals.



CONGRATULATIONS to Kiera Miranda Fina! She was accepted by "Cirque Du Soleil" She is on training and her first tour starts on November 2024. Kiera is the granddaughter of Agnes Miranda of WFG and PIDC.

Shanaia Gomez is Living The Dream by Phoebe Yap Chan

Please allow me to share another @shanaia Gomez post. Ellen and I are absolutely filled with pride. Seeing Shanaia now on mainstream Philippine TV, and no less than the iconic TV Patrol, has been an achievement born from relentless hard work, countless sacrifices, and sheer determination. Shai left Canada at just 14 to chase a dream in the Philippines. When she landed her first commercial, we thought hey this is it! This is her big break! We quickly realized how wrong we were—the real challenges were just beginning.

doing the right thing. We worried if we had made the wrong choice, but we kept the faith, trusted the process, and stuck it out together. We're incredibly grateful that Shai never gave up on her dreams, no matter how tough things got.

Shai stayed in the Philippines with her aunt, far away from us, trying to find her footing in a foreign land. We are forever grateful to @maelgport, who sacrificed time with her own daughter to look after ours. Shai missed so much during those years—birthdays, Christmases, and irreplaceable family moments. She endured the loneliness, and there were times when she wanted to quit, when the lack of opportunities felt overwhelming.

Now, years later, we're witnessing those dreams start to come true. It's proof that hard work, dedication, and love really are the keys to success. But this journey is far from over—the best is still unfolding and we can't wait to see what the future holds. Thank you to @iwantffc @riseartistsstudio @typatrolph @abschn @abschnnews for this amazing opportunity! We are forever grateful!



Happy 79th Birthday AGNES MIRANDA

'Dios mio!': Julie Anne San Jose on Maria Clara's reaction to being a calendar girl

Singer-actress Julie Anne San Jose was recently unveiled as the 2025 Calendar Girl for beverage company Ginebra San Miguel.

The announcement comes several months after the Limitless Star wrapped up her stint on the television show "Maria Clara at Ibarra" where she portrayed the famous Rizal character Maria Clara.

Julie Anne told members of the media including Philstar.com after she was officially launched as a calendar girl that Maria Clara would probably exclaim "Dios mio!" if she heard the news and be surprised by the "total 360 change."



"Coming from Maria Clara to being a calendar girl... para siyang totally different roles," Julie Anne said which plays to

her strengths wanting to innovate, improve, and take on different characters.

She added that being a calendar girl, in her own little way, will allow her to reach out to other people and change their lives.

Later on, Julie Anne said being sexy isn't limited to one's body, "Nasa karakter ng tao, paano siya mag-inspire ng tao, at base sa kanyang

kakayahan."

Julie Anne joins a historic roster of Ginebra San Miguel Calendar Girls which include Marian Rivera (twice), Angelica Panganiban, Anne Curtis, Solenn Heussaff, Georgina Wilson, Ellen Adarna, Pia Wurtzbach, Sanya Lopez, Chie Filomeno, Yassi Pressman, and most recently, Heaven Peralejo.

Toronto Lions Kapuso remembers the left fortunate on Thanksgiving by Judith Gonzales

TORONTO: Judith Gonzales and fellow Lions are not only celebrating Thanksgiving but also remembers those who are in need.

So, on Thanksgiving, Off to they dropped of some foods for Scarborough Feeds Foodbanks.

"Today we are giving thanks to our

Lord Almighty for the willing hearts who have donated foods to be given away this thanksgiving to Canadians who are in dire needs of foods. Alleviating poverty

in a small way but very significant to the recipients," says Judith.

Thank you all!

Happy Thanksgiving Day!



PINOY VIBES WORLD from page 6

to helping kababayans, from distributing essentials in Toronto to promoting local artists and businesses, Pinoy Vibes World

continues to make a meaningful impact.

"To achieve good vibes, focus on an ocean of positive vibes." This powerful message from DJ Ryan reflects the es-

sence of the night and the values that Pinoy Vibes World stands for.

As the concert came to a close, it was clear that Pinoy Vibes World had once

again succeeded in its mission to uplift and inspire the Filipino community.

Congratulations and Happy 5th Anniversary, Pinoy Vibes World!



1. Peyton Garcia, Ryan Orlanda, Jannah Zaplan, Cesar Marquez; 2. Alyssa Escueta; 3. Nicolas Manlapaz; 4. JDL's Marco Landicho; 5. Sophia Sambrana; 6. Antoinette Targa; 7. Edmund Arevalo; 8. JDL's Christabelle Dos Santos; 9. Bevs Saraza and husband; 10. Allyssa Grace and students; 11. Shaine Jaramillo, Mika Sy, Lexie Alexa; 12. Jarius Monzon; 13. Jenifer Camacho



Celebrant Seny Reyes Zamora with guests Elsie and Wally Yerro



Alex Reyes & daughter Katharine Reyes performed two (2) songs for the honoree. The first song was "Take and Receive" song most popularized by Balms Palad. Said song is actually a prayer written by the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), St. Ignatius of Loyola and composed by Fr. Manoling Francisco, SI. The lyrics pretty much summarized Seny's life and belief:

All things I hoId and all I own are thine
Thine was the gift, to Thee I resign
Oo Thou direct and govern all and sway
Oo what Thou wilt, command, and I obey

Only Thy grace, Thy, love on me bestow
These make me rich, all else will I forego
Oo That direct and govern all and sway
Oo what Thou wilt, command, and I obey
Only Thy grace, Thy love on me bestow
These make me rich, all else will I forego



Raffy Zamora serenaded the celebrant with the song "Wonderful Tonight" Said rendition was full of emotion and romance, Eric Clapton was put to shame! The KILIG factor overwhelmed the audience to no end!



Guests Nandy Diaz and wife Nona, Elsie and Wally Yerro

*Happy Birthday
Seny Reyes Zamora*

Grande Dame of Markham, ON Birthday Bash: A Fun-filled Success

Seny Reyes Zamora, considered by peers and friends as "The Grande Dame of Markham, ON," celebrated her Seventeenth Birthday last September 28, 2024 at the Rouge River Community Center at Markham, Ontario.

The event tamed into a reunion of family, close relatives and friends from different groups and affiliations. The venue pulsated with joy and laugh-ter from esteemed guests.

The event was truly a celebration of life thoroughly lived and enjoyed.

There were some talents that performed for the celebrant.

Raffy Zamora serenaded the Lady in Red during Seny's Birthday celebration. A soulful rendition of Eric Clapton's song "Wonderful Tonight" reverberated throughout the Banquet Hall.

Raffy brought the house down with his rendition of this song from the 70's.

The guests were so moved that they were not able to hide the "KILIG" factor they were so trying to hard to conceal.

The KILIG was so evident among the guests when the birthday celebrant responded: 'And then she asks me, Do you feel alright?' And I say, 'Toe, I feel wonderful tonight' I feel wonderful Became I see the love light in your eyes"

Applause and cheers ended Raffy's performance. A thtmderous applause followed! There was no demand for an encore! Makes one wonder why!

When you think about all the strong

and incredible women in the world ... Markham's Mamon Queen comes to mind!

It was a night to remember. Happy birthday Seny!!!

FCT Halloween Fun



LEFT, Frank Cruzet and Theresa Lumanlan wins best costume as Raggedy Andy and Ann at Halloween. ABOVE, Spooky brushes and creative costumes! Our painting class celebrated Halloween in style at the Filipino Centre Toronto.



Wally Yerro as Master Miyagi, Theresa Lumanlan asRaggedy Ann, Paul Arena as Tibetan without the buri hat. Mexican deity with the hat and Judge Jei

KARAOKE FUNDRAISER

with MP Rechie Valdez Friends and supporters of MP Rechie Valdez attend the fundraiser event.



Gabbi Garcia as Miss Universe?

It's Mexico that will host the 73rd Miss Universe in November. The video showed Gabbi as though she were one of MUPH's hopefuls this year. It was brilliantly thought out with Gabbi having been made to don gowns in three different colors: (emerald) green, white and (burning) red.

The final scene showed a triumphant Gabbi with the bejeweled crown on her head as she beamed, waved and shimmied on stage.

Of course, there was this disclaimer which Gabbi issued herself which came in graphics towards the end of the video.

"Charot! (Joke!). Host lang po ako. (I'll just host the pageant). See you next year!" – so the graphics



read. Unequivocally, Gabbi's video was her way of sending an important, long-overdue message worth every Pinoy pageant enthusiast's attention: she is definitely joining Miss Universe Philippines next year.

More than a year away from now, this will allow Gabbi the luxury of time to prepare for her ultimate dream.

To be honest, what Gabbi needs is but a little polishing here and there. A bit of smoothening the rough edges, and voila!

Predictably – and hopefully so – the "Unbreak My Heart" star will live up to the series title.



CARMELO ISAAC'S BAPTISM Parents Elmer and Rowena are joined by family and friends at their son Carmelo Isaac's baptism.

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Kim Mahistrado thanks everyone for a successful Fashion Show

Dear Models, Parents, Guests, Makeup Artists, Emcee, DJ, Vendors, Photographers, and Sponsors. Specially My new Set of Queens and kings.

The runway was on fire last September 28, 2024 Thank you is not enough who took part of my event. Although I would like to send an enormous thanks to everyone for their support for Mahistrado Fashions show strike A Pose Season -5 Series - 19 and made it a huge success!

I would like to take a moment to sincerely thank each and every one of you for your incredible contributions to making this event a tremendous success.

To our models, your talent, poise, and dedication truly brought the event to life. Your hard work behind the scenes and professionalism on stage are inspiring. Thank you for showcasing the creativity and elegance that made the show unforgettable.

To the parents and guests, your unwavering support is deeply appreciated. Your encouragement and presence added so much warmth to the atmosphere. It's because



of your continued belief in our vision that we are able to create such memorable experiences.

To our amazing makeup artists and hair dressers, your skill and artistry made each model shine. The level of creativity and precision in your work transformed the entire event. Your behind-the-scenes efforts were absolutely vital to the show's success, and I cannot thank you enough for your commitment and talent.

To our emcee and DJ, you kept the energy high and the audience engaged from start to finish. Your charisma, timing, and flow ensured that the event moved smoothly, and you created the perfect atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. Thank you for being

the heart of the event and for making it such a lively and entertaining experience.

And last but certainly not least, to our photographers, Sam Expressive to kuya Willy and his team thank you for capturing the magic of the night. Your keen eye for detail and your ability to seize the most special moments will allow us to cherish these memories for years to come. The way you documented the event was simply outstanding, and we appreciate your dedication to getting everything just right.

This event would not have been the same without each and every one of you. Your combined efforts, passion, and hard work made everything come together beautifully. I am deeply grateful for all that you've done, and I look forward to working with you in the future. Your continued support is invaluable and always appreciated.

To the Holy Mighty God! Thank you for the Continuous Blessing and Guidance
Once A Mahistrado
Always A Mahistrado

Jesse Guinto, hindi sinabi sa pamilya ang pelikula niyang Bigayan

Jesse Guinto who won Mister Globe Tourism title in 2023, and finished 5th runner-up at Mister Grand International 2024 is now an actor.

JESSE, FOCUS SA SHOWBIZ CAREER

Ang Bigayan, pelikula ng The IdeaFirst Company, ay mapapanood sa VMX is about same-sex relationship. Maseselan ang eksena nila ng co-star na si Mike Liwag.

"I don't tell my family. Alam nila na artista ako, pero hindi ko sinasabi sa kanila ang mga ganitong klase ng project ko," ang paliwanag ni Jesse.

JESSE TALKS ABOUT TORRID ORGY SCENE

Ang orgy scene nila ni Mike at ng ibang mga kalalalahanan ang isa sa mga pinaka-mapaghamon na eksena na ginawa ni Jesse sa Bigayan.

"Ang hardest part sa Bigayan, sa orgy scene, hindi lahat all-out ibigay yung requirements ng direktor such as yung kissing scenes. Limited po ang mga tao sa set. Yun naman po ang ikinaganda sa The IdeaFirst, talagang alaga po kami.



"Right after the scenes, kapag cut, bigay agad sa amin ng mga towel. Very professional po ang mga tao behind the production. Very consistent sila sa pagtatanong sa amin kung okay kami, kung ano ang mga kailangan namin.

"Sana makita ng mga manonood na this movie is not just sex, orgy or threesome, but there is a story behind why people are doing these things."

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FOREVER from page 1

Ironically, the United States, on whose warrant the Canadian government acted on as requested, and supposed ally, was of no help.

Now, it's the Philippines turn to stand alone.

The Philippines is the only Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) member actively denouncing China's illegal, coercive, aggressive, and deceptive actions in the South China Sea, according to a Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) official.

Commodore Jay Tarriela, the PCG spokesperson for the West Philippine Sea, said this in response to an opinion piece published in the Global Times claiming that "Manila is the only Asean member that deliberately turns a blind eye to Washington's manipulation."

"The Philippines stands as the

sole ASEAN member actively denouncing China's illegal, coercive, aggressive, and deceptive actions in the South China Sea," Tarriela wrote on X.

"Our stance is not merely a fight for our rights in the West Philippine Sea; it reflects our commitment to upholding the rule of law, protecting the marine environment, and safeguarding the livelihoods of local fishermen. Beijing must cease its narrative that we are merely pawns of Washington," he added.

Tarriela pointed out that PCG's video evidence on Beijing's aggression showed that "there is no evidence of US vessels" in the West Philippine Sea.

"For over a year, we have brought to light your barbaric and provocative actions, and in every photo and video we have released, there is no evidence of US vessels—only the Chinese



On the first day of his official visit to Lao PDR for the 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh to strengthen ties between the Philippines and Vietnam, Oct. 8, 2024.

Coast Guard, Chinese Maritime Militia, and PLA (People's Liberation Army) Navy," he argued.

"The hope that Asean will remain silent in the face of your actions that undermine the rule of law, harm the marine environment, and harass Filipino fishermen is misguided," he concluded.

The opinion piece was in reaction to Defense Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr.'s October 14 remarks saying that he does not see "good faith" on the part of Beijing in the code of conduct (COC) negotiations.

Teodoro echoed President Fer-

dinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.'s call to all Asean members "not to turn a blind eye" to aggressors in the South China Sea

VIETNAM TIES?

The Philippines and Vietnam vowed to bolster their strategic partnership and explore "new areas of cooperation" on Tuesday, October 8, marking a future step up in diplomatic ties amid China's growing assertiveness in the region.

During their talks at the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh "reaffirmed their commitment" to boost the strategic partnership between both nations, whose diplomatic ties have been at an all-time high.

Beijing has been less vocal against Vietnam's attempts to

advance its claims in the South China Sea compared to its sharp rebukes of the Philippines' presence in the disputed waters.

Meanwhile, unlike the Philippines, Vietnam maintains generally strong party-to-party relations with China and insists it remains nonaligned while pursuing closer ties with the United States.

During Marcos' two-day visit to Vietnam in January, both countries' leaders agreed to boost cooperation between their coast guards to prevent untoward incidents in the South China Sea.

Reacting to the development, China in January rebuked the Philippines and Vietnam through its state-run Global Times newspaper for "trying to form a small clique" and "complicate" the situation in the region. **TONY SAN JUAN with files from Gerry Salvador, Mon Roco, Dindo Bautista**

Ice Segueria shares tips on how to enjoy videoke

OPM icon Ice Segueria is set to repeat his successful concert, 'Ice Segueria Videoke Hits OPM Edition Isa Pa!', at the Music Museum. Ice revealed she had difficulty trimming down the playlist for the show.

"Sabi sa akin ni Liza (Dino-Seguiria), kailangan ko na yung playlist."

"Ang ginawa kong pang-narrow down sa kanya is yung first segment is yung mga songs na kinakanta ko sa videoke. Mga paborito ko like Martin, Gary V, Ogie, Joey Albert, Ella Mae.

"Next is Jam with Ice and by-request. Under by-request, ito yung fan favorites. Magbobotohan sila. Kung ano yung top three songs, kakantahin namin on the spot. Doon din ang videoke relay.

Challenging songs

Ice stated that the videoke concert is designed to be an interactive show where everyone in the audience can participate.

"We made them feel na part sila ng concert. Hindi lang sila manonood kundi included sila sa big part of the show. It was a perfect cause once nag-umpisa na, hot na hot na kumanta ang audience.

Enjoying videoke

Ice mentioned that singing serves as a form of therapy for him.

On his advice to enjoy the videoke, Ice said: "Sing a song within your range. Even my doctor told me that you should sing within your range. Sa akin puwede ng The Carpenters."



Coco Martin dreams to direct international indie film

Actor and director Coco Martin has shared his ambitious goal to create an international film that would bring him back to his indie roots.

Martin, who began his career in independent cinema, is known for his dedication to Filipino stories and has evolved from an actor into a director and producer.

Now, he's setting his sights on directing a project with aspirations for the global stage.

"Siyempre nagsimula talaga ako sa indie films," Martin said, reflecting on his early days in the industry.

"Eh ngayon nagpoproduce then nagdidirek na ako. Sabi sa akin sana gumawa ka ng pelikula na ikaw yung direktor tapos ilaban natin. Kagaya nung ginagawa namin nung araw," he added.

His dream is to direct a film that could earn a spot in international film festivals, much like the movies he once starred in.

"Gusto ko bumalik sa indie films na this time ako naman ang director at indie films ang ginagawa ko at mangangarap na sana makapasok din sa mga international film festival."

Martin expressed how deeply this goal resonates with him, seeing it as the next evolution in his journey.

"Para bang mag-360 na. Dati andito ako, actor lang ako nangangarap. Tapos nangangarap ako na mag-TNT sa bansang to. Tapos ngayon andito na ako, director na ako, producer na ako ng pelikula na ilalaban," he said.



With his vast experience and passion for storytelling, fans eagerly anticipate the day Martin brings his vision to life on an international stage.

Meanwhile, Martin has also ventured into business, launching his own dishwashing liquid brand.

For Martin, this business isn't just about diversifying his career but also about providing opportunities to those in need.

"Siyempre sa trabaho parang kahit papano may natutulungan kang kasamahan natin para makapagtrabaho, ang nakikita ko kasi talaga ngayon ang kulang sa atin ay opportunity, magkaroon ng trabaho," he explained.

He recognized that not everyone could join his show's production, so he started thinking of other ways to support people.

In creating the dishwashing liquid, he focused on providing good value for consumers, especially in these challenging times.

"Sobrang daming pinagdadaanan sa buhay ng mga Pilipino, yung hinahanap kasi natin is value for money. Sabi ko nga hanggat maari, tatapatan ko o lalagpasan ko yung pinaka magandang produkto kasi iniingat na pangalan ko," he said.

Mavy Legaspi reacts to Kylene Alcantara dating Kobe Paras

Mavy Legaspi is all for leaving things in the past, now that his ex-girlfriend Kylene Alcantara is confirmed to be dating Kobe Paras.

The Sparkle actor said he has already moved forward.

"The person's happy. I'm happy. Let's end the year on



a good note na peaceful," he said. "What's done is done also and lahat naman masaya."

When asked if he's ready to cross paths with Kylene, Mavy answered: "I've always been civil. At the end of the day, we're all just looking for happiness in our life."

As of the moment, Mavy said he enjoys his time being single by going to the gym, focusing on his diet and working out.

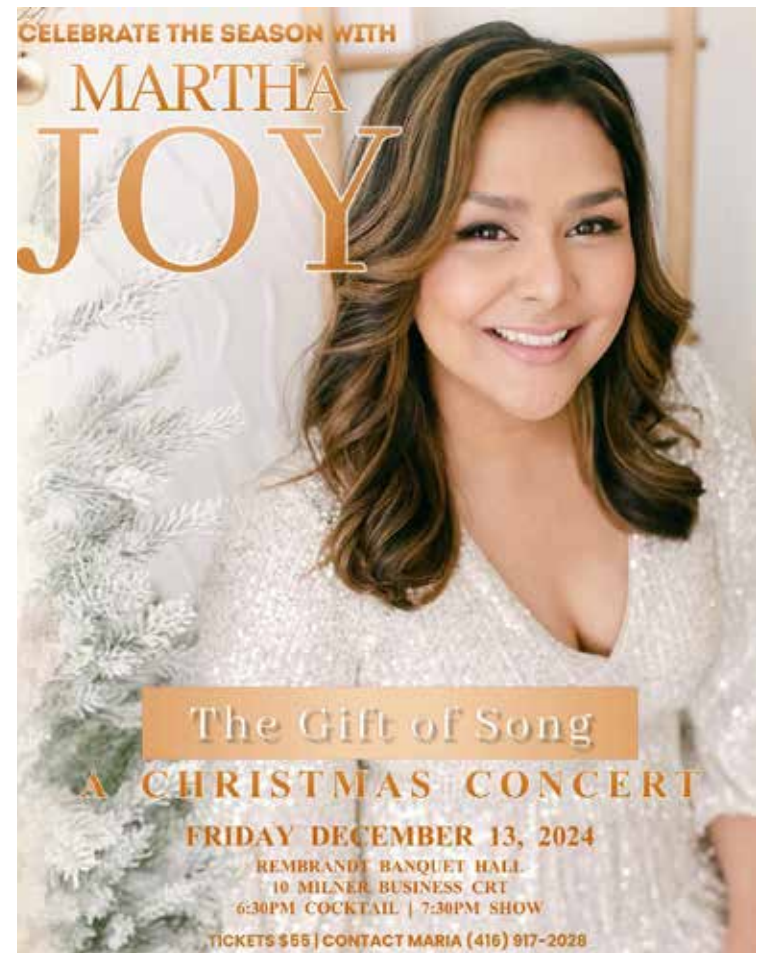
"Ang masasabi ko lang my heart's happy. That's it," he said.

The actor is also gearing for a comeback project.

"I'm actually very focused on diet, and working out. Makikita n'yo in the very near future kung bakit kailangang magpapayat."

Mavy and Kylene previously starred together in "Luv Is: Love at First Read" and "Zero Kilometers Away."

In August, Kylene spoke about their breakup and said that she is still grateful for what she experienced.



Strings and Voices Concert: An Acoustic Night of OPM

by Rose To of ONEPINOY

Toronto, ON — Fans were treated to heartfelt performances, stripped-down renditions of iconic OPM hits, and the intimate connection between the artists and the audience. It was more than just a concert; it felt like a gathering of old friends, celebrating the beauty and magic of Original Pilipino Music (OPM) in its purest form.

Noel Cabangon, who wowed the audience with his incredible guitar skills and smooth, soothing voice. He serenaded the crowd with his famous hits, including the timeless "Kanlungan," which left many attendees nostalgic and emotional. In between songs, Noel shared stories about his early career in theater and musical plays, reflecting on how these experiences shaped him as a musician before he fully ventured into the OPM scene.



The energy shifted when Ice Segueria joined Noel on stage for a duet. Their voices blended effortlessly, creating a harmonious and memorable performance. It was a rare treat for the audience to witness two OPM icons sharing the stage and delivering a duet that felt both intimate and powerful.

After the duet, Ice Segueria took a moment to share a heartfelt message about the

importance of always showing love to those who are special to us. She reminded everyone to make their loved ones feel valued and appreciated every day. With that touching note, Ice proceeded to sing a series of love songs, with her voice carrying deep emotion. Her iconic hit, "Pagdating ng Panahon," brought the house down, reminding everyone to stay hopeful and always look

forward to the future, no matter what challenges come their way.

The audience eagerly awaited Joey Generoso, but to everyone's surprise, Joey came on stage and announced that he wasn't feeling well due to the changing temperatures. However, being the professional that he is, Joey didn't leave the crowd hanging. He called on his good friend and fellow OPM artist, Jinky Vidal, to fill in for him. Jinky took to the stage with grace and power, engaging with the audience, accepting song requests, and delivering powerful renditions that left everyone in awe. Her performance and rich vocals more than made up for Joey's absence, and the crowd loved every moment.

As the night drew to a close, Joey G, Ice Segueria, and Noel Cabangon came together on stage to deliver a final set of

performances. They sang each other's hits, bringing a fresh take on familiar songs. The audience couldn't get enough and even requested encore performances, which the trio happily obliged. Their chemistry on stage was undeniable, and they left the crowd on a high note, thanking everyone who made the night possible. They gave special shout-outs to the producers, sponsors, and the audience for their unwavering support and love.

Kudos to ACC Events for successfully producing such a heartwarming and memorable concert. "Strings and Voices" was not just a showcase of musical talent but also a celebration of the deep bond between artists and fans. It was a night that left everyone inspired, uplifted, and reminded of the magic of OPM.

TYPHOON AID from page 6

rines Sur to provide hot meals to displaced people.

"This response is part of Australia's long-standing partnership with the Philippine Red Cross to deliver immediate humanitarian assistance," said Australian Am-

bassador to the Philippines HK Yu.

"My thoughts are with the communities affected by Typhoon Kristine across Luzon and Visayas. We are in contact with Philippine government partners who are responding to the situation. Australia stands ready to

assist," she added.

Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Huang Xilian also expressed Beijing's readiness to help.

"Sending our heartfelt sympathies to the Filipino people during this difficult time as Typhoon Kristine wreaks havoc.

Our thoughts are with all those affected. We stand ready to lend a helping hand. Stay safe and dry, everyone," he said.

For its part, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) mobilized 50 trucks to send family food packs and relief items to 425,000 af-

ected individuals, particularly in Bicol.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. also earlier ordered the full use of the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) sites for the airlift operations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Lolit Solis insults Kyline Alcantara

Veteran showbiz personality Lolit Solis manages the career of former professional basketballer Benjie Paras, all right. But it absolutely does not give her the right to meddle in any way in his son Kobe's personal affairs.

Let Lolit and Kobe's chance encounter at a recent event at the Okada Manila serve as a lesson or two for the talent manager whose gratuitous remark had apparently miffed the latter.

Not exactly chummy-chummy to each other, Lolit - who thinks she can always get away with her "punchlines" - was audacious to have told Kobe: "Sana man lang ka-level ni Sharon Cuneta o Kris Aquino ang kinuha mong girlfriend! (You should have at least picked the likes of Sharon or Kris for a girlfriend)."

Who else was Lolit referring to other than Kyline Alcantara?

Her tactless, if disparaging comment was enough to make a visibly irked Kobe turn his back and walk away.

"Nairita sa akin! (He felt irritated),"

Lolit even proudly told a reporter-friend on the phone.

With a look of disdain, Kobe didn't vanish from the scene without firing back at Lolit: "Please, walang bastusan! (No disrespect please). You don't say that to my girlfriend!"

Yet if anything good came out of that particular encounter, it was Lolit's no-longer-surprising discovery that Kobe and Kyline are confirmed to be in a relationship. More so, Kobe's boldly taking the cudgels for Kyline only means that he - without a doubt - loves the latter more than the other way around.

Pretending not to be affected by



Kobe's still-polite albeit crystal clear reply, Lolit - as usual - tried to convince her stubborn self that any veteran reporter would have sounded off the same observation anyway.

Hers, though, was a bit too off - it could pass for a lèse-majesté. The peeved Kobe hardly looked at Lolit until he left the event. It was Benjie, who was also around, who apologized on Kobe's behalf.

Speaking for his son, Benjie told his manager that he (Kobe) is not accustomed to showbiz jokes.

Hadn't Lolit made an unfair comparison between Kyline and Sharon/Kris, Kobe would have still been nicey-nicey to her.

Plus the fact that it's not what Lolit said but the manner in which she cracked the joke. Whether Lolit admits it or not, her jocular reference reeked of condescension.

As we all are used to it, it's always Lolit's sharp, double-edged tongue that gets her into trouble. Yet it's also what makes so many others love her anyway.



Maple Leaf Dreams touches the heart of the Immigrant in all of us by BK Jimenez



TORONTO: Watching our own Pinoy movie Maple Leaf Dreams at the famous Cineplex of Yorkdale, popularly the premier shopping centre in Toronto, makes us feel good. Why not, it is showing side by side with big hollywood films (look below). Directed by Benedict Mique who is behind the hit

Netflix film "Lolo and the Kid," the film tackles the life of overseas Filipino workers in Canada played by Kira Balinger and LA Santos. Our good friend co-Canadian Bea Santiago (Ms International 2013) is in the cast.

Amused as the early scenes unfold how romance blooms between Molly (Kira) and Macky (LA) brought about by the dish Dinakdakan (which is popular in the Pinoy fast food rows here). We join their journey

which deals with typical migration problems. The pressures and conflicts become personal - we were a group of 12 who were seated together and each of us felt some stabbing pain... Though I must confess that situations in U.S. are more difficult to deal with (I migrated to LA first before I moved to Canada).

I am not saying Maple Leaf Dreams is without imperfections as a film. But you know what, it reaches the heart of every immi-

grant like us. We all have stories to tell.

Does this film dramatize the subject of migration effectively?

Is migration portrayed in positive terms like an opportunity for economic mobility or greater freedom, or in more negative terms? Are the issues of immigration in this film accurate and realistic?

As some analysis shows, many films have depicted the plight of undocumented immigrants,

economic competition among ethnic groups, problems of cultural and linguistic adjustment, and the generation gap among immigrants and their children.

Also featured in the film are some of my friends - Joey Marquez, Snooky Serna, Ricky Davao and Malou Crisologo.

Go and find time to see Maple Leaf Dreams. It feels sentimental to say hello to yesterday. Makes us smile and feel grateful.

Toronto Lions Kapuso holds a successful Garage Sale By Fe Taduran



TORONTO: The Toronto Kapuso Lions Club would like to extend its most heartfelt thanks to all those who contributed to the success of their Yard Sale, proceeds of which would go towards the construction of toilets for the schoolchildren of Garcia Park Elementary School in San Carlos, Talibon, Bohol in the Philippines.

An added benefit of the ga-

rage sale was the addition of new members. They held an induction ceremony at Agincourt Community Centre a month after.

Church of the Holy Wisdom, DG Julian Austin, Lion Jose Nolasco who coordinated the event, our Table Sponsors/Vendors, Lions Faigal Mitzi (Mitzify Canada), Florida Pardinias, Ferdinand Perez Robes Bebs Brillantes

Efren B. Marquez Maria Lilian Arenas, Emmanuel Yanga Nudge Bicular Chinky Del Mar Joel Famadico Sr. Judith Gonzales, Dario Agustin, Frons Barraquino Ellecort Esteban, April Gonzales, Monet Prado, Nidog Boyet Agbayani, Edel Agbayani, Margie Bayanay, Daisy Famadico, Ellen Galorport Ernie Tanglao Anlyn Aryo Ingie Pardinias Benj Gonzales CM Catral Jeanette Dera-



mos Maria H Tanglao Alexandra Hope Wheeler, Li Eron, Lion friends Robin Soulbird Dennis Conrad Semple Asle Cailin and

our Youth Volunteers. Whatever was left over from the garage sale was donated to diabetes Canada.

Marvin Agustin, Jolina Magdangal reuniting for new movie 'Ex Ex Lovers'



Production company Project 8 Projects has confirmed that Jolina Magdangal and Marvin Agustin are reuniting for a movie.

"HUYYYY!!! ito na ang COMEBACK na hinihintay niyo!! After more than 2 decades, MARJO (Marvin-Jolina) is back on the big screen!" the film outfit announced.

The movie will be titled Ex Ex Lovers and will be directed by JP Habac.

"See you sa mga sinehan next year, mga ka-XXL! #ExExLovers," Project 8 Projects said.

The movie will be in co-production with Cornerstone Studios which also revealed the other cast members of the film.

"A JOLINA AND MARVIN COMEBACK MOVIE?! Marvin Agustin and Jolina Magdangal are returning together to the big screen for Ex Ex Lovers under the direction of JP Habac. The film also stars Juan Karlos Labajo and Loisa Andalio," the film outfit said.

This movie marks the first film collaboration between Cornerstone Studios and Project 8 Projects, following their successful partnership on the productions of Replacing Chef Chico for Netflix and Drag Den Seasons 1 and 2 for Prime.

Fans online were quick to react to the news.

"THANK YOU FOR THISSSS ARRRRGHHHHH MARJO FOREVER," one fan said.

"Yey!!! 'I'm so happy. the comeback movie we all deserve!' another

fan wrote. It was in 2019 when Dan Villegas of Project 8 Projects first teased about the reunion movie.

Jolina and Marvin previously headlined the film a Labs Kita, Okay Ka Lang? in 1998.

In a 2018 interview with Jolina, the actress-host shared that if they were to work on a reunion project, they'd love for it to be a film connected to Labs Kita, Okay Ka Lang? "Gusto namin pelikula eh. Either co-prod or talagang hands on kami dun sa project, dun sa istorya, sa lahat. Basta gusto namin something na kontektado sa Labs Kita, Okay Ka Lang? Kasi 20 years na 'yung pelikulang 'yun eh. So anong nangyari kay Ned at Bujoy talaga, di ba?" she said.

Rita Daniela files complaint vs Archie Alemania

Rita Daniela filed an act of lasciviousness complaint against her fellow Kapuso actor Archie Alemania.

Daniela alleged that Alemania sexually violated her by kissing and touching her without consent after a work gathering hosted by Bea Alonzo.

The singer-actress detailed in her complaint that Alemania had made inappropriate remarks against her, alluding to wanting to

have sex with her at the beginning of the after-work gathering.

After the event, Daniela intended to go home but Alemania insisted and offered her a ride home.

During their ride, Daniela alleged that Alemania forced himself on her by giving her a "torrid kiss." Despite her attempt to break free, the actor groped her by the breast and told her, "Pa-booking naman," pertaining he wants to have sex with her.

Daniela said she was able to get out of the vehicle after giving her all strength. The actor responded by apologizing and saying that he was drunk. Alemania is now out of the show "Widow's War."

Parang nagsisi raw si Bea Alonzo na nagpa-thanksgiving party pa siya para sa mga kasamahan niya sa kanilang drama series.

Dahil iyon sa nangyaring gulo kina Archie Alemania at Rita Daniela na umabot pa sa demandahan. Ang buong akala raw nila ay okay na kay Rita at nag-agree na itong hindi na siya maghahabla.

Samantala, tumatawag pa pala si Claudine Barretto kay Rita Daniela, pero hindi na ito sinasagot ni Rita.

Sabi na lang daw ni Rita, hindi muna siya makakasagot ng mga tawag, dahil gusto muna niyang magpahinga at makasama ang kanyang pamilya.

Sparkle Artist Center has since issued a statement relating the incident.

"We at Sparkle GMA Artist Center are committed to ensuring a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

"We remain dedicated to supporting our artists and ensuring their well-being. We trust that this process will lead to a constructive resolution.



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 ~ Mark Ezekiel Rivera ~
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MARK RIVERA'S FIRST CONCERT

Mark Ezekiel Rivera is a multi-talented 16-year-old Filipino-Canadian known for his work as an actor, singer-songwriter, and musician, hailing from Scarborough, Ontario. His acting career includes playing Ritche Perez in CBC's original comedy series "Son Of A Critch" for its first four seasons, based on the book by Mark Critch of "This Hour Has 22 Minutes" fame. He was nominated for Outstanding Ensemble Cast for Son Of A Critch in the 44th Young Artist Academy Awards.

In addition to acting, Mark Ezekiel has been a part of "HEY MEISHA!" Season 2, a YESTV, Castle TV, and YouTube-based biblical teaching variety show called "Good New Kids." Here, he combines his love for music and entertainment with sharing spiritual messages.

In 2022, he won the Grand Prize for songwriting competition held by Knights of Rizal Central Canada Region for his song "We Will Rise" which was featured on OMNI TV.

Don't miss his first solo concert entitled "Love Of Music" on Dec 7, Saturday at P.C. Ho Theatre at Chinese Cultural Center of GTA. See you there!!!

Patrick Alcedo honoured to receive an Award by Patrick Alcedo

It is a tremendous honour to receive this award for "Remarkable Artistic & Creative Accomplishments" from York University's President & Vice-Chancellor Rhonda Lenton and Vice-President Research & Innovation Amir Asif. This is in recognition of my winning the International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance Documentary Film or Vid-

eo Prize for "A Will To Dream." I am deeply humbled to be honoured along with colleagues Christina Petrowska Quilico and Tim Whiten, giants in the fields of classical music and visual arts respectively. I share this recognition with Luther Perez, the central character in this documentary, and his students: Dax Echipare, Jon-Jon Bides, Justin

Bonganciso, Princess Verona and Raphael Daton. I also would like to thank cinematographers Alex Felipe and JM Soberano, editor and colorist Alec Bell, and my brother Peter Alcedo, Jr. for musically scoring the film. Without them, this film would not have been possible.



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Jake Cuenca recalls struggling days as an actor

Actor Jake Cuenca reflected on the challenges he faced early in his entertainment career.

Through this reflection, Cuenca expressed gratitude for the kindness he received, emphasizing how the support of others can make a significant difference in one's journey.

"When I was a struggling actor, si Dennis (Trillo) ang tumutulong sa akin noon. So many times, nakitulong ako sa condo niya. When you are a younger actor, wala ka namang stylist. So nagpapahiraman kami ng damit.

Jake added: "He's on top of my list na sana makatrabaho ko uli siya. Last time na nakatrabaho ko si Dennis parang noon pang My Neighbor's Wife namin ni Lovi (Poe) and Carla Abellana. Among the younger actors, Jake said he would love to work with Elijah Canlas. "Lagi kong napapansin si Elijah (Canlas). Big fan ako ng movie nila ni Jun Lana." Jake is truly making waves in the industry and remains a standout talent. He has established an impressive career as one of the most dedicated actors of his generation without depending on a regular onscreen partner to boost his appeal. Over the years, he has continued to break new ground by taking on various leading and supporting roles in various television projects. Jake recently starred in the Philippine adaptation of the K-drama "What's Wrong With Secretary Kim," where he portrayed the enigmatic Cyrus "Morpheus" Castillo.

Jake's next project takes him to Netflix with the original film "The Delivery Guy," directed by Lester Pimentel.

His talent for taking on complex and challenging roles allows him to push the boundaries of his craft, solidify-

ing his legacy as one of the most respected and formidable actors in the country.



Camille Prats on dating Carlo Aquino in the past: 'I would count it as puppy love'

Camille graced the latest episode of "Fast Talk With Boy Abunda" with her older brother John talked about their past relationships.

After asking John about his love story with wife Isabel Oli, Tito Boy proceeded to ask Camille: "Ikaw naman ang tanungin ko, hindi na si Kuya. First love? Sino ba talaga 'yang 'C' na 'yan? Tapusin na natin."



"First love ba 'yon? Parang for me I would count it as puppy love. Siguro iyon 'yon. Nagfa-fall siya sa category na 'yon," she answered. "Sino 'yan?" Tito Boy asked once again which was met by laughter from both Camille and John.

He then dropped the bomb by saying: "Puwede bang ako ang manghula? Carlo [Aquino]!" "Oo! Hindi ko naman dineny! 'Di ba? Hindi ko naman dineny!" Camille said. Camille was Carlo's co-star in the 90's youth-oriented show "G-mik" together with John. She is now happily married to VJ Yambao and have two children together: Nala and Nolan.

Camille and VJ, who are proud of their blended family, also have children from their previous relationships.

Meanwhile, Carlo married actress Charlie Dizon in June. The actor has a daughter named Mithi with his former partner Trina Candaza.

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Janine Tugonon on breastfeeding struggles: Harder than pregnancy, CS

When Saskatchewan-based model Willow Allen first started taking prenatal classes during her pregnancy, there were two things about motherhood that immediately surprised her: One: breastfeeding is hard. Two: no one is really talking about it.

“I heard that the most difficult part can be latching them properly, but I didn’t realize how many other difficulties there could be aside from initially figuring it out,” Allen says.

Bedridden and recovering for the



first three days after he was born, Allen was unable

to hold her son, change his diapers or sit up to breastfeed.

Now, Filipina beauty queen and first-time mom Janine Tugonon also talked about her breastfeeding journey, saying she finds it more difficult

than pregnancy and childbirth. The beauty queen-model, who is based in the United States, opened up about this while showing a photo of herself beside her baby’s crib, via her Instagram Stories on Friday, Nov. 1.

“Sup eyebags? Kaya pa, teh? (Are you still okay, sister?)” she quipped.

“Not gonna lie, I underestimated breastfeeding. For me, it was more difficult than the pregnancy, the CS and CS recovery,” said Tugonon, who earlier revealed she gave birth via Cesarean section.

Ryan Bang invites Yeng Constantino to sing a Korean version of ‘Ikaw’ at his wedding

Yeng Constantino promised that she would sing a Korean version of ‘Ikaw’ in the upcoming wedding of Ryan Bang and Paola Huyong.

During the recent guest appearance of Yeng in It’s Showtime, host Darren Espanto told Yeng: “May nagre-request (referring to Ryan) na baka naman sa kasal niya daw pwede kang kumanta.”

Yeng pointed out: “Madlang people, ako naghihintay lang ng invitation e.”

Ryan then invited Yeng to his wedding.

Yeng expressed his happiness for Ryan on his upcoming union. “Ang saya ko. Ang saya ko para sa’yo. Blooming eh,” she told him.

The It’s Showtime host then offered Yeng that he would translate her song “Ikaw” to Korean to sing on his wedding.

“Kahit chorus nga lang noh. Sige nga Ryan, para ‘pag kinanta ko sa wedding niyo damang-dama mo kasi language mo. Aralin ko yan,” Yeng

promised.

It can be recalled that Ryan used to court Yeng in the past.

In January 2022, the two Kapamilya stars became vocal about their past romantic ties in an episode of It’s Showtime.

“Unang crush ko kasi si Yeng. [Year] 2010, ‘no, Yeng? Nanligaw ako kay Yeng,” Ryan recalled.

Yeng clarified that she did not turn down Bang when Vice Ganda asked him how long it took for Ryan to move on.



“Hindi kita binasted! Hindi kita binasted noon. Tumigil na lang siya magpadala ng kape,” she recounted.

Yeng confessed that she felt hurt when Ryan suddenly stopped courting her without any explanation.

“Oo, na-sad ako noon,” she admitted.

When asked if Ryan might have had a chance to be her boyfriend at that time had he continued courting her, Yeng replied: “Siyempre ngayon, iba na, may asawa na ako. Pero noong time na ‘yun, kilig na kilig talaga ako sa kanya.”

Yeng is now married to Yan Asuncion. They tied the knot in 2015.

~ Mark Ezekiel Rivera ~

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Watch her perform on December 7 at P.C Ho Theatre of Chinese Cultural Center for Love Of Music Concert featuring Mark Ezekiel Rivera. See you there!



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PCCF MRS. PHILIPPINES CANADA 2024 CROWNED DURING GALA

PCCF from page 1

and titles; it is about celebrating each candidates' unique stories and giving back to those in need. I am incredibly proud of our 6 beautiful candidates."

The Mrs. Philippines Canada pageant wrapped up a series of notable pageants including the Miss Philippines Canada, Miss Teen Philippines Canada and Little Miss Philippines Canada pageants that took place earlier this year. Attendees included Consul General Angelica Escalona, Senator Asha Seth, MP Anna Roberts, Honorary Consul of Malaysia Henry Lee, TCDSB Trustee Garry Tanuan and various community leaders. The event was also highlighted by the awarding of the Senator Tobias C. Enverga Jr Medal of Excellence to Dr Felicia Magpantay and community leader Mely Titus.

Special thanks to PCCF Co-chairs Lita Leano and Virgie Gagne, emcees Dawn Angue, PJ Gutierrez and Julia Duenas-Miss Philippines Canada 2023. As well as to AFCA, the judges, DJ KSM Sounds, photographer Willy Santiago, the performers, volunteers and to EVERYONE for coming.

The pageant opened with a sizzling Jennifer Lopez opening number choreographed by Jun Danao. This was a number that was months in the making and the ladies' hard work finally paid off. It was followed by the candidates in their Casual Wear, Eve-

ning Gowns, Ternos, Talents and the most anticipated part of the pageant – the Interview. Though their nerves were palpable, each candidate showcased their poise and resilience.

An emotional Farewell walk took place as Madeleine (Maddy) Rivero passed on the crown. Many people may not know this but Maddy suffers from a chronic illness that requires lifesaving treatments at least 3 times a week. But despite this, her beauty and humour always shined through. She was a true inspiration.

The crowning moment went to Greatchen Griffiths! As part of prizes, she won a travel voucher to the Philippines, crown, she will appear in various community events and so much more. Greatchen's Filipino themed-talent and response to the Interview Question made her an immediate stand out to judges. Greatchen is a home daycare owner and a proud member of the Filipino community in Peterborough actively participating in cultural events and performing traditional dances.

All our candidates should be proud of



LEFT, Greatchen Griffiths (Mrs. Philippines Canada 2024),

ABOVE, Multicultural Dance Group

themselves.

The first candidate was the beautiful Imelda Bartolome who hails from Fenelon Falls, ON but was originally from Alicia Isabela in the Philippines. Imelda earned her Bachelor of Education and left for Canada where she worked multiple jobs to earn a living. Imelda's accomplishments are numerous and include supporting students graduate from midwifery school, she was the donor of the annual gift-giving and feeding program to 150 indigent pupils in a school in the Philippines plus so much more.

The next candidate was the gorgeous Melody Medina. Melody is a small business owner and a registered massage therapist. She holds a Bachelor's in Commerce and when asked what her most memorable moment was in her life, she described the birth of her 3 girls.

Hailing from all the way from Clifford, ON is our next stunning candidate, Helen Espinola. Helen graduated from Bicol University and graduated at ABM

College of Calgary. She is a full-time barn worker and is pursuing a career as a section head/team leader. Helen is adventurous and enjoys spending time outdoors. Helen was also the winner of the People's Choice award!

Candidate #4 was the charismatic, Rowena Abad. Rowena's energy was infectious. She holds as a BA in Psychology from York University and is an Insurance/Investment Advisor. Rowena enjoys attending fundraising events, dancing and singing. Among her proudest moments were the birth of her sons and counselling women and children going through times.

Our final beautiful candidate was Ellen Panerio. Ellen who represented Ajax ON but was originally from Iloilo Philippines won Best in Evening Gown. She is a graduate of Bachelor Secondary Education and is a business owner as well as a licensed teacher.

Together, these ladies not only celebrated beauty and talent, but also helped raise vital support for those in need through the Philippine Canadian Charitable Foundation. You are all true queens, shining in your own unique ways and making

"A true role model can come at any age," Rosemer Enverga

PCCF page 23

Mariah Carey declares start of Christmas season this November - for non filipines by Angie Berlin

Mariah Carey has officially ushered the Christmas season with a new holiday video she posted on social media on November 1.

The said clip starts with the singer, portraying Morticia Addams from The Addams Family, dancing with a man playing the role of Gomez Addams.

Towards the end of the clip, Mariah donned her Christmas costume while the man transformed into a snowman as the singer declares the start of the Christmas season.

Mariah's annual Christmas hit "All I Want for Christmas Is You" played by the end of the video.

Christmas start in September

However, just two months ago, Mariah declared the start of the Christmas season. For Filipinos only.

On her Facebook page, Mariah gave a shoutout to her Filipino fans and shared an exclusive link to her hit track "All I Want for Christmas Is You" as the Philippines marks the beginning of the Christmas season this September.



LEFT, Filipinos see Jose Mari Chan start the Christmas season on September 1



RIGHT, Non-Filipinos start Christmas with Mariah Carey on November 1

Music icon Mariah Carey is one with the Filipinos in welcoming the start of the Christmas season September.

On her Facebook page, Mariah gave a shoutout to her fans in the Philippines as she shared an exclusive link to her hit track "All I Want for Christmas Is You."

"Philippines, it's time (only for you!!) I hope you're all safe and well. Let's celebrate together," she wrote.

Filipino fans were quick to react to Mariah's post. "Mariah being so consistent in remembering Philippines' Christmas celebration!! I love you queeeeen!" one fan commented.

"Not the first time she mentioned about our long Christmas season. It feels good [that] she continues to remember it. Thanks Queen Maryah!" another fan wrote.

"Our Queen Mimi! We love you! Thank you for always remembering the Philippines early Christmas celebration 'cause its Ber Months!" another fan posted.

In 2023, Mariah also gave a shoutout to her Filipino fans in the beginning of September as "All I Want for Christmas Is You" gained 316K streams on Spotify.

"I'll allow it for my Filipino lambs though! (I don't make the rules!)," she posted on September 2023.

A music video for the song, released in 2009, has garnered an impressive 787 million views to date.

In 2021, the song received diamond certification from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).

A 2022 report by The Economist estimated that Mariah earns \$2.5 million annually in royalties from the song.

Mariah has consistently shared her deep love for Christmas throughout her career.

"When I'm not on stage and I'm in holiday mode, there are rules that I set. I don't care who it is - the kids, if I have guests, whatever - nobody is allowed to

play or watch anything other than a Christmas-related thing," she said in a previous interview.

"If I wake up in the middle of the night and walk

into the living room, and the music isn't playing and the lights aren't on, I just can't handle it," she added.

Kathryn Bernardo, Alden Richards reveal how they get 'kilig' in imitation game

Kathryn Bernardo and Alden Richards revealed a lot of each other's mannerisms and habits when they gamely took on the challenge of the popular imitation game.

Kathryn and Alden, or KathDen to their fans, sat with GMA as part of the promotions of their highly anticipated sequel movie "Hello, Love, Again," which hits Philippine theaters on November 13. It will also be released in other territories within this month.

GMA uploaded the first part of the challenge called "Imitate Each Other Challenge."

They were first asked how each of them would normally greet each other when they arrive on set.

Kathryn said that Alden usually greets her with a hug and asks her if she had her breakfast. He also greets the staff and their director Cathy Garcia-Sampayan. Alden said that Kathryn arrives in shades and greets people upon her arrival. He also enunciated how Kathryn usually says "hello," noting how she prolongs the last syllable of the word in a perky manner.

They also revealed how each other gets kilig. Alden revealed that Kathryn either contains her kilig or gets bright-eyed and giddy over a particular Hollywood actor.

Alden, meanwhile, is the opposite, said Kathryn. He just sits with his arms crossed and bearing a closed-lip smile but still with his familiar dimples showing.

"Bihira kasi akong kiligin," Alden said.

Kathryn replied, "Oo, hindi talaga siya kinikilig masyado."

The last challenge asked them how they do chika



or share juicy stories. Alden said that Kathryn tends to be invested in telling a story. Kathryn revealed that Alden is entirely her opposite. He turns serious and asks her if she was okay with a particular news.

"Sobrang seryoso. Ganon si Tisoy (Alden's nickname). Quiet lang din," Kathryn said.

Kobe Paras confirms dating 'crush' Kyline Alcantara

Kobe Paras revealed that he is dating his "crush" Kyline Alcantara.

The basketball player sat down with Cosmo Philippines where he answered questions for its "Cosmo Confessions" show uploaded on its YouTube channel last Friday, November 1.

One of the questions asked was Kobe's biggest crush.

"Kyline Alcantara, because we're dating," Kobe replied.

The former Japanese B League's Asian import said that he realized that he had a crush on the "Shining Inheritance" star "early this year."

Kobe described an attractive girl as

someone who is "caring and respectful."

Kyline and Kobe have been the subject of dating rumors this year.

They starred in the video series "Miss Legends," released last September.



Roselle Nava takes Toronto down Memory Lane

by Rose To of onepinoy

TORONTO - Known for her powerful vocals and sentimental ballads, Roselle Nava performed live in Toronto and took her audience on a nostalgic journey through her greatest hits, with songs that have stood the test of time.

A Night of Emotions, Nostalgia, and Timeless Hits

The evening began with an energizing opening number that immediately set the stage for what was to come—an unforgettable night of music and emotions. The crowd was drawn to her performance, making them dance and sing along in their seats. Roselle performed some of her most beloved songs, including her iconic hit, "Huwag Ka Nang Magbabalik."

One of the highlights of the night was her performance of "Keep on Smiling, Keep on Shining," a song that lit up the hall and brought a sense of unity to everyone in attendance. The warmth and joy of the moment reflected Roselle Nava's enduring ability to connect with her fans on a personal level. Her timeless music continues to inspire and uplift, proving that her artistry remains as relevant as ever.

The night wasn't just about Roselle, though. Talented local artists such as Reggie Tortu-

go and Kayleigh Cerezo, along with Marky Hugh Talents Arielle Perez and Pearly Anne Elarda, took to the stage and delivered impressive performances that only added to the night's magic. Their voice and talent complemented Roselle's, making the concert a true celebration of God-given talents.

The Sentimental Diva

Roselle Nava, known affectionately as the "Sentimental Diva," has been a beloved figure in the Philippine music industry since the 1990s. Her songs often speak of love, heartbreak, and hope—emotions that resonate deeply with her listeners. From her early days as a recording artist, Roselle has carved a unique niche in OPM (Original Pilipino Music) with hits like "Dahil Mahal na Mahal Kita" and "Laging Ikaw." Her voice, filled with warmth and emotion, has touched countless hearts, making her a household name in the Philippines.

Throughout her career, Roselle has maintained a reputation for delivering sincere and emotional performances. As a singer who wears her heart on her sleeve, her music has a way of evoking memories and emotions from all who listen. Now, as a wife



ROSELLE NAVA page 23

Why Francine Diaz is thankful to Star Magic

Kapamilya actress Francine Diaz shared the reason she is grateful to Star Magic during a media conference earlier this week. The Dirty Linen star recalled how she was given the opportunity at such a young age to help out her family through Star Magic and ABS-CBN.

Francine signed another contract with the Kapamilya network which has been her home for several years already.

"Sobrang grabe yung pagbabago ngayon na biglang nag flashback saakin. I still remember the day na sinabi sa akin na ipapasok ako sa Star Magic... Tanda ko

na elementary pa ako nun and kakatapos lang nung school ko," Francine recalled.

"It was through Star Magic that her prayers were answered and is continuously being blessed now," she said.

"Yung pagiging Star Magic baby, hindi lang siya for the image eh—it's more than that. Para sa akin, yung araw na kinuha ako ng Star Magic, yung araw din na nagkaroon ako ng maraming opportunities na nagbigay sa akin na matulong ko yung

pamilya ko and hindi ko rin inexpect na kaya ko pala mag inspire ng ibang tao," she shared. "Masasabi ko na yung Star Magic, they helped me to achieve my dreams and the dreams that I have for my family," she added.



Francine Diaz returns to YouTube

Kapamilya actress Francine Diaz shared some good news with her fans.

On Instagram, Diaz announced that she will soon return to vlogging.

"Did you miss my vlogs," the actress wrote in her first post.

"I'm back on YouTube. Soon," she added.

According to the actress, she is "currently shooting for a new content" which she will share very soon.

"Brb. Currently shooting content for my YouTube channel. xoxo," she added.

Last July, Diaz shared to her over 2.2 million YouTube subscribers her new condominium unit.

Diaz, who rose to fame via the afternoon drama "Kadenang Ginto," has also starred in different hit Kapamilya shows such as "Dirty Linen" and "Fractured."

In December, Diaz and her on-screen partner, Seth Fedelin, will be part of the 50th edition of the Metro Manila Film Festival with their movie "My Future You" by Regal Films.

Winter fire safety: Keeping your home safe and warm

(NC) As winter approaches, our homes become cozy retreats. However, the use of various sources of heating can increase the risk of fires. Here are some practical tips to help keep your home safe:

- Check smoke detectors: Smoke detectors should be tested monthly and batteries replaced twice a year. You may consider upgrading to a 10-year lithium battery.
- Keep flammables away from heat: Maintain at least one metre (three feet) of clearance around heat sources.
- Use space heaters safely: Plug them directly into a wall outlet (i.e. do not use extension cords) and turn them off when not in use.
- Maintain your fireplace: Have it inspected and cleaned regularly, and use a sturdy

screen to block embers from entering the living area.

- Create an emergency plan: Ensure everyone knows how to exit each room in the house, preferably multiple way to leave if possible.
- Be cautious with candles: Never leave them unattended; consider flameless alternatives.
- Use caution with holiday decorations: Inspect electrical decorations and avoid plugging too many things into the outlets.

Even with the best precautions, accidents can happen. Find more advice on how to keep your home safe and cozy at belairdirect.com.

Candid CAMERA



Magkano modelling fee mo? Pumasok lang ako, bigla akong binihisan ng asawa ko ng ganito.

Annie Costiniano listens to Paula Arena during the October 30 Filipino Centre Toronto painting class. The class dressed up to celebrate Halloween.

PCCF 2024 GALA

PCCF from page 21

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Are reports true that Enrique Gil has decided to bow out of showbiz?

Nah, the actor is not doing a Liza Soberano who's just as hell-bent on pursuing her Hollywood dream.

Over Liza's former manager Ogie Diaz's



Ianezza Muñoz Greeley goes for a halloween walk with mom Pilar Imperial Muñoz. Rianneh Greeley (ON THE RIGHT) and friend shows off their treats.



online showbiz program, reports that Enrique's first solo starrer last summer, "I Am Not Big Bird," bombing at the tills is mainly the reason behind his early showbiz retirement.

Quen, as he's fondly addressed, felt — in Ogie's words — "medyo (quite) devas-

tated" over its box office aftermath. Quite devastated indeed that he is said to have totally lost interest in what was supposed to be his next teleserye on ABS-CBN, "Incognito."

Ogie couldn't ascertain, though, on whose lap Quen's role landed. Among the

series' major cast members are Richard Gutierrez, Ian Veneracion and Daniel Padilla.

The talent manager cum content creator is pinning his hopes, however, that Quen — whose career he handled over a short period of time — rethinks his mindset on

quitting showbiz. "Otherwise, Quen renewing his contract with Star Magic in 2023 will all be in vain," Ogie laments.

ROSELLE NAVA from page 22

and mother, she continues to share her passion for music with the world, touching hearts with every performance.

A Night to Remember

The night was made even more special thanks to the efforts of the event organizers and producers, Marky Hugh Productions,



Triple A Entertainment, and JE Entertainment. Their dedication to creating a memorable experience for the audience did not go unnoticed. The seamless production, intimate setting, and excellent lineup of artists created the perfect environment for Roselle Nava's music to shine.

The magic of Roselle Nava's performance, along with the incredible local talent, will be remembered for years to come. It was truly a night filled with emotions, nostalgia, and timeless hits—a testament to the lasting impact of Roselle Nava's music.





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Catriona Gray raises funds for young people of Tondo through 'Legacy Ball'

There's no stopping model, actress, singer, and beauty queen Catriona Gray from helping the poor young people of Tondo, Manila.

This is as the former Miss Universe announced the holding of Catriona Gray's Legacy Ball at the City of Dreams Manila ballroom in Parañaque City to benefit Young Focus Philippines on Nov. 22.

During a press conference at City of Dreams, Catriona talked about her big vision for Young Focus.

"The big vision is to reach more kids. There will always be a need for education. It's not about what we want to have, but it's following through on how we're helping in the long term," Catriona said in continuing her support for the private group.

Catriona added: "The problem with education is not a quick fix. It's not handing out meals to feed the empty stomach. It's something that takes years to complete. To see the big picture form takes a long time and a lot of resources. So it's a long-term vision. I'm someone here for the long term, and I hope my dedication to this cause over the years can encourage other people to see the long-term benefits."

The Filipino-Australian beauty queen answered on the possible target funds for the event: "As much as possible." She also hopes the legacy ball will become an annual event to support Young Focus.

Jeffrey Vadillo, Vice President of Cornerstone Entertainment, expressed support for the cause of Carione for Young Focus.

"This event has been Catriona's dream for years, and we're happy to see it come together. We're glad to see more brands wanting to join us in this effort. Let's make a positive impact together!" said Jeff.

Catriona Gray's Legacy Ball is organized by Cornerstone Entertainment, the beauty queen's talent management agency.

Founded by Erickson Raymundo in 2005, Cornerstone Entertainment is a premier Filipino multimedia entertainment agency continuously pushing the envelope in talent management, music, concerts, events, film, and television to provide the best content for Filipinos and



beyond.

At the upcoming fundraising event, guests and donors will enjoy music, fashion, and a sense of purpose. It will be hosted in partnership with City of Dreams Manila, Nobu, and DreamPlay. It will also be co-presented by

Sailun Tires, Belo Medical Group, Uma Nota, Cetaphil, Urban Smiles, Jhaena Jewels, and Strokes Beauty. Tancinco, Mangco, and Associates Law Office will be major sponsors.

Catriona will also auction off select fashion pieces she has worn over the years during the event to raise more



funds. She has been planning the auction since 2020, but the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic has put this initiative on hold.

First time

In May 2016, Catriona and her mother visited Young Focus for the first time. This experience inspired Catriona's advocacy work as she entered the world of beauty pageantry.

She was determined to use this platform to raise awareness about important issues, particularly the significance of education for the urban poor.

Since then, Catriona has raised funds and raised awareness for Young Focus by organizing concerts

both in the Philippines and abroad. After winning Miss World Philippines in 2016 and placing in the Top 5 internationally, Catriona chose to compete in Miss Universe 2018.

During the Miss Universe competition, she became more vocal about supporting Young Focus and the children from the Smokey Mountain area. This brought positive publicity to Tondo and helped enhance public respect for the families living there.

On Dec. 17, 2018, Catriona won the Miss Universe



title. The media attention surrounding her advocacy work for Young Focus increased significantly. This led to numerous interviews and television appearances for both staff and students.

Everyone was curious about Young Focus, what it did, and its thoughts on Catriona's victory. Catriona placed both Young Focus and the people of Tondo in a highly positive spotlight.

Young Focus transformed from a little-known non-governmental organization to the most talked-about organization in the Philippines! The year 2018 concluded with a spectacular finale.

Young Focus Philippines

Young Focus has been supporting children and their families in the Smokey Mountain area of Tondo, Manila, since 2008. They began their work with 225 beneficiaries that year. As of the current school year, 2023/2024, Young Focus serves 936 beneficiaries.

The group believes education is the most effective tool for overcoming poverty among children and young adults. The organization enrolls students, ranging from elementary school age to college, in government education programs. In addition to these programs, Young Focus provides extra tutoring, life skills training, personal coaching, and social support.

Children who have dropped out of school can join our catch-up education programs and then re-enroll in school. Young Focus also offers a preschool for children aged 3 and 4. Young Focus supports the parents throughout the child's education by providing teaching and coaching programs.

Young Focus aims to enhance young people's mental, physical, and social well-being in disadvantaged communities through education, healthcare, and personal support.

It allows poor children and young people to grow intellectually, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually

through education and personal coaching.

Young Focus aims to help young people discover and develop their hidden talents and gifts, enabling them to break free from the cycle of poverty.

The organization provides a brighter future for children from low-income families in the Philippines. Young Focus works directly with children in their environments to maximize their impact.

Programs

The programs of Young Focus are customized for specific needs, enabling children to develop intellectually, creatively, spiritually, and socially.


It enrolls children from preschool to college in government education, providing extra tutorials, life skills training, personal coaching, and social support.

Children who have dropped out of school can join our 'catch-up' education programs and then enroll (again) in school.

Throughout the child's education, Young Focus supports the parents, too, by providing teaching and coaching programs.

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Ex-PBB housemate Jarren Garcia joins Star Music

After his "Pinoy Big Brother Gen11" stint, former housemate Filipino-British Jarren Garcia is now part of ABS-CBN's music label Star Music.

This was confirmed by Star Music via a social media post on Thursday.

In the caption, Star Music expressed its excitement to work with Garcia and his music.

#NewArtistAlert: The newest addition to the #ABSCBNMusic family, Jarren! We can't wait to work with you and your music. Keep supporting and stay tuned! #JARREN," the post read.



Dubbed as "Charming Crooner of London," Garcia charmed the viewers with his charisma and good voice.

His "PBB Gen11" journey ended during the 9th eviction happened last September 28. After his eviction, he returned inside PBB as one of the house challengers.

In 2020, Garcia also joined "The Voice Kids UK."

relationships are sufficient.

"With Jom [Jomari] and I, we have our kids. I think that's enough Jom and I, we will just enjoy our lives and what he says naman, 'It's like having a little girl, I have you sabi niya sa akin. And then, sabi ko, okay it's like having a panganay because I have you,'" Abby added.

(With Jom [Jomari] and me, we have our kids. I think that's enough for us; we will just enjoy our lives together. He once said, 'It's like having a little girl; I have you.' I replied that it feels like having a firstborn because I have him.)



Giving love a second chance

Abby and Jomari dated in their youth and reunited nearly 30 years later. Abby believes that starting as friends first strengthens their relationship.

"During the time of our friendship, we can tell each other anything and I think ayun yung foundation ng relationship namin because we're really good friends. We don't judge each other for what we did in the past," Abby said.

(During our friendship, we can share anything, which I believe is the foundation of our relationship. We are very good friends and do not judge each other for our pasts.)

As their relationship progressed, Abby decided to return to the Philippines to see Jomari for the first time after taking a break from showbiz. Abby expressed that during that period, she experienced mixed emotions.

"Mixed feelings ako that time, pero I think the more excitement is that I'm going to see him na. It was kilig and takot at the same time, and the first thing Jom did was niyakap niya ako," Abby said.

(I had mixed feelings at that time, but the excitement of seeing him now outweighed everything else. It was thrilling yet frightening at the same time. The first thing

Jom did when we met was hug me.)

After four years of dating, Jomari proposed to Abby in Hong Kong and the two said their "I do's" in Las Vegas on Nov. 5. According to Abby they are also planning to have a church wedding in 2025.

Geraldine Jennings finds empowerment amid heartbreak in debut single 'If I Will Ever Love Again'

Up-and-coming artist Geraldine Jennings is stepping into a new era as she launches her debut single "If I Will Ever Love Again" under Star Music.

The track, which was composed by Ogie Alcasid, explores the pain of a tough breakup and wondering if one can find the courage to love again.

Geraldine recounted her reaction listening to the song for the first time and how elated she is to have her first single under Star Music.

"It's about loving someone and the feeling of heartbreak which I'm sure a lot of people have experienced. But I wanted to add a sense of empowerment towards the end of the song that you will be able to love again," the new Kapamilya artist said.

"I'm very grateful and excited to be part of Star Music. It is a very reputable company, so to be able to be part of it for my first ever single is a dream come true," she added.

Geraldine released the music video for "If I Will Ever Love Again" last Sept. 20 where she starred alongside Filipino-German model Kirk Bondad.

At a young age, the budding singer-actress loved watching live performances of various artists. Her passion for music led her to venture into musical theater singing classes.

"As a child, I loved watching performances, concerts, and films on television. From then on, I knew I wanted to also be performing on stage in front of people," she shared.

She was able to showcase her remarkable talent in "Teenstar UK" where she was the youngest finalist in



the British singing competition and in the Open Mic 2020 competition held at the O2 Arena in London where she won the future music development award. She considers Sabrina Carpenter, Dua Lipa, and Katy Perry as her musical influences.

Check out Geraldine's first single "If I Will Ever Love Again" available on various digital streaming platforms. For more details, follow Star Music on Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.

Jinkee Pacquiao receives Gold Play Button for reaching 1 million YouTube subscribers

Jinkee Pacquiao marked a new milestone in her YouTube journey as she received her Gold Play Button for reaching one million subscribers on the platform.

"I'm beyond grateful to have reached the 1 million subscriber milestone and to receive this Gold Award!" she posted on her Instagram page.

The internet personality expressed her gratitude to those who have been supporting her vlogging journey.

"Thank you to each and every one of you for being part of this journey and for your incredible support. This achievement wouldn't be possible without each one of you. Here's to more memories and milestone together!" she remarked.

Jinkee launched her first official YouTube vlog under her "Simply Jinkee" series in February 2020. Her first upload was a vlog featuring her husband Manny Pacquiao just in time for the Valentine's Day that time.

Among her recent uploads were IShowSpeed visiting their home in General Santos City, her trip to Japan and Cambodia with Manny, and the graduation of her daughter Princess.

Jinkee and Manny have been married for 25 years. They have five children: Emmanuel, Michael, Mary, Queen Elizabeth, and Israel.

In September, the couple bid farewell to their daughter, Mary Divine Grace "Princess" Pacquiao, as she left for college in London.



Abby Viduya not keen on having kids anymore after two miscarriages

Actress Abby Viduya, who became Mrs. Yllana after tying the knot last year, shares her honest thoughts about having a child with her husband Jomari.

During her interview with Aster Amoyo on TicTalk, Abby revealed that she has decided not to have more children following her experience of two miscarriages.

"Ayoko na tita my God [laughs], I'm turning 48 this year. Kasi the last time we tried, we lost the baby. I don't want to experience it again, kasi it's the second time it happened," Abby said.

(I no longer want this, Tita. My God, I'm turning 48 this year. The last time we tried, we lost the baby, and I don't want to experience that again since it has happened twice.)

Although the stakes are high for having a child together, Abby stated that their existing children from past

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In defense of Vilma Santos and sons

WILL the Rectos and lone Manzano score a triple victory come next year's mid-term local/national elections?

As everybody knows, two from the illustrious Recto family and one member of the Manzanos are in the political derby — all partymates.

For the executive post, Vilma Santos is running anew as Batangas governor with her eldest son Luis as her runningmate. Vilma's son Ryan Christian by Finance Secretary Ralph Recto is trying his luck as a congressional candidate from the province's sixth district.

Ate Vi, accompanied by her hubby, filed her CoC in the morning of October 3 at the provincial capitol. So did Luis with his supportive wife Jessy Mendiola and Ryan.

The pervasive scent of combined strength in red hue wafted through the air as their entire team flashed their collective optimistic grin amid a jubilant crowd.

It's common knowledge that local politics doesn't sound Greek to the Star for All Seasons.

After all, Vilma had served her full terms straight — as Lipa City mayor, as the first woman governor of Batangas province and lastly as Lipa representative.

Adding them all up, we are talking about 27 long years!

That too long duration though did not snatch Ate Vi from her first love — acting — let alone uproot her from showbiz.

Still very much entrenched in the entertainment biz, she had successfully managed to juggle her schedule without compromising her public servant duties.

Having incredibly achieved such a feat, let her gubernatorial bid anew serve as a challenge to the naysayers out there. I dare say — counting in every voting precinct in the entire Batangas, this early, is over!

Ate Vi, however, isn't the complacent-type. If I knew



Vilma Santos (center) is running anew as Batangas governor with her eldest son Luis Manzano (second from right) as her runningmate. Ryan Christian Recto, meanwhile, is the congressional candidate from the province's sixth district.

her well enough, like anybody else, she still finds herself on pins and needles.

Never been a bit too confident, as she always says: "Ang tao naman ang magdedesisyon (It's up to the

voters)."

This is perhaps the reason why the actress needed Luis to partner with her.

Already exposed to the Batangueños whenever Ralph could not make it to barangay activities (such as financial assistance payouts, etc), it's Luis who's in the front line where he gets to hobnob with the locals who share their unpleasant stories worth listening to.

Ate Vi emphasizes the need for a synergized partnership with Luis: "All because he represents the new blood. He's tops as far as technology is concerned since we're in the social media age."

This makes her youngest son no different from Luis, having witnessed his mother's getting into public service the very first time.

"Imagine Ryan was only three years old then and he's 28 now? He grew up understanding my work more than my being in showbiz."

This is essentially Ate Vi's reaction particularly addressed to some quarters who question both of her sons taking a political shot.

Modesty aside, she can feel the genuine kindness and sincerity in Luis' and Ryan's hearts to be of help and service even to those they randomly come across.

"Hope for the best, God will take care of the rest," as Ate Vi's oft-repeated, if hackneyed aphorism.

Aware of the fact that this world is replete with ne'er-do-well bashers — no matter how you please them — the gubernatorial shoo-in has this to say:

"They're prepared!"

And as far as how the Batangueños perceive of them as vice governor and representative, respectively, is concerned: preferred.

Bashers, eat your heart out!

Joshua Garcia shares what he learned in his 10 years in showbiz

Kapamilya actor Joshua Garcia shared how good relationships with everyone are important if you want to stay longer in the showbiz industry. Answering in front of the different members of the press in attendance for his media conference, the Un/Happy For You star revealed this is one of the biggest lessons he learned in his decade-long career.

Joshua signed another exclusive contract with ABS-CBN — his home for the past decade.

The Kapamilya star credited some of the veteran and seasoned actors that he worked with such as

Sylvia Sanchez and Dimples Romana for the lessons they taught him.

"Ang isa sa pinagsasalamat ko ay marami akong nakatrabaho na beterano na aktress at aktor. Sila yung nagtuturo sa akin kung paano dapat makihalubilo sa mga tao — di lang basta sa mga artista. Importante din yung may relationship ka sa production, sa crews," he shared.

He added how important his relationship is with the fans as well, making sure that they are also given attention to every now and then.

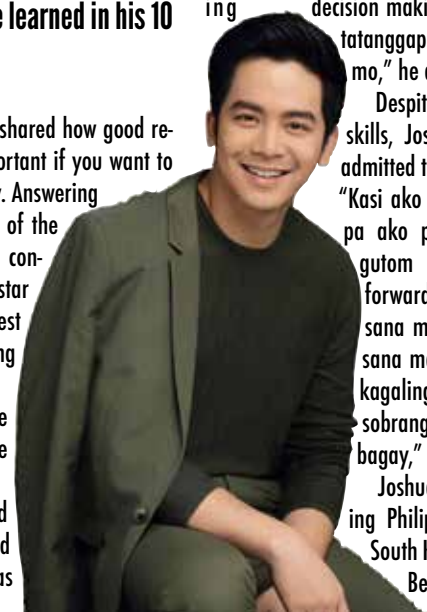
"Tapos how to handle the fans kasi of course may mga times na nag shosshoot kami nadudoon sila, nanunood. Pwede mo sila pagbigyan pero pagkatapos na ng shoot, pero dapat pagbigyan mo," he added.

In the same interview, Joshua was asked to give a lesson for his younger self.

"Magtiwala ka lang sa mga decisions mo kasi yung pagtiwala mo sa mga decisions mo, dadalhin ka sa mas magandang lugar. Yun lang din yung ginawa ko nung buong journey ko eh — nagtiwala lang ako sa decisions ko, nagtiwala lang ako sa gut feel ko. Andam-ing decision making sa trabaho na to — kung tatanggapin mo or ito ba yung gagawin mo," he advised.

Despite being praised for his acting skills, Joshua remained humble and admitted that he still has much to give. "Kasi ako mismo di ako satisfied — di pa ako puno. Nandun pa rin yung gutom ko... May bagong nilook forward, may bagong goal na sana makagawa rin ako ng ganito, sana makaarte rin ako ng ganitong kagaling. May ganun ako lalo na sobrang competitive ko sa lahat ng bagay," he shared.

Joshua is set to star in the upcoming Philippine adaptation of the hit South Korean series, It's Okay to Not Be Okay, alongside Anne Curtis.



Who is Sam Milby's favorite leading lady?

Sam Milby shares his reason why he can't choose his favorite leading lady.

Kapamilya actor Sam Milby shared that he can't choose a favorite leading lady among those whom he has worked with in his almost two-decade career in the industry. This revelation was made during a media conference after his contract signing with ABS-CBN.

Sam has worked with several talented ladies which include Anne Curtis, Julia Montes, Yen Santos, and Toni Gonzaga, among many others.

The Kapamilya star reasoned how unfair it would be for the rest of the leading ladies he had if he were to choose



one. "Parang as a gentleman, hindi ko kayang sabihin kasi I've been blessed to have worked with so many napakagaling and so professional and so respectful na leading ladies. I kind of want to leave it at that because I feel like it's wrong to just cherry pick one," he shared.

When asked about who he wants to act alongside in the new generation of talented Kapamilya actresses, Sam shared he can't choose as well due to his age..

"Honestly, I'm getting older so it's hard for me [to choose]. We have to admit, itong business na ito, it's a young market. It's harder habang tumatanda ka. I just turned 40. I feel the age actually. There are so many amazing, talented actresses sa ABS-CBN and I honest-

ly wouldn't say that there's one that I would love to work with," he added.

He then continued that while he is getting older, he admitted that he isn't afraid of losing his spotlight in the industry.

"It's something that you have to accept. I mean, showbiz, is not a very stable job kumpara sa mga iba. You can have your a successful show-- ang ganda-- tapos after two years wala ka ng trabaho. It happens," he shared.

"It's something that I understand na nangyayari, you have your peak, sometimes you feel like it's survival mode. I just feel so blessed right now," he maintained.

Despite this realization, the Kapamilya leading man is grateful to be with ABS-CBN for several more years.

"That's why being here for the contract signing, I feel napakablessed. I'm going to be here as a Forever Kapami-

lya for the next few years also," he shared.

Sam is set to star in the Philippine adaptation of Saving Grace set to air on Prime this year.

Matteo Guidicelli attends Harvard Business School

Actor-entrepreneur Matteo Guidicelli looked back on his scholastic experience as he attended the Harvard Business School recently.

"Here at Harvard Business School, diving deep into learning with some of the best professors--truly inspiring stuff!" he said in a post he shared on his Instagram page.

Matteo remarked that attending the school did not only provide him with learnings but also made him gain connections and friends.

"Spent hours behind the desk with my books and pen, connecting with classmates from all over the world and



across so many industries. Built amazing relationships and took away experiences I'll always remember. Definitely one for the books! #changingthegame @harvard-hbs" he said.

Friends and fans online of the actor were quick to praise Matteo's effort for continuous learning.

"Good for you Matt! Precious experience and learnings!" Karen Davila commented.

"Congratulations one of the best business schools," another fan wrote.

Aside from acting, Matteo has been managing several businesses.



In tribute to his Italian heritage, Matteo, along with his sister Giorgia Guidicelli, opened Da Gianni Cucina Italiana Restaurant in 2015.

In a previous interview with Metro.Style in 2018, the actor relayed that the restaurant is dedicated to his Italian grandparents.

"On my days off from the set, I'm usually here serving. That's what I love doing, connecting with the customers. What's fun is you get to meet a lot of nice people," Matteo said.

The actor went on: "I think I got this from my grandpa. If we're at the long table, he's the one who gives shots to everybody or laughs. Nonno was the entertainer talaga."

In October 2023, the actor launched his very own studio with his wife Sarah Geronimo called G Studios.

In a previous interview with Karen Davila, amid juggling different businesses, Matteo highlighted that show business is his and Sarah's core business.

"I think it's very, very important to have a diversified portfolio, but again our core business is the show business," Matteo said.

He pointed out: "Show business is not just all about the fame or it's not all about the money that we want, it's more about the change that you can create with the perception of media kumbaga kung ano 'yung nilalabas namin, anong kanta ang nilalabas ni Sarah, anong pelikula ang nilalabas ko, ano ang ginawa natin sa mga vlogs, this inspires, makes the next person believe in something more for the next day to become a better person."

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