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**The Transcendent  
Journey of Julie Anne  
San Jose  
Page 12**




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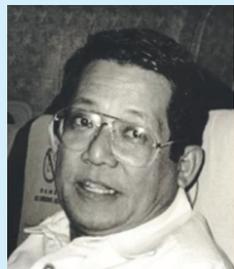
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### August in PHILIPPINE HISTORY

#### ASSASSINATION OF NINYO AQUINO



On August 21, 1983, former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" S. Aquino Jr. was assassinated at the Manila International Airport upon returning home from a three-year self-exile in the United States. The murder sparked a series of protests from an enraged nation that culminated in the February 22-25, 1986 EDSA People Power Revolt, forcing then President Ferdinand E. Marcos to flee to Hawaii.



## QUOTABLE QUOTES

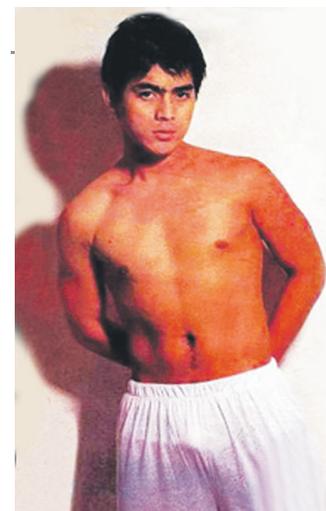


*run as Vice President in the 2022 elections to secure immunity from prosecution.*

"Mr. Duterte, again, the ICC does not recognize immunity or impeachability in going after criminals. Di ka maisasalba ng pagiging VP. Feeling mo naman. Kung talagang matapang at inosente ka, just face the music. Ano ang ikakatakot mo? Ma-Tokhang? Kawalan ng due process? Karma?" – *Senator, Human Rights and Social Justice champion* **LEILA DE LIMA** on President Rodrigo Duterte's bid to

### DUTERTE ENDS #SONA2021 WITH A PEE JOKE, TO THE DELIGHT OF CONGRESS

"Pati ako nagmamadali na, kanina pa ako nai-ihi" (I'm hurrying this speech to the finish line because I need to pee real bad.)



"What in heaven's name was the President doing looking at raunchy pictures of Mayor Isko Moreno in the midst of the country's runaway misery?" – **INQUIRER OPINION** on President Duterte's challenging Manila Mayor Isko Moreno's "moral ascendancy," which observers interpreted as retaliation on Moreno's laying the blame for the chaotic rush to vaccination centers in several cities to "somebody's" reckless statements threatening to bar unvaccinated citizens from leaving their homes or getting cash assistance.

"Props to Isko Moreno for keeping his cool...This is what we need from leaders in difficult situations — the maturity to ignore political noise, the level-headed leadership to focus on the job at hand, and the decency to do what is right" - *Former Senator* **JV EJERCITO** on the recent tension between Manila Mayor Isko Moreno and President Rodrigo Duterte on the distribution of aid in the capital city.

"The veiled attacks against Mayor Domagoso's (a.k.a. Isko Moreno) persona may well be the signal to the administration's misinformation armies to accelerate demolition operations against all possible threats in the opposition to ensure another six years in power." - *Former Ombudsman, Sambayan Convenor and Supreme Court Associate Justice* **CONCHITA CARPIO-MORALES**



"Pinag-uusapan pa lang namin 'yung mga pakiramdam namin about the elections, ano ba iyong stand namin about this or that issue. Mga ganun pa lang yong mga tinatanong ko. Wala pa naman pinag-uusapan kung sino ang susuportahan.." - *Vice President* **LENI ROBREDO** on her 'exploratory talks with Senator Manny Pacquiao

## HEADLINES

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[Inquirer.net](#)

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**MGA MAGSASAKA KAY DUQUE: LAYAS NA KUNG MAY DELICADEZA PA!**  
[Abante](#)

 **Philippines**

Coronavirus Cases:

**1,765,675**

Deaths:

**30,462**

Recovered:

**1,629,426**

**As of August 17, 2021**

# Why Rodrigo Duterte has already lost

By Gideon Lasco / Second Opinion / Inquirer.net

President Duterte has already lost because he has failed in his most nefarious goals. Sen. Leila de Lima is jailed but not silenced; Maria Ressa is indicted but unbowed; ABS-CBN is off the air but still online. Despite his attempts to marginalize her, Vice President Leni Robredo is still standing, and even leading the nation during the pandemic in his stead. And despite pushing for charter change, federalism, or nationwide martial law, he has failed in his attempts to stay in power unlike his idols Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping—likely rebuffed by key actors unwilling to participate in his tyrannical moves.

Even his clenched fist has now been transformed—thanks to artists like Kevin Eric Raymundo—into a symbol of defiance.

Another reason why he has already lost is that, as his State of the Nation Address—hollow and rehashed—has made clear, he has failed the Filipino people in his promise of change, and of doing things in a better, more inclusive, unifying, empathetic way as compared to his predecessors. He won the presidency by painting P-Noy as a demon, but all that he's managed to do is to make him look like a saint. Far from ending corruption, he has embraced some of our most corrupt politicians. Far from defending the country, he has surrendered our pride if not our patrimony. Far from ending criminality, he has become the very embodiment of it with his genocidal drug war and equally violent campaign against activists.

Fake news no longer works as well in 2021 as it did in 2016; the same can be said of the President's now-comedic "I will solve so-and-so in 3–6 months." Surely, like all administrations, the current one can point to some accomplishments. But it is the dolomite beach in Manila Bay that symbolizes much of what it has done for the country: superficial, unnecessary, arbitrary, and wasteful.

Finally, and perhaps most crucially, Mr. Duterte has also lost because, no matter what position he runs for after his term, justice is running after him. He pulled the country out



of the International Criminal Court, but it did not stop the process. He is planning to run for VP, but neither would that suffice to block his ultimate prosecution—if not in the courts, then in the historical record. He has declared that he will refuse to cooperate, but his noncooperation will only make him look like a fugitive, especially since "if you have nothing to hide, you have nothing fear" has been one of the mantras of his police state.

This narrative of Duterte the loser—at this point more of a provocation than a prediction—is, of course, hard to recognize, given that his ability to wreak havoc remains fully intact, and his decisions continue to shape people's everyday lives especially during the pandemic, during which he has had the final say on where people can travel and whether they should wear face shields. And of course, he may yet attempt a bolder bid to stay in power, knowing what electoral defeat will spell not just for himself but for every Bong, Dick, and Harry that has enabled his regime.

But we cannot give him too much credit, let alone the air of inevitability in 2022 and beyond. Being in Malacañang for five years may have made him feel all powerful, but he is far from being an omniscient Emperor Palpatine. Indeed, this is a man with finite powers, and like all other politicians, especially those who have failed in their promises, his popularity will slowly but surely fade away—if not already. The fact that even his former henchmen are now standing up to him, the fact that surveys put him at a mere

18 percent in vice presidential preference, the fact that Hidilyn Diaz's historic gold was not even necessary to render his Sona irrelevant—all these mean there's a big (and growing) part of the country that's desirous of change.

All of these should give us courage and hope to challenge him, and certainly, not to give up on our country and on promising candidates in the coming elections—and for those

prospective candidates in turn not to lose hope in their own chances.

President Duterte has already lost—and we as begin the long and painful process of moving past him, the real challenge is how our nation can win amid the damage he has done and the deeper, structural problems he has failed to address.

(Source: <https://opinion.inquirer.net/142603/why-rodrigo-duterte-has-already-lost#ixzz72slyds00>)

## How would you grade President Duterte?

### REPORT CARD NG BAYAN

PANGALAN: **RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**  
POSISYON: **PRESIDENTE**  
TAON NG PANUNUNGKULAN: **2016-2022**



MGA BATAYAN	MARKA: /5
<b>KALUSUGAN</b> Nagsagawa ng malawakang contact tracing at murang testing, nagbigay ng suporta sa mga ospital at fronliners, at tiniyak na may agad at sapat na bakuna laban sa COVID-19	
<b>KASARINLAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ipinaglaban ang soberaniya at karapatan ng Pilipinas sa West Philippine Sea</li> <li>Hindi ipinailalim ang Pilipinas sa impluwensiya ng ibang bansa</li> </ul>	
<b>KARAPATAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nagpakita ng pagkilala sa karapatang pantao at kalayaan sa pamamahayag</li> <li>Naghatid ng sapat na serbisyo gaya ng edukasyon, pagkain, hanapbuhay, at pabahay</li> </ul>	
<b>KABUHAYAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sinolusyunan ang kawalan ng trabaho, paghina ng ekonomiya, at pagdapa ng mga negosyo dulot ng pandemya</li> <li>Nakapagbigay ng sapat na ayuda at tinugunan ang pangangailangan ng mga magsasaka at mangingisda</li> </ul>	
<b>KASARIAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nagpakita ng respeto sa sektor ng kababaihan</li> <li>Gumawa ng mga hakbang tungo sa pagkilala ng mga karapatan ng LGBTQ+ community</li> <li>Kumilos para matigil ang karahasang batay sa kasarian ng isang tao</li> </ul>	
<b>KALIKASAN</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May sapat na aksiyon para labanan ang climate change</li> <li>Nagpatupad ng mga bagong paraan ng pagtugon sa kalamidad, lalo't sunod-sunod ang mga bagyo, baha, landslides, at pagputok ng bulkan</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b> Panalo (Excellent)	<b>4</b> Pasado (Acceptable)
<b>3</b> Puwede na (Bare minimum)	<b>2</b> Pahirap (Unacceptable)
<b>1</b> Palpak (Failure)	





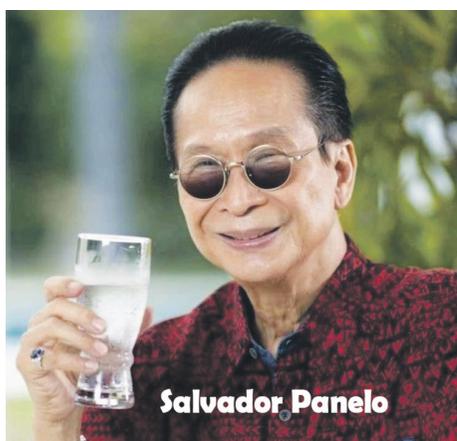
## PINAG-UUSAPAN

### ONE ASTONISHING LIFT AND HIDILYN DIAZ MAKES HISTORY

One lift, one 127kg clean-and-jerk lift, was all that separated weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz from being forever written into the Philippines' sporting history. She heaved the weights onto her shoulders, and staggered. Then she steadied herself - and thrust the weights up into the skies. And with that, Diaz ended the Philippines' 97-year wait for an Olympic gold medal on Monday (26 July), when she emerged triumphant in the women's 55kg division at the Tokyo International Forum. The 30-year-old lifted 97kg in the snatch and 127kg in the clean and jerk, with her combined total of 224kg putting her above silver medallist Liao Qiuyun of China (221kg) and bronze medallist Zulfiya Chinshanlo of Kazakhstan (213kg). Upon making the winning lift, Diaz dissolved into a flood of tears with her coaches. Years of sacrifices - of being stuck in Malaysia due to COVID-19, of training in makeshift gyms - have finally caught up with the diminutive but intense athlete. "I've never lifted 127kg before, ever. But somehow I did it tonight. God must be guiding me," she told Yahoo News Singapore later. **(Yahoo)**



### CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL COUNSEL SALVADOR PANELO PRESENTED A DIAGRAM TO THE MEDIA THAT INCLUDED HIDILYN DIAZ AS PART OF AN EXTENSIVE MATRIX OF PERSONS PLOTTING TO DEPOSE DUTERTE



Salvador Panelo

The president himself did not apologize, which some have interpreted as continuing affirmation of the validity of the diagrams. Instead, Duterte dismissed the issue by telling Diaz to "let bygones be bygones" during her courtesy call, which some read in subtext as a "word of advice" to Diaz that she's lucky to be still alive and not riddled with bullets so kalimutan mo na yang mga matrix-matrix

na yan.. "You already have the gold. Gold is gold. It can be good for you to just let bygones be bygones and dwell solely on your victory together with your family and, of course, with the nation," said President Rodrigo Duterte. **(Yahoo Philippines)**

### DUTERTE'S FRATERNITY BROTHER ABANDONS BID FOR A SUPREME COURT SEAT

Commission on Elections (Comelec) Commissioner Antonio Kho, President Duterte's fraternity brother, has withdrawn his name from the list of those vying



to become an associate justice at the Supreme Court. Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra, an ex-officio member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), confirmed Kho's withdrawal in a text message to reporters. Guevarra said Kho did not provide a reason for his withdrawal. But he said Kho first indicated his intentions in an Aug. 3 email. He then officially informed the JBC "through a letter," Guevarra said. Mr. Duterte appointed Kho to the poll body in July 2018, following his resignation from the Department of Justice. Both Kho and Mr. Duterte are members of the Lex Talionis Fraternity **(NewsInfo.Inquirer)**

### DOH APPEALS TO HEALTH WORKERS ON MASS RESIGNATION PLANS: "SANA MAPAG-USAPAN"

The Department of Health (DOH) said it is willing to listen to angry health care workers' demands and concerns, days after they bared the plan to commit mass resignations as more hospitals get overwhelmed with COVID-19 admissions. In a public briefing, Health



Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said the medical workers' plan would have a negative effect on the country's hospitals as the Philippines battles another surge of infections. Many hospitals have already declared critical to full capacity. "Sana po mapag-usapan natin lahat ito pong inyong mga hinaing para hindi tayo umabot sa ganitong aksyon dahil ito po ay makakaapekto sa sitwasyon natin na kailangang-kailangan po namin kayo... ng ating mga kababayan," said Vergeire. Health workers in private hospitals and medical institutions in the country are considering a "medical lockdown" due to reported low salaries and lack of benefits, according to a labor union official. UST Hospital union president Donnel John Siason on Thursday said private sector health workers are frustrated that they are not receiving benefits which their counterparts in the public institution have been given. But the health department said their channels are open for the health workers' concerns. "Kung mayroon po tayong mga hinaing, kami po ay patuloy na nakikipag-ugnayan sa mga organisasyon ng health care workers at amin pong pinapakinggan ang kanilang mga dinudulog at kung magagawa namin agad-agad, ginagawa namin agad-agad kung ano ang mga kailangan nila." **(ABS-CBN News)**

### ROBREDO ON DUQUE-RESIGN CALLS: IT LEADS NOWHERE IF THE SYSTEM STAYS

Vice President Leni Robredo said that calls for Health Secretary Francisco Duque III's resignation wouldn't amount to anything if the system that causes underspending of budget for COVID-19 response is not changed. In her weekly radio program, Robredo also emphasized that good governance is of extreme importance especially when lives are at stake, adding that hospitals badly need the funds in the fight against the pandemic. "Kahit magbitiw, kung hindi mag-improve ang sistema wala rin" (Even if Duque resigns if the system doesn't improve, it will lead to nothing), said Robredo, when asked for comment on calls for Duque to step down from his post. Commission on Audit's (COA) flagging the Department of Health (DOH) over deficiencies in the use of the P67.32-billion COVID-19 response funds rekindled calls for Duque's resignation. "Ang importante sa akin iyong moving forward. Ano makaka-improve?" (What's important is how do we mover forward, how to improve the system), she said. **(GMA NETWORK)**



# Duterte stops cash assistance to poor Manila residents because Manila Mayor Isko Moreno criticized his handling of the covid crisis

*Political analysts say this 'garapal' move illustrates Duterte's predisposition to abuse presidential powers to paralyze political enemies*

Rodrigo Duterte's recent moves against Manila Mayor Isko Moreno as an example of abuse of authority for political gain, a political expert says.

While conceding that Duterte legally has the power to determine who distributes aid from the national government, equally clear are his motivations in wielding such a power, said Ateneo de Manila political science professor Carmel Abao.

"It's not only unfair, it's foul play.... It's foul play because as sitting President, his job is to ensure that elections are fair and free but he's obviously just protecting his own interests," she told Rappler last August 10, 2021.

"He's abusing his authority and using the office of the presidency for his own political agenda. In Tagalog, we call that 'garapalan (shamelessness),' she added.

Duterte said he would withhold from Moreno the power to distribute lockdown cash assistance that has already been downloaded for distribution to Metro Manila local governments.

The President justified this by claiming Moreno was "disorganized" and could not pull off an efficient distribution of aid, citing the chaos that ensued in Manila vaccination sites the day before the August lockdown in the National Capital Region. Swarming at vaccination sites happened in other parts of the region, like Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, and Parañaque.

University of the Philippines political science professor Ela Atienza, meanwhile, sees Duterte's words as a "warning" to local government executives who dare to criticize his administration.

"He will attack them publicly, even with accusations that have no clear evidence. This is consistent with his style," said Atienza.

She also pointed out that hours after Duterte's outburst, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) is yet to enforce his order against Moreno.



PHOTO: Richard Heydarian.com

This might be another case, said Atienza, of the government backtracking "when they get negative feedback on some occasions."

If Duterte were fair, Abao said, he would have first ordered the DILG to conduct an investigation into the swarming at vaccine sites to determine who is at fault.

Moreno's response to reporters asking for his side on the matter was to send photos of certificates from the national government attesting to orderly distribution of aid by Manila City Hall.



***Duterte disparages Moreno for his past as an actor in sexy roles, saying that such a background is unbecoming for a future president, establishing clearly that his remarks were about the 2022 elections and not about the covid crisis***

president, establishing clearly that his remarks were about the 2022 elections that will determine his successor.

On Duterte's digs at Moreno's sexy photos from his past as an actor and model, Abao thinks the President is just hoping to dent the Manila mayor's popularity.

"I don't think he really cares about those pictures or its impact on people's morals. He's doing this so that Isko's popularity ratings don't go up any further," said Abao.

She pointed out that Duterte had no moral qualms about appointing a former sexy dancer, Mocha Uson, to key posts in government.

"Why hit Isko but not Mocha – for exactly the same situation?" said Abao.

Uson, who leads a group called Mocha Girls and has sex tips videos online, was once presidential communications undersecretary and is currently Overseas Workers Welfare Administration deputy administrator.

Duterte was not critical of Moreno until recently, when the Manila mayor was floated as a potential presidential candidate in the 2022 elections. In 2018, Duterte appointed Moreno as an undersecretary at the Department of Social Welfare and Development but it was a brief stint as he resigned to run for Manila mayor in 2019.

In September 2019, Duterte even publicly praised Moreno, saying, "Bilib ako sa kanya. Kaya nanonood ako noong nagsasalita siya. Mas mahusay siya keysa sa akin, sa totoo lang."

(I believe in him. I was watching him speak. He is better than me, truth be told.)

Lawyer and political science expert Tony La Viña said these praises from Duterte precisely make his latest outburst against Moreno "not credible." – Rappler.com

(Source: [https://www.rappler.com/nation/elections/experts-say-duterte-using-powers-political-agenda-vs-isko-moreno?utm\\_source=onesignal&utm\\_medium=notification&utm\\_campaign=2021-08-10-GARAPALAN](https://www.rappler.com/nation/elections/experts-say-duterte-using-powers-political-agenda-vs-isko-moreno?utm_source=onesignal&utm_medium=notification&utm_campaign=2021-08-10-GARAPALAN))

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*...because, you'd still rather  
PARTY at Gerry's*

## Cover Story

# JALEN GREEN

## FilAm Sportstar on the Rise



In the world of sports, there are only a handful of pairings, if any at all, that stay as strong and as existentially apt as the words 'Filipinos' and 'basketball' within a sentence. And as far as Philippine basketball is concerned, no rising star is more incandescent than that of Jalen Green's at the moment. In the 2021 NBA Draft, that time-tested partnership of 'Philippines' and 'Basketball' just got tighter as Fil-Am star Green headed to the Houston Rockets in shooting guard position and as the second overall pick.

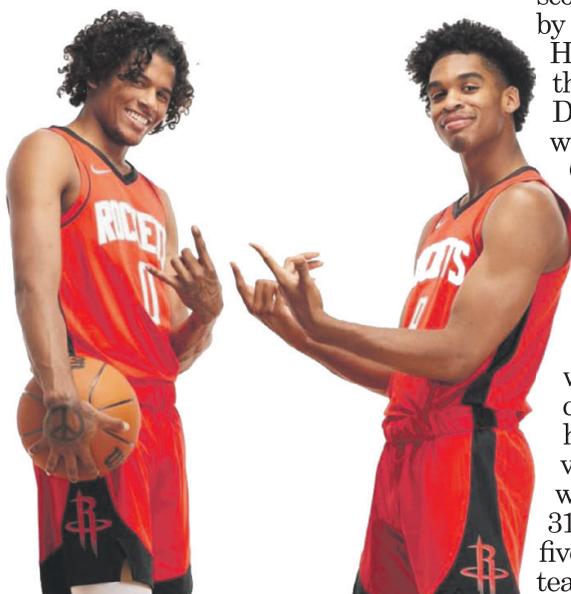
And just in time as well! At 6 foot 6 inches and 82 kilograms of physical movie star good looks, the rise of Jalen Green amidst the doom and gloom of a global pandemic is certainly lifting the spirits of the Philippine sporting scene, complementing in no small measure the current crop of Filipino Olympic medalists

Born with a basketball

Born in Merced, California on February 9, 2002 to Marcus Green and Bree Purganan, Jalen's love for basketball was evident at an early age. In sixth grade, he was already playing Amateur Athletic

Union basketball and practicing for five hours each day

For his first three years of high school, Green played basketball for San Joaquin Memorial High School in Fresno. As a freshman, he was a full-time starter and averaged 18.1 points and nine rebounds per game. He led his team to a CIF Central Section Division II runner-up finish and the CIF Division II quarterfinals. He earned Max Preps Freshman All-American second team and CIF Central Section rookie of the year honors. In his sophomore season, Green averaged 27.9 points and 7.7 rebounds per game, leading San



Joaquin Memorial to a Central Section Division II title and the CIF Open Division playoffs. He was named MaxPreps National Sophomore of the Year and made the USA Today All-USA California second team.

As a junior, Green averaged 30.1 points, 7.8 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game for San Joaquin Memorial. He won his second consecutive Central Division II championship. In the title game, Green surpassed the school career scoring record of 2,288 held by Roscoe Pondexter since 1971. He also helped his team reach the CIF Northern California Division I quarterfinals. Green was named USA Today All-USA California player of the year and appeared on the All-USA second team and MaxPreps All-American second team. For his senior season, he transferred to Prolific Prep in Napa, California. He helped his team win the Grind Session World championship. In March 2020, he shared Grind Session most valuable player honors with Daishen Nix. Green averaged 31.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and five assists per game, leading his team to a 31-3 record. He was

named Sports Illustrated All-American player of the year and to the Max Preps All-American first team. Green was selected to play in the McDonald's All-American Game, the Jordan Brand Classic and the Nike Hoop Summit, but all three games were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Filipino blood

Jalen's Filipino blood goes as far back as his great-grandfather, who hailed from Ilocos Sur, and Green himself has never shied away from professing his love for his heritage, even after reaching the biggest stage that basketball has to offer.

"Man, I'm always excited to represent the Philippines. So, the fact that there are ties in Houston, it's kind of like it was scripted. So, I'm excited to take that out there, just represent and put on [a show] for the Philippines," he said shortly after getting drafted.

Green became the highest-drafted player with Filipino descent since Raymond Townsend was picked 22nd overall by the Golden State Warriors way back in 1978.

Since that time, only one other Pinoy has stepped foot into the NBA, and he just so happened to be one that Green is most looking forward to facing: Utah Jazz spark plug Jordan Clarkson.

Just how excited is he for that future match up with the reigning Sixth Man of the Year? Well, the way he answered the question was pretty much a dead giveaway.

"I'm excited, I can't wait, I cannot wait, I can't wait, I'll tell you that much," he said.

Now with the offense-heavy Rockets, Jalen is expected to fit in seamlessly into that role of lighting up momentum and pace with thunderous dunks and long pull-up threes.

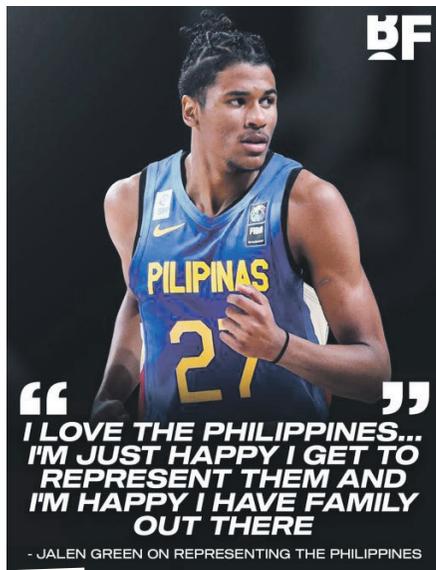
Green is by no means a pure-blooded Pinoy. He cannot speak Filipino, nor is he even eligible to represent the Philippines in international competitions.



*Jalen's love for basketball was evident at an early age. In sixth grade, he was already playing Amateur Athletic Union basketball and practicing for five hours each day*



Rnd.	Pick	Player	Pos.	Nationality <sup>(n)</sup>
1	1	Cade Cunningham	PG	United States
1	2	Jalen Green	SG	United States
1	3	Evan Mobley	C/PF	United States
1	4	Scottie Barnes	PF	United States
1	5	Jalen Suggs	PG/SG	United States



per game in the bubble to key Head Coach Brian Shaw's team to a postseason appearance.

- Listed at 6-foot-6 with a wiry 178-pound frame to go along with a 6-foot-7 wingspan, Green has good size for a shooting guard. Even if lacks a degree of physical strength, his unique

combination of speed and effortless explosiveness has long made him an electric finisher in the open floor and an increasingly dynamic shot creator as his game has matured.

- Playing both on and off the ball alongside veteran NBA points guards Bobby Brown and Jarrett Jack, Green nonetheless had significant freedom to look for his own shot off the dribble serving as the Ignite's first option. While his lack of physicality played against him in spots, he gained experience executing in a pro-style offense, created separation impressively with his first step, and showed the ability to make pull-up 3's with solid consistency and sharp footwork. Thriving in transition thanks to his athleticism and instincts but leaning on his pull-up jump shot in



But the one thing he shares with his fellowmen, other than his rabid love for the game, of course, is his pride in recognizing where he came from, no matter what heights his talents may take him to.

"The Philippines loves me for being me. So, I'm just going to keep being myself. I'm going to keep working hard, and stay in the gym," he said.

"It's not really a responsibility, it's the game I love, and they support me, so I just can't wait to get out there and just put on a show for them. I'm excited."

Synergy Sports Profile

• Jalen Green is a lanky, exceptionally athletic guard whose improvement as a shot-maker shined for stretches during his season with the inaugural G League Ignite team. Emerging as one of the top prospects in the high school class of 2020 early in his career thanks to his blend of explosiveness and upside as a scorer, Green earned gold medals at the 2017 FIBA U16 Americas Championship, 2018 FIBA U17 World Championship, and 2019 FIBA U19 World Championship before capping his prep career at Prolific Prep Academy (CA) with McDonald's All-American honors. Opting to become the first player ever to join the G League Ignite instead of playing a year of college basketball, the California native weathered uncharted waters last season. Despite the unique circumstances, he averaged 17.9 points, 4.1 rebounds, and 2.8 assists

the half court, Green made clear strides as a scorer in his first season at the professional level, but still has significant upside as his frame and floor game matured.

- Learning on the job defensively in a shortened season, Green had some solid stretches against more seasoned competition. While he gave up strength in many matchups defending both guard spots and his consistency remains a work in progress, his quickness was a factor on the ball and in the passing lanes.

Advanced Stats

- Green's explosiveness translated seamlessly to from high school level to the professional ranks. Averaging 1.38 points per Transition possession [96th percentile], his speed filling lanes, athleticism to catch lobbs, and ability to change speeds and find an angle against scrambling defenses pushing the ball himself made him one of the G League's most efficient open court scorers.

• In the half court, Green did much of his damage off the dribble operating out of quick-hitters, getting an opportunity to create out of ball screens as a secondary ball handler, and leaning pretty heavily on his ability to create one-on-one. Possessing a tremendous first step and the footwork to get to his pull-up in a variety of ways, Green had no trouble creating separation against more mature defenders. Scoring 0.92 points per jump shot in the half court [48th percentile], he showed improvement as a perimeter threat from his prep days which was most apparent when he was rising into deep jumpers off hang dribbles and step backs. Making open set shots at a strong rate but finding mixed results in the midrange and against effective closeouts, the 19-year-old guard made obvious progress with his mechanics and showed the ability to put points on the board routinely when he found his range, but still has plenty of room to grow as a perimeter scorer.

- Averaging 1.20 points per shot around the rim [62nd percentile],

Green finished consistently inside, but did not put a lot of pressure on the rim as he created more shots in the midrange than he did in close in the half court. As he gets stronger and more reliable from the perimeter, he has some room to evolve as a slasher.

- Creating more as a passer some nights than others, Green has room to tighten up his handle and decision-making operating out of ball screens. While he is still learning to play with pace and manipulate defenses, his athleticism and budding talent as a perimeter scorer shined at times as a rookie in the G League.

Defensive Analysis

- Green possesses solid tools as a defender, but faced a steeper learning curve defensively than he did offensively in the G League. With the quickness and dimensions to hold his own at both guard spots as he matures, he showed more consistent energy last season than he did at the prep level but is still learning how to deal with physicality and stay disciplined possession-to-possession.

(Sources: <https://www.rappler.com/sports/nba/jalen-green-raring-face-jordan-clarkson-represent-philipinos> / [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jalen\\_Green](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jalen_Green) / <https://www.nba.com/draft/2021/prospects/jalen-green>)



The shooting guard comes to the Rockets after going straight from high school in California to the NBA G-League. The 6-foot-6, 186-pound Green averaged 17.9 points, 4.1 rebounds and 2.8 assists a game for the Ignite last season. "Jalen is a uniquely blessed guy," Stone said. "He's a transcendent athlete. Normally people that athletic aren't as skilled because they can just rely on their athleticism. And so we think that that combination of things and tools just makes him an extraordinarily exciting prospect."

# Julie Anne San Jose embarks on an extraordinary journey in 'LIMITLESS, A Musical Trilogy'

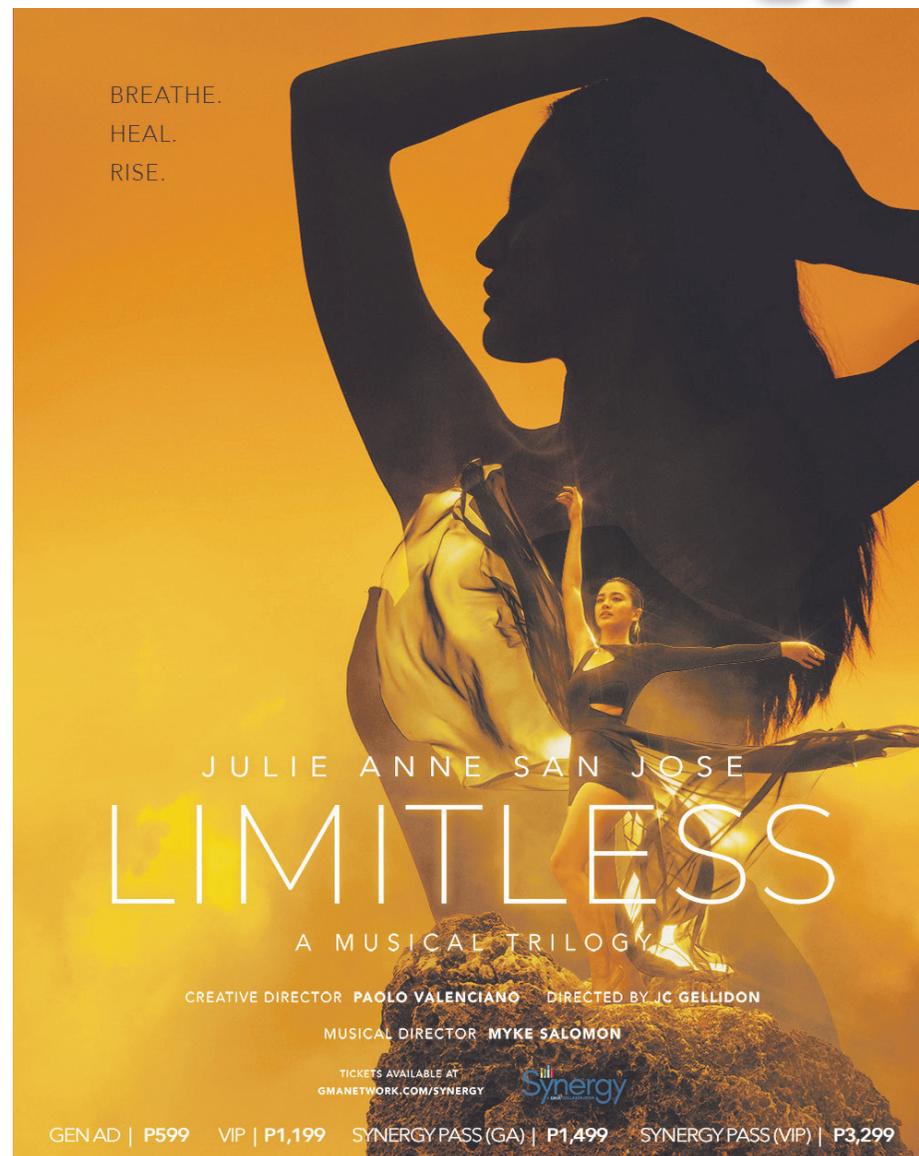
Asia's Limitless Star Julie Anne San Jose unleashes her musical prowess in the extraordinary musical journey "LIMITLESS, A Musical Trilogy" with the first part premiering on September 17.

"LIMITLESS, A Musical Trilogy" is set to unveil the different facets of Julie as a singer, songwriter, dancer, actress, and multi-instrumentalist as she travels to the three island groups of the Philippines where she discovers new inspiration in unexpected locations in Mindanao, Visayas, and Luzon.

Witness how Julie shows a new side of her that she has never shown before. Here she shares what she can do as a performer and what she has to go through to become limitless.

"Any artist would be very excited to be part of this unique project," shared Julie. "And for me to be able to share my talent and my experience to my fans here and abroad is something I am truly excited for. I am grateful to GMA Network and GMA Synergy for trusting me with this one-of-a-kind endeavor."

This journey of discovery is



something everyone can relate to, especially now that we have to stay home again for our safety.

"Each of us is still trying to deal with the trying times and to be able to produce a musical trilogy like LIMITLESS and to have it seen by people not only here in the Philippines but in every part of the world is something I hope will inspire everyone to keep on seeing the good things around us," the Asia's Limitless Star added.

For the first leg, Julie flies to Mindanao on a great adventure. Against the picturesque sceneries, she meets the locals and learns more about their culture and values.

Julie also collaborates with Kapuso homegrown talents and local artists from all over the country.

For the September 17

leg, Julie will be joined by Asia's Romantic Balladeer Christian Bautista and The Clash alumnus Jong Madaliday, who is actually from Mindanao himself. Julie will work with Myke Salomon, the musical director behind the hit musicals "Huling El Bimbo" and "Rak of Aegis." JC Gellidon is the director of photography.

A versatile artist, Julie is one of the hosts of GMA's top-rating program 'All-Out Sundays.' She is also set to return with Rayver Cruz as Clash Masters in the all-original musical competition 'The Clash.' She bannered the GMA rom-com series 'Heartful Café' opposite David Licauco and will soon be starring on an online video streaming platform's musical series "Still" alongside Christian Bautista.

Julie was recently featured

on a digital billboard at the iconic Times Square in New York City. The said billboard was for Spotify's EQUAL campaign, which encourages users to listen to amazing women all around the world.

"We have been a witness to Julie's powerful stage performance during GMA Synergy's highly-successful 'Kapuso Concerts' series 'The Sweetheart and the Balladeer' as well as '3 Stars, 1 Heart,'" said GMA Regional TV and Synergy First Vice President and Head Oliver Victor Amoroso. "LIMITLESS, A Musical Trilogy is set to unleash Julie's musical prowess that we have never seen before and we cannot wait for her fans here and abroad to be part of this new musical experience which begins on September 17," he added.

"As one of GMA's finest homegrown talents, Julie has flourished to become one of the best performers in our country and is now beginning to be recognized abroad as well. This is why we are excited to present to Julie's fans this musical trilogy, 'LIMITLESS' because we know that Julie's talent will take her fans to limitless heights when they join her in this musical journey," shared First Vice President for Business Development Department III Darling De Jesus-Bodegon.

*The biggest revelation comes to Julie as she searches for new inspiration in this journey of discovery that takes her to unexpected locations in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao*

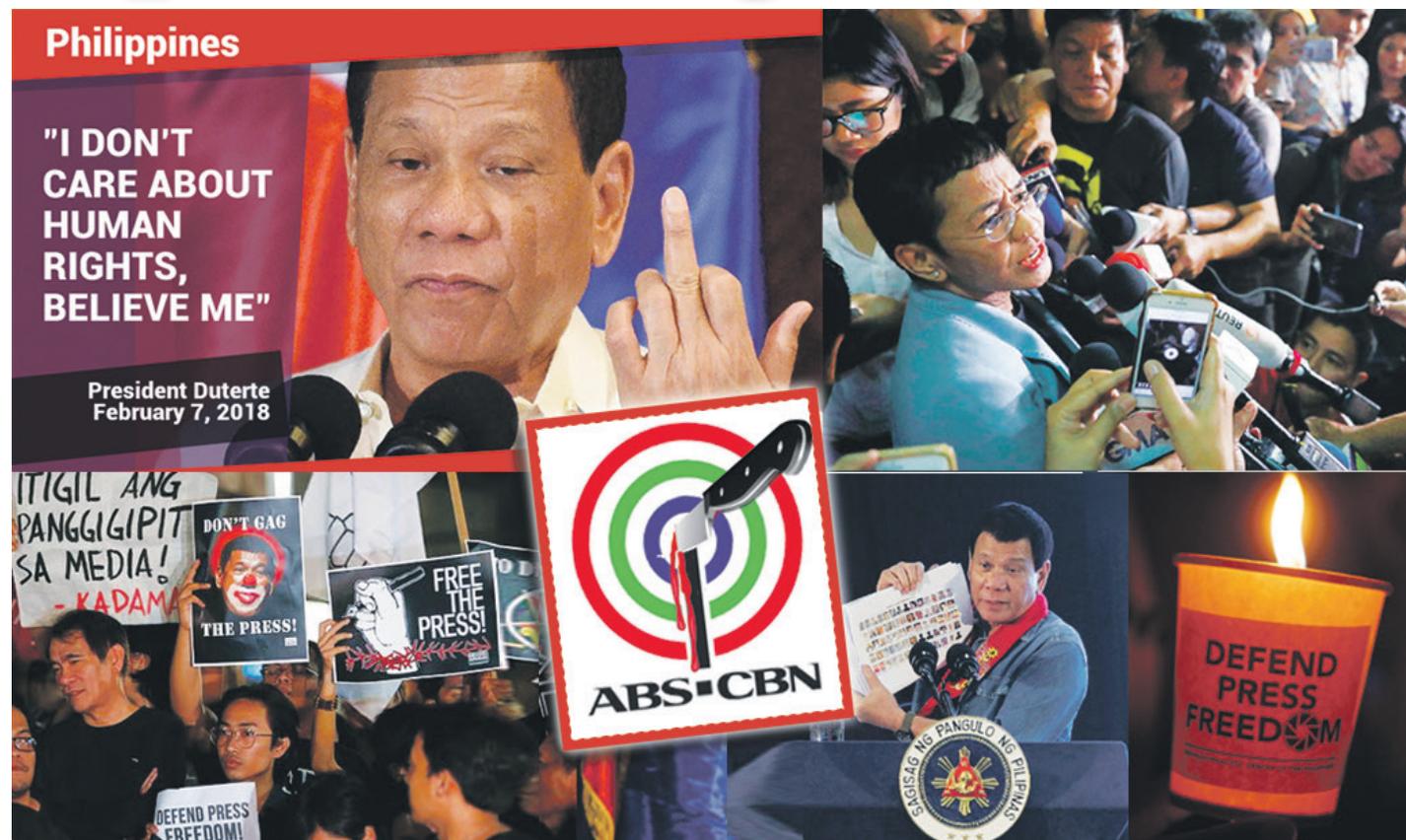
# How Duterte re-designed the media landscape in the Philippines to implement his agenda

**A**nalysts and critics picture the heads of media corporations as proto-monarchs in the age of democracy --- information bosses who enjoy “power without responsibility” to the point where their media propaganda and string-pulling make them influential political players capable of making and unmaking government.

Media bosses are political kingmakers. Like other businessmen trained in the grammar and philosophy of rent-seeking, they invest on political relationships with the powers-that-be by financing their campaigns or projects.

Big media firms are not much interested in governmental power for mischievous personal ends. Their chief concern is to secure existing investments and to consolidate their flanks by winning bigger and better deals. That is

*Big media firms are not much interested in governmental power for mischievous personal ends. Their chief concern is to secure existing investments and to consolidate their flanks by winning bigger and better deals. That is why, if they consider it to be in their interest, they will deal with any government and enter willingly into its arrangements, even when they fall far short of the standards of monitory democracy*



why, if they consider it to be in their interest, they will deal with any government and enter willingly into its arrangements, even when they fall far short of the standards of monitory democracy.

Duterte knew this from the get-go, despite being a rookie in national politics in 2016. The media for one created and propagated his “Dirty Harry” image as Davao City mayor. He was good material for journalists to pick with his crackling sound bites and simple-man attitude.

But provincial Duterte was in no mood to humor Imperial Manila’s media bosses, who are directly or indirectly connected or collaborating with his political enemies and election adversaries. This can be gleaned from the media co-optation toolkit, as well as the economic/legal and extra-legal measures, he employed against ABS-CBN, Inquirer and Rapper when he assumed the presidency.

*(Excerpted from 'Duterte's Toolbox of Media Co-Optation' / Kyoto Review / https://kyotoreview.org/issue-27/dutertes-toolbox-of-media-co-optation-mainstream-media-vs-illiberal-democracy-in-social-media/)*

## Manila court drops cyber libel case vs Maria Ressa, Duterte's most hated media practitioner



A Manila court has dismissed the cyber libel case against Rappler CEO Maria Ressa and reporter Rambo Talabong, after the professor involved in the disputed thesis-for-sale story dropped the case.

“The Regional Trial Court of Manila, Branch 24 issued an order in open session last August 10 dismissing the case with prejudice against Rambo Talabong and Maria Ressa after the complainant Mr. Ariel Pineda submitted an affidavit of desistance, which he affirmed in open court,” Ted Te, lawyer of the Rappler journalists, said in a statement dated August 12.

Te said that the Rappler journalists and Pineda agreed to “update the story with information that was obtained after the case was filed.” While Te welcomes the dismissal of the case, he says it’s time to revisit the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012, which criminalizes libel.

*(Source: https://www.rappler.com/nation/manila-court-dismisses-cyber-libel-case-rappler-ressa-talabong)*

# 'I'm no fan of Noynoy'

*A critic's tribute to former President Noynoy Aquino*

By Ana Catalina Paje / Contributor / Yahoo Philippines

I am not a fan of the late President Benigno S. Aquino III. During his term, I was at the height of my idealism. I was an activist in one of the most progressive universities in the country. I was on the streets, in the sidelines of protests against his austerity measures and neoliberal policies.

I am not gonna attempt to sugarcoat things. I was against everything he stood for – the oligarch family he was born into and the privileged life that came with it, his parents' liberal politics, and the equally rich cronies he put into seats of power.

This elitist brand of patronage politics left me yearning for drastic change. Six years later, and in comes this dark horse from the South. Rodrigo Duterte was a wild card and underdog promising that change we all wanted.

But as the curtains rose in Duterte's house of horror, bodies began to pile up. The blood of drug suspects, activists, media workers, lawyers, and innocent citizens spilled onto streets across the country. Just a year into his presidency, people have already begun to question whether this is the change they so badly wanted.

Five years past Aquino's term, age has mellowed me. And I am able to see things from a different perspective – less radical, but more pragmatic.



faced at least a dozen criminal accusations and investigations.

Yes, Aquino was far from perfect. But back then, those who dared to question his policies were not locked in jail cells or worse, brutally murdered.

I would be lying if I say that I am now suddenly a fan of Aquino, a person's death should not exonerate him and erase his mistakes. But frankly, I doubt I will ever be a fan of any president. And to be honest, I don't think anyone should.

Worshipping a political figure, much in the same way that the Duterte Die-Hard Supporters (DDS) is with Duterte, will blind them from faults.

I offer my condolences to the Aquino family but I still hold him accountable for the Manila hostage crisis, the Mamasapano ordeal and the PDAF scandal. Those two things should never be mutually exclusive.

(Source: <https://ph.news.yahoo.com/comment-former-philippines-president-noynoy-aquino-critics-tribute-054540623.html>)



officials were professionals and experts in their fields.

Free press thrived under Aquino's term, whereas Duterte cracked down on critical media. He threatened to shut down ABS-CBN. While his administration denied involvement, the network giant lost its bid for franchise renewal in Congress. After publishing reports critical of Duterte's policies, particularly his violent drug campaign, journalist Maria Ressa and her news outlet Rappler

What seemed hypocritical to me back during Aquino's term, I now see as diplomatic. Juxtaposed against Duterte's shameless swearing and outright misogyny, I now see Aquino as a man of few but calculated words. In hindsight, I now see that Aquino ushered in great economic progress. He did not trumpet landmark victories like the West Philippine Sea arbitral ruling. Duterte, meanwhile, has never missed an opportunity to blow the horn on his Build, Build Build project. Unlike Duterte, who filled his Cabinet with military officials, Aquino's Cabinet



# Biden owns the Afghan exit debacle, but his six predecessors are also to blame

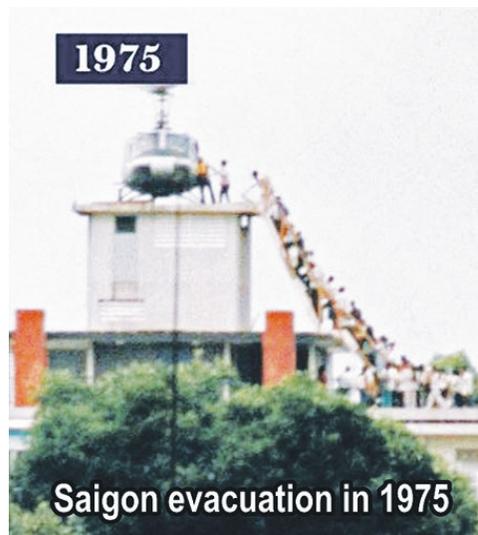
By Gus Mercado

In analyzing the military and human tragedy that is unfolding in Afghanistan, George Santayana's warning rings loud and clear: "Those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it." In trying to justify the U.S.' sudden and chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan, President Joe Biden and his Secretary of State Antony Blinken assured the American people that the withdrawal "will not be another Saigon, or another Bay of Pigs fiasco."

Alas, televised news from the Afghan airport showed a grim spectacle that was eerily similar to the evacuation of the Vietnamese from the rooftops of the US Embassy by US military helicopters during the fall of Saigon. Thousands of Afghan civilians stormed the airport and tried to climb aboard the US transport planes however way they could. Some held on to the underbelly of the plane and fell to their death. About 650 Afghans were allowed to board the US Air Force C17s and flown to safety. But the optics from the chaotic evacuation were gruesome and did not bode well for President Biden and his administration who are now being blamed for the catastrophe. All they could offer for the intelligence failure that led to the rushed evacuation is the lame excuse that the fall of Kabul came much faster than expected and that the 300,000-strong Afghan army whom they had funded, trained and armed to the teeth for 20 years just gave up without a fight. The result was not surprising but still shocking. The Taliban occupied the entire country effortlessly in just a few days.

World historians have a lot of sympathy for the people of Afghanistan, which for centuries carried the dubious name "graveyard of empires." Most generations of Afghans never saw their country at peace. It was always at war, and always occupied and oppressed.

Although the Afghan crisis is now Biden's problem, at least six past US presidents share part of the blame. A brief historical perspective may help in understanding how we came to this. Unbeknownst to many, both Saddam Hussain of Iraq and Osama Bin Ladin of Al-Qaeda were original creations of the U.S. Incredible but true. Saddam and Iraq were supported and supplied with massive military equipment by the U.S. during the Iraq-Iran War. Before that, the US under Ronald Reagan supported Bin Ladin and the Afghan warlords against the occupying Russians. Then they ended up turning against America, biting the hands that fed them. Such is the history of American foreign policy that always relied on the myth of military supremacy which in the end is no match against the enemies'



enormous and fanatical will to fight. The US should have learned from the painful lesson of South Vietnam that folded against the inferior military but ferocious fighting spirit of the North Vietnamese. In retrospect in Afghanistan, President Obama, while celebrating the US victory against the Taliban and the eventual elimination of Osama Bin Ladin, should have started the withdrawal process from the God-forsaken country 10 years ago instead of perpetuating the nation building strategy of his predecessors. The trillions of dollars wasted could have been better spent re-building America.

Looking back a few decades, Ronald Reagan funded the Mujahideen "holy warriors" in their fight against the Russians. After the Russians were defeated and driven away, the US government under George H. Bush allowed the Taliban to take power. Bill Clinton adopted an appeasement strategy and did not do anything to stop the Taliban from their oppressive rule and extreme implementation of Islamic laws that were detrimental to women and children. The Taliban at the same time harbored the Al-Qaeda who exported terror to the US mainland.



George W. Bush started the 20-year U.S. war in Afghanistan by invading the country after 9/11 and driving away the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. What followed was 20 years of civil war and nation building that cost the U.S. billions of dollars every month, propping up corrupt regimes and building a huge military machine to keep the Taliban at bay, invoking memories of South Vietnam and pre-Castro Cuba. After Osama Bin Ladin was killed by US special forces 10 years ago, Barack Obama chose to stay in Afghanistan and fight the Taliban, and in fact ramped up the US presence with troop deployments of more than 100,000 at its peak, continuing the nation building, and coddling of corrupt and ineffective leaders. Biden claims that he was consistently and vocally against the US' policy of nation-building.

Then came the infamous "capitulation meetings" in 2019 and again in November of 2020 between the Trump administration and the terrorist organization (deliberately excluding from the negotiations the inept but legitimately-elected Afghan government whom they sold out and demoralized). Trump even wanted to invite the Taliban leader to Camp

David in the U.S. but his advisers objected. While giving undeserved legitimacy to the murderous Taliban at the meeting at Doha, Trump and then State Secretary Pompeo promised the complete withdrawal of the US troops by end of March 2021 and agreed to release 5,000 Taliban and Al-Qaeda prisoners who quickly re-joined the Taliban army. What concessions did Trump and Pompeo extract from the Taliban in return? Practically nothing. The prospects of a Taliban re-invasion of Afghanistan that eventually ensued was not even discussed.

So, since Biden has always been against nation-building in Afghanistan, strongly going against his boss Obama 10 years ago, he made his unfortunate choice of honoring the Trump's agreement to withdraw in 2021 instead of keeping the already minimal 3,000 US forces in place and preserving some stability and preventing escalation of hostilities. Biden's mistake was underestimating the Taliban, ignoring the CIA's warning, and his misplaced confidence in the US-built and funded Afghan security forces. Only last month he said: "How can an insurgent force of 70,000 defeat a well-trained and well-equipped Afghan army of more than 300,000?"

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:** Undoubtedly, Biden now owns the Afghan problem, including the refugee humanitarian crisis that could soon follow. But historians will agree that his six predecessors from both parties were also to blame. All the way back to Reagan who armed the warlords against Russia, to Bush Sr. and Clinton who did nothing about the ruthless reign of the Taliban, to George W. Bush who ordered the invasion and started the nation building process, to Obama for ramping up the military occupation to more than 100,000 US troops only to draw down later as the enemy became stronger, and finally to Trump who essentially gave the country back to the Taliban last year by all accounts unconditionally. Understandably, the truth is often hard to accept for some who are mainly focused on current events and what they see on CNN.

Nation building in a devastated country and re-molding it according to western values and ideology might have been successful in the Philippines, Japan and Germany after World War II, and South Korea after the Korean War. But nation building in current times and in countries that are deeply entrenched in medieval ideology will not work and can be self-defeating. (Reactions to this article may be sent to [gusmercadotx@gmail.com](mailto:gusmercadotx@gmail.com))

# FILIPINO ATHLETES TO WATCH OUT FOR ON THE ROAD TO PARIS OLYMPICS

**The Philippines closed out a performance for the ages in the Tokyo Olympics with an unprecedented medal haul of 1 gold, 2 silvers, and 1 bronze. The question now on everybody's mind is whether this could be surpassed, or at the very least equaled, in the next edition of the Olympics.**

Who are the athletes who could possibly be back for the 2024 Paris Olympics? Who are the others who stand a chance of qualifying? Silver medalists Nesthy Petecio and Carlo Paalam have already declared that they will gun for the gold in 2024. Petecio will only be 32 years old by then while Paalam will be at the prime of his career at just 26 years old. Bronze medalist Eumir Marcial has one foot in the world of professional boxing after he fought his first pro fight last year. Marcial looks poised for success as a pro and might be focused on the next chapter of his career which is to be a world middleweight champion.

The country's first ever gold medalist, **Hidilyn Diaz**, has mentioned she will be joining the SEA Games and the Asian Games, both scheduled next year. She has remained non-committal about giving it another run in Paris. Among the reasons is the International Weightlifting Federation's (IWF) status with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that puts the sports inclusion in next quadrennial meet in peril. But Diaz has given so much to the national cause that she deserves to call the terms whether or not she goes for her fifth straight Olympic appearance. If the green light continues to flash for weightlifting in Paris, there is also a line of potential successors to Diaz.



**Elreen Ando** gave a good account of herself in Tokyo when she finished seventh in the women's 64 kg event. Ando could barge into the top 10 of the world rankings by next year.

**Mary Flor Diaz**, Hidilyn's cousin, clinched a bronze in her first SEA Games in 2019, then brought home three silvers from the 2021 Asian Weightlifting Championships. Diaz is currently 18th in the world in the women's 45 kg.

One name that Filipino fans should be excited about is **Vanessa Sarno**. Turning 18 years old this September, Sarno is a gold medalist in the 2019

Asian Youth and Junior Championships and the 2020 IWF Online World Youth Championships. In this year's Asian Championships, she once again bagged gold medals. the International Weightlifting Federation ranked Sarno fifth in the 71 kg category.

Another Zamboanga native like the Diazes, **Kristel Macrohon** is currently 15th in the IWF World rankings. Macrohon is a 2019 SEA Games gold medalist. She is also an Asian Championships bronze medalist. In the 2020 IWF World Cup held in Italy, Macrohon snagged a bronze in the women's 71 kg event.

**EJ Obiena** may have missed out on a podium

finish this year, but he is bound to get better and improve on his world standing. He is currently the No. 6 ranked pole vaulter in the world. Obiena should be one of the favorites in Paris.

**Kristina Knott** could try to qualify in both 100 meters and 200 meters. Two others members of the national team in athletics, Natalie Uy of pole vault and William Morrison of shot put, are close to the Olympic qualifying marks, which they could hit in time for the Paris Games.

Taekwondo's **Kurt Barbosa** is just 22 and will surely be a strong bet to qualify anew for the Olympics. Fellow jin Pauline Lopez will be trying for the third time to make it to the quadrennial games after barely missing out of the last two stagings of the Olympics.

**Margielyn Didal** finished seventh in Tokyo and could be knocking at the doors of the top 10 in the skateboarding street world rankings. Christiana Nicole Means and Jericho Francisco will be aiming to join Didal as the country's representatives in skateboarding.

**Kiyomi Watanabe** will be 28 when the Paris Games happen. She will seek to improve her performance in Tokyo where she got a surprise, rather controversial, ruling from officials which ended her campaign prematurely. The Nagano brothers, Shugen and Keisei, are also potential Olympians.

Expect a stronger, better, and more mature Carlos Yulo in 2024. Already one of the best in the world in floor exercises, Yulo showed in Tokyo that he is also a force in the men's vault event. The 4-foot-11 dynamo remains one of the top medal contenders for the Philippines in Paris.

(Source: <https://www.rappler.com/sports/filipino-athletes-watch-out-road-paris-2024-olympics>)



# MORE PALPAK ANTI-ISKO ATTACKS

**The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) ordered Manila Mayor Isko Moreno to explain his 2018 failure to reach targets in the administration's anti-drug campaign – except Moreno was elected mayor in 2019**

*DILG promptly withdrew their erroneous performance audit vs Moreno after checking their electoral calendar*

After mistakenly ordering Manila Mayor Isko Moreno to explain Joseph Estrada's alleged failure to reach targets in the administration's anti-drug campaign, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) apologized to him last August 6. DILG spokesperson and Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya told CNN Philippines that the show-cause order issued on July 9 was an "honest mistake."

## Sorry, our bad

"Since there is a mistake that was done, as spokesperson of the DILG, we express our apologies to the mayor of Manila for this erroneous show-cause order," Malaya said.

Malaya also said that the erroneous issuance of the order against Moreno, a likely presidential candidate in the 2022 elections, was not motivated by politics.

"I would like to assure the public that there is no politics behind this," he added.

The "order to show cause" was issued by DILG Undersecretary for External and Legislative Affairs Ricojude Janvier Echiverri on July 9 in response to the local government's low performance in the 2018 Anti-Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) performance audit. But Moreno was only elected Mayor in 2019.

## Pre-election hatchet job

"Wow galing ha! Sunod sunod na!" (Translation: Wow, that's great! One after another!)

Moreno said in a Facebook post in reaction to the show-cause order from the DILG, which some political observers refer in subtext to the ongoing process of maligning and discrediting critics and



political rivals of the current administration in anticipation of the 2022 presidential elections

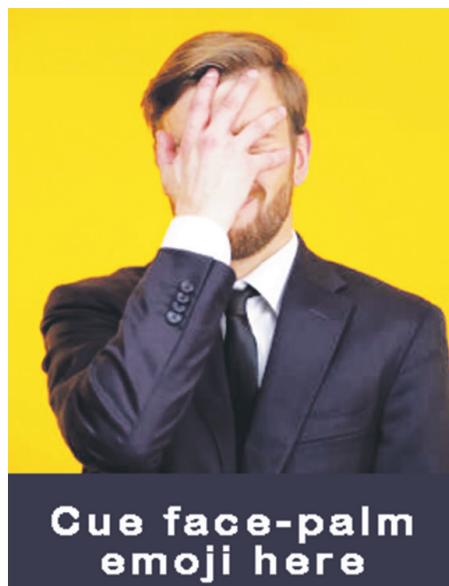
The show-cause order came around the same time Moreno said that President Rodrigo Duterte's declaration that unvaccinated Filipinos will be sent home was the source of overcrowding in vaccination centers.

Since the performance audit actually covered the administration of former Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada, Echiverri corrected the error by issuing a memorandum on August 6 announcing that the department was removing the show-cause order.

Moreno told Super Radyo dzBB recently that he was not interested in filing a lawsuit against the DILG and that he would rather leave everything to God.

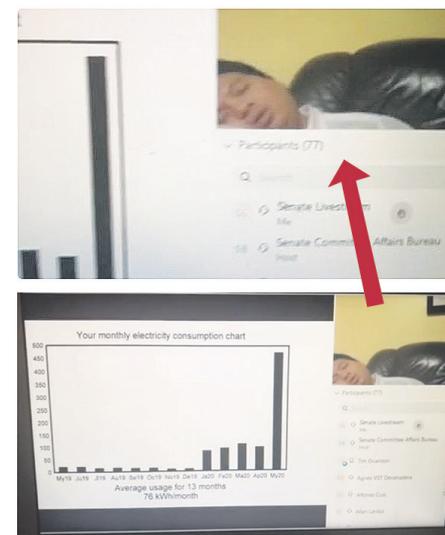
(Source: <https://ph.yahoo.com/news/dilg-withdraws-erroneous-show-cause-order-vs-isko-moreno-115821682.html>)

*The "order to show cause" was issued by DILG Undersecretary for External and Legislative Affairs Ricojude Janvier Echiverri on July 9, 2021*



**Cue face-palm emoji here**

**Tulo laway pa!  
RJ Echiverri caught dozing off in Zoom hearing**



Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Assistant Secretary Ricojude Janvier Echiverri probably knows better now than letting his laptop's camera stay on after he was caught on video dozing off during a Senate hearing last May 22, 2021.

Echiverri was seen fast asleep during the virtual hearing held by the Joint Congressional Energy Commission through the teleconferencing app Zoom.

The DILG official was slumped on his chair and fast asleep as representatives from Meralco prepared their presentation to explain why electricity rates spiked while Metro Manila and nearby provinces were under the enhanced community quarantine.

Echiverri's napping was seen by lawmakers and other officials present at the hearing. Some netizens who saw the video pointed out that he appeared to wipe off the drool at the side of his mouth when he woke up.

The son of former Caloocan City mayor Recom Echiverri eventually rose from his slumber as the hearing continued, but the incident was never mentioned by anyone in the Zoom meeting.

(Source: <https://politics.com.ph/tulo-laway-pa-rj-echiverri-caught-dozing-off-in-zoom-hearing/>)

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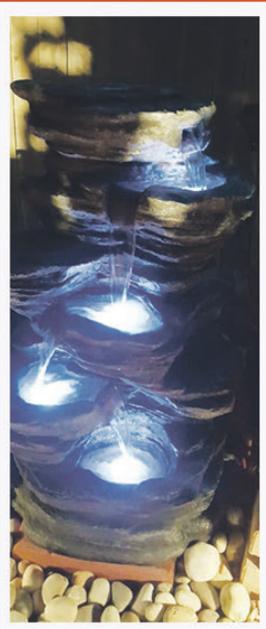
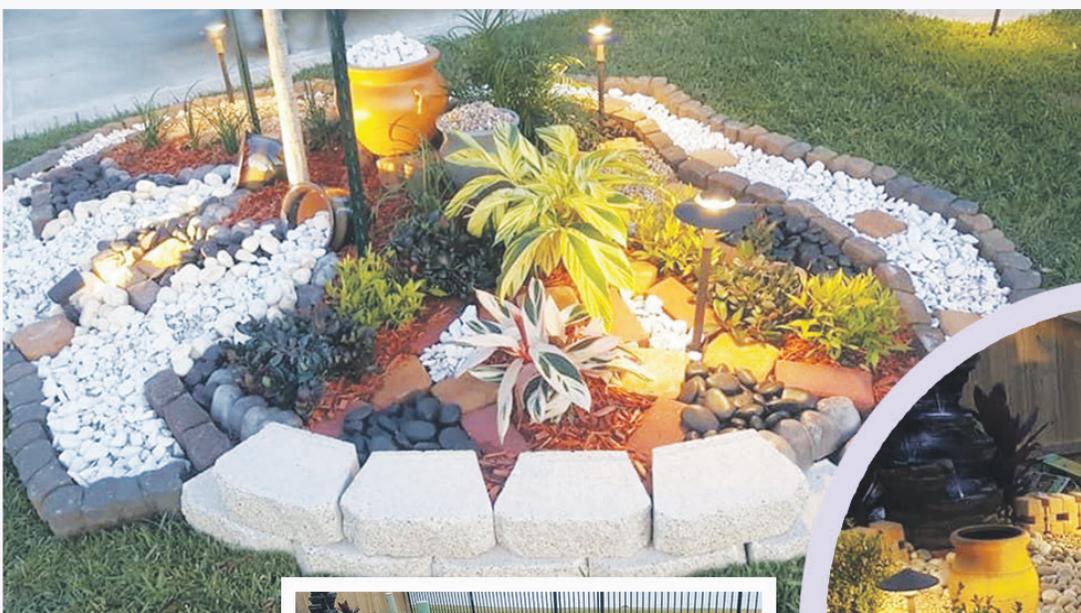
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# Joseph Gelito wants to make the world constantly erupt in laughter

There are so many good stories to tell about the so-called American dream. It is the dream commonly shared by those who wish to live a life of freedom and prosperity. To most Filipinos, it is the reason why they choose to leave their motherland and bravely restart a life so foreign but full of endless promise.

And yet there are also those who chase it for the sake of just finding themselves — their true calling, if you will. Joseph Gelito was one of those.

Joseph moved to the US in 1995, leaving behind a thriving TV career in the Philippines and a lucrative job as a cruise director for a popular cruise line in Asia. He had what one would consider a successful career and yet he still decided to move to the US and get his own share of the dream.

But in America, like most immigrants, he had to struggle and weather rough times when he began reestablishing his performing career. His natural knack for comedy plus his legitimate theater training proved to be his biggest advantage and he eventually managed to penetrate the Fil-Am entertainment scene. Before stand-up comedy became a hit among Filipinos in L.A., he was already wowing many corporate events with his comic flair and comedic antics. And when sing-along became the craze he was among the very first to blaze the trail.

***“I want to make people happy,” Joseph summed up his life’s purpose after years of struggling through odd low-pay jobs in the United States. “I want to make people laugh, as in the kind of ha-ha-ha laughter na gugulong ka sa katatawa...”***



Not only is Joseph a brilliant comedian he is also one of the most sought-after L.A.-based concert performers. With his fabulous soaring voice, he has been featured in concerts alongside Nora Aunor, Ai-Ai delas Alas, Aiza Seguerra and Keempee de Leon, among others.

For all his talents and accomplishments, Joseph has earned the title “Star for all genders.” Many moons ago, the comedian unveiled the month-long series of shows (“The Star for all Genders: Embracing America.”) The show celebrated his first year as an American citizen.

‘Embracing America’ was a musical-comedy show that showcased a fusion of American and Filipino cultures through skits, spoofs and character sketches. It featured artists both established and unknown and shed illuminating light on the “Americanization” of Filipino transplants in the US. “I did some sketches on the lives of nurses,” said Joseph, who was, not surprisingly, once an activity director for a nursing chain. He continues to fill his script with touches of his own experiences, and those of others he knows, while chasing the proverbial American Dream.

“I have discovered so many

things since becoming an American citizen,” he says. “I noticed the difference in how people talk and think; how their philosophies have evolved. Can you imagine our Filipino doctors choosing to become nurses, or our teachers becoming caregivers? It’s not funny but, you know how Pinoys are, we just laugh it off. Compared to others who commit suicide when faced with problems, I think Filipinos are better off with our innate sense of humor.”

It’s little wonder then that this innate sense of humor has become Joseph’s not only stock in trade, it’s also become something of a reflexive mental gear shift when put on a comedic spot on a split-second notice. On the 26th episode of the Paco Arespacochaga podcast last April 2021, the host asked (as part

of Joey’s chronological career history from Dulaang Kabataan to Cultural Center of the Philippines to PTV 4 to a tour of Japan): “What did that tour of Japan teach you?” Without batting an eyelash, Joseph’s trigger response was: “Sushi --- charot!”

By now it’s clear how Joseph Gelito’s hair-trigger ability to shape-shift from one mental mode, mood, and sensibility to another instantaneously without the segue seams showing is what has taken him this far in the entertainment business here and abroad, given the cultural, economic, political, and technological revolutions that he saw through from the 1970s to the present.

Very few of Joseph’s contemporaries survived the shift from analog media to digital, and yet here Joseph Gelito is on YouTube making the host constantly erupt in laughter. His character sketches and spoofs remain on the level - Madonna, Elvis, Sharon Cuneta, Manny Pacquiao, even Charice! — and he’s keeping himself up-to-date with whoever is the next Big Thing to spoof.

“I want to make people happy,” Joseph summed up his life’s purpose after years of struggling through odd low-pay jobs in the United States. “I want to make people laugh, as in the kind of ha-ha-ha laughter na gugulong ka sa katatawa...” he said. In the middle of this global gloom-and-doom pandemic depression, nothing is more desirable and hope-inducing than someone who wants to lift us all from this dark black hole of sadness and despair. Here’s hoping that Joseph Gelito will have more years and more

energy to cheer us all with his good-natured humor and music and uproarious laughter.

(Sources: <https://www.philstar.com/> One Philippines Editorial Manila)



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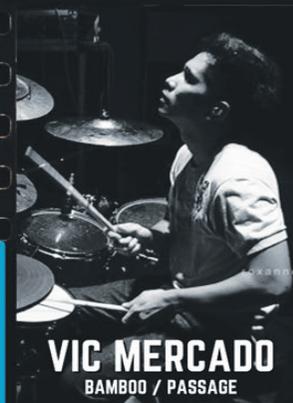
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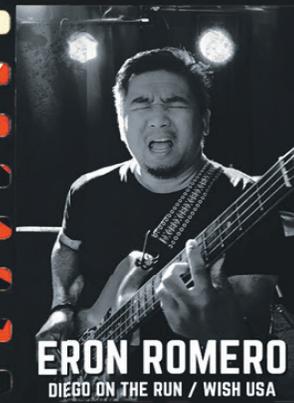
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## FIL-AM BUILDERS: Leaders and Organizations

# MARC CAYABYAB JD

## Filipino Young Professionals of Austin

By Ryan Tejero

**F**ilipino Young Professional (FYP) Austin was founded by a group of Filipino-American attorneys in Austin who wanted to find other young professionals who shared their cultural identity. To date, FYP Austin's membership is largely composed of young professionals who have not followed the stereotypical expectations of Filipino American careers: they are entrepreneurs, engineers, artists, musicians, dentists, therapists, attorneys, etc. FYP Austin embraces and celebrates how unique the young Filipino American professional community is compared to the rest of Texas. FYP Austin is committed to increasing visibility and awareness in the Central Texas Region for Filipino-American issues and careers and preserving and growing the Filipino-American culture.

FYP Austin organizes monthly happy hours at different local restaurants or bars to open opportunities for members to meet and learn from each other, and to show local businesses that there is a young, diverse community willing to spend and support local businesses. FYP Austin is always interested



Marc Cayabyab, JD

in supporting local Filipino businesses, and furthering social causes, such as getting out the vote in election years and advocating for mental health and promoting awareness for diversity such as participation in Pride month to support the LGBTQ+ community.

As part of its humanitarian and community service, FYP Austin has participated in donations for Philippine disaster relief and charity, fundraising and participation for mental health awareness, and volunteering during Thanksgiving to prepare and provide meals to those who need meals.

Marc was the first and immediate past president,

Lee Roy Calderon was the first and immediate past vice president. Jenn Penano is the current president, and Maricris Paviera is the current vice president.

Marc is an employment attorney with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). He started his legal career with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in Austin, Texas. After a few years, he went into private practice in south Texas working as an insurance defense lawyer litigating personal injury, commercial policy, construction defect, and medical malpractice claims. He eventually returned to



Austin working for a non-profit organization before ending up with Texas HHSC.

Marc was born in McAllen, Texas. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from The University of Texas at Austin in 2005 and earned his Juris Doctor from The University of Houston Law Center in 2009. Marc is a member of the Austin Filipino American Association, Austin Asian American Bar Association, Texas Filipino American Bar, and the National Filipino American Lawyers



*Filipino Young Professionals Austin organizes monthly happy hours at different local restaurants or bars to open opportunities for members to meet and learn from each other*



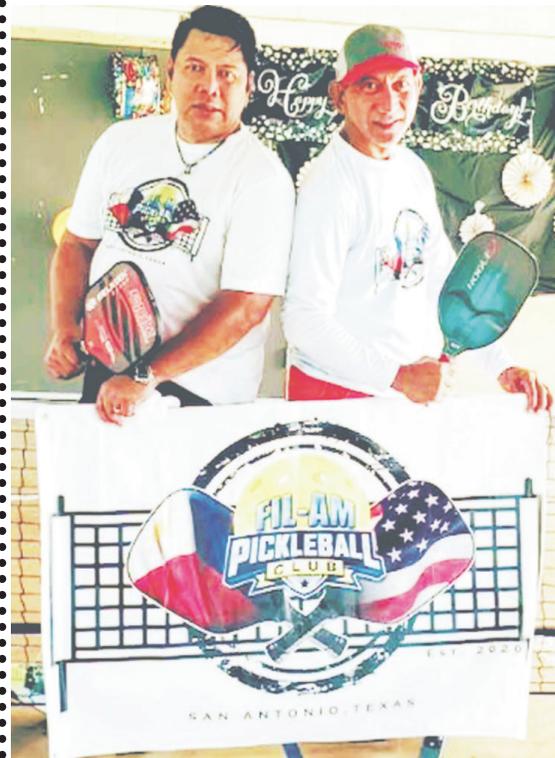
Association.

FYP has continues to evolve with many exciting projects. In the pipeline is putting together a resource list for the community. FYP sends out newsletters to highlight upcoming events, members, and updates within the group. The group also welcomes all backgrounds to join, and it stands in the zero tolerance on hate, harassment, or racist behaviors. Please reach out to FYP Austin on facebook or email [mncayabyab@gmail.com](mailto:mncayabyab@gmail.com).

**ABOUT THE COLUMNIST:**

Ryan Tejero is a writer, columnist, publicist, and editor in the Filipino American community. He writes for the Chicago's The Via Times, and One Philippines Texas. Ryan's previous media background includes Newsletter publisher and editor of National Federation of Filipino American Associations; Co-founder, publisher, and editor of the first "Pinoy sa Romania" newsletter, and newspaper columnist featuring "Filipinos Spotted on the Map" in Planet Philippines/PASA Pinoy newsmagazine based in Melbourne, Australia.

**Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Pickleball Tournament 2021  
Congratulations to Dennis Zapanta & Joey Santos for winning silver in the Men's Double**



These two amazing Pickleballers won the Silver Medal on Men's double held in Corpus Christi, Texas last July 24th 2021 for the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Pickleball Tournament. They dedicated this victory to the Fil-Am Pickleball Club of San Antonio. Dennis and Joey utilized their talents and competitive side to battle the expert opponents and endured the Texas heat wave to win the Silver Medal. Again, our congratulations to both of these deserving gentlemen.



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## Entrepreneur Spotlight

# Deco Café Filipiniana

San Antonio, TX

Owned by: Ramilo and Sheryl Argosino

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*Describe the nature of your business or how do you operate as a business entity.*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

We are a Filipino Restaurant that serves weekend buffet. Part of the restaurant is a convenience store inside that sells popular Filipino food and dry goods. We also cater food for private parties and has Balikbayan boxes services. Our restaurant also participates in Street Food Fiesta, public shows and entertainment where we promote our products.

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*What was your vision when you created your business?*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

We have envisioned to have a cozy Filipino restaurant that serves authentic Filipino food. We are a family-owned business, so we treat every customer as our family.

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*What/ Who was your inspiration in setting up your business?*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

We have the passion for cooking, we love what we are doing, and there were people who inspired us to start this business.

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*How do you see your*



*business grow in the years to come?*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

We started in a smaller place years ago. Slowly, we didn't even realize that somehow, we are surviving and growing already. We want our business to grow by gaining more customers,

and hopefully providing other services. While any business is uncertain, we will keep moving forward and whatever the future holds.

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*What do you think are the 3 main qualities of a good business owner and explain why?*



Special guests: One Philippines Ryan Tejero, Sandy and Diane Lacson with owner, Sheryl during the 6th Anniversary party.

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

Hardwork - when you have lots of customers, it motivates you to work hard. Don't complain, those are blessings. Patience - when you don't have much of customers then be patient. Creative - when you don't have customers, then you create!

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*Discuss two challenges in your business and how did you resolve the issues.*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

The first and hardest challenge was starting the business some six years ago. No trainings or education can match experience. At first, we don't have that experience. So, we kept doing what was needed for the business, made some mistakes and learn from the mistakes. The second challenge was every restaurant's challenge - The Pandemic! It was a battle of the fittest for us. But the will to survive and thinking outside the box made us get through with it. I think the pandemic is over. I hope it is!

### ONE PHILIPPINES:

*What is your message to others who would want to start their own business?*

### Deco Cafe Filipiniana:

Don't wait! Do it Now! No Excuse! Then, when you finally feel like starting



Owners: Shirley, Sheryl, Rayne, Ramwel, Raiden and Ramil. Photo taken during the 6th Anniversary Celebration of Deco Art Filipinana.

it, always remember that no matter how talented you are, how smart you think you are or how much capital you have in the bank if you don't know how to treat people right, you won't make it. Be humble and always

ask God for guidance because without Him, we are nothing.

**- Ryan Tejero**  
*Columnist Writer*  
**Chicago's Via Times**  
**Columnist Writer, One Philippines Texas**



Featured band performer during the 6th Anniversary party was San Antonio's famous SABAW Band.

## Happy Birthday Mommy Jasmine Laxamana



It was a night to remember for Mommy Jasmine Laxamana who celebrated her 71st birthday. It was held at Carino & Ethel Carino's residence with a special guest the beautiful Christina. There were plenty of foods, drinks, and desserts prepared by all her friends. It turned out to be a big celebration with a widescreen TV for karaoke. Families from the Philippines

sent video messages wishing Mommy Jasmine a Happy Birthday with the last part of the video was a very sweet Birthday wish sung by the late daughter, Kathy (DJ Kate). During and after the song, it was noticed that guests had teary eyes because they felt Kate's love and presence. Music and entertainment was provided by DJ Paul.

## Congratulations to Ms. Ludy Arada for winning the first in-house Fil-Am Pickleball Competition of San Antonio

Ludilin Arada Villarey better known as Ms. Ludy, this beautiful lady with the big heart won the championship (first in house) Fil-Am Pickleball club of San Antonio, Texas. The win was declared by Dennis Zapanta, the Ambassador of the club. Ms. Arada just started playing pickleball few months ago. During this short period of time, she mastered the art of playing pickleball. She didn't mind the long distance drive coming from Uvalde to San Antonio, Texas which is an hour and a half drive just to play pickleball. She loves the game of pickleball and considers the members of Fil-Am Pickleball Club of San Antonio as her "extended family" as she calls it. She always brings great energy, positive attitude, good vibes, and laughter to the group. Her



Dennis & Ludy Arada

presence is always appreciated. She not only won the in house championship but won the hearts of the Fil-Am members. We are very blessed to have her as one of the members of the Pickleball Club. Congratulations again Ms. Ludy!

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## Angel Locsin & Neil Arce's simple civil wedding - kikiam and fishball reception



Simple pero rock." This was how actress Angel Locsin and her husband Neil Arce described their intimate civil wedding ceremony that came as a surprise to their family, friends and fans. The newly-wedded couple on Saturday finally shared a glimpse of the ceremony that took place at the Taguig City Hall and was presided over by Mayor Lino Cayetano. "Hindi talaga namin siya

naisama sa plano pero dahil ni-request niyo. Gumawa kami ng paraan para ma-share ang civil wedding," Locsin said at the start of their newest vlog upload. After showing some clips of the event, Arce and Locsin opened up about how their supposed church wedding ended in a civil ceremony for now. According to Arce, three weeks after their engagement in June 2019, they already talked to their wedding planner and reserved the supposed venue. They were also preparing for a prenuptial shoot in Finland, but this was cancelled due to the pandemic.

They rescheduled another trip for a shoot a month before their wedding, but it was postponed anew. "Sabi namin, 'parang ayaw talaga tayo mag-prenup shoot, pakasal na tayo,'" Arce said. The couple kept their civil wedding plan a secret to their family until the day before the ceremony. There were only 7 guests at the ceremony including Locsin's father, Arce's mother and son, and actress Dimples Romana.

## 'Huwag Kang Mangamba' nominated at ContentAsia Awards



ABS-CBN's hit inspirational series, *Huwag Kang Mangamba*, has been nominated at this year's ContentAsia Awards. It is competing in the Best Drama Series/Telefilm made for a Single Asian Market category alongside "Barangay 143 Season 2" of August Media Holdings; "Distopia" of Mediacorp Pte Ltd and Konxepz Productions Pte Ltd; "Dream Raider" of WarnerMedia; and "To Me, It's

Simply You" of BEC World Co Ltd. According to ContentAsia Awards' official website, this category "focuses on drama created for a specific market in Asia" and entries will be judged on their "relevance and suitability for the one specific market for which the program was made." "Huwag Kang Mangamba" is only one of the two entries from the Philippines that has been nominated.

## GMA Network heats up viewing experience via newest drama series "Nagbabagang Luha"



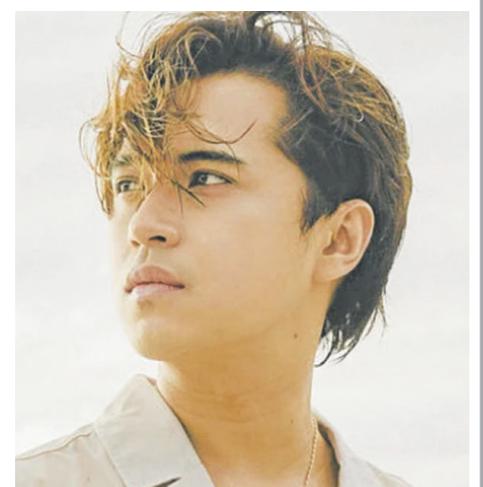
This August, the hottest rivalry between two sisters commences with the highly-anticipated TV adaptation of the 1988 blockbuster film 'Nagbabagang Luha.' The Kapuso Station proudly

brings back the classic movie of renowned filmmaker Ishmael Bernal with the remake featuring the country's highly-talented stable of stars: award-winning actress Glaiza de Castro as Maita Montaire, responsible sister of Cielo and faithful wife of Alex who has a burning love for her family; versatile actor Rayver Cruz as Alex Montaire, Maita's husband and the general manager at Montaire Group of Farms and Resorts who has a burning desire to succeed; dramatic actor Mike Tan as Bien de Dios, Maita's longtime friend who protects her at all costs despite his unrequited love for her; and seasoned actress Ms. Gina Alajar as Mrs. Calida Montaire, Alex's overprotective and conniving mother who dislikes Maita believing that she steals her son's attention.

## Marlo Mortel now doing what his 'soul craves'

While it was music that first got Marlo Mortel into show biz in 2009, he had to set it aside when big acting breaks came his way five years later. Now he hopes to make a proper career out of it. "I have been singing since I was young. And it was the main reason I'm here. I joined singing contests. I got discovered by Kuya Germs and ended up in 'Walang Tulugan.' I then entered 'X Factor PH.' That's what I really wanted," he told the Inquirer in a recent virtual press conference for his new single, "Bituin," which he wrote and coproduced. Marlo's role as the family's breadwinner definitely played a big part in his early career decisions. "I didn't have much of a choice back then, because I needed jobs," pointed out the 28-year-old artist, who felt the

need to strive extra hard for his mother who succumbed to breast cancer in 2018. "Raket dito, doon... kuha lang ako nang kuha. I didn't think too much about where my career was headed because my goal was to work and provide." This time, he wants to do things for himself— "what my soul is craving ..." Aside from making music, Marlo is also taking up online certificate courses in voice and music technology.



## Polular Manila Mayor Isko Moreno tests positive for Covid-19



sent to the Sta. Ana Hospital after testing positive for the coronavirus. “Nakararamdam ako ng kaunting ubo, kaunting sipon. Masakit ang aking katawan ngayon,” Domagoso said in a statement. (I experienced some coughing and a cold. My body hurts now.) Moreno assured that the city government of Manila will continue with its operations and efforts against COVID-19. “Kapit lang. Tuloy ang buhay. Tuloy pa rin ang gobyerno sa Maynila. Umasa tayo, magtiwala tayo sa Diyos, makararaos din tayo,” he said. (Hang on. Life goes on. The government in Manila will still continue. Let us hope and trust God. We will get through this.) According to the Manila PIO, Moreno will continue to be in charge of the city and its COVID-19 fight.

Popular Manila Mayor Isko Moreno tested positive for COVID-19, the Manila Public Information Office (PIO) confirmed last August 15, 2021. Moreno was then immediately

## Mga Pinoy nurse sa ibang bansa hataw sa pagsayaw sa ‘ASAP Discoveries’



Nurse na, viral na TikTok stars pa. Ganiyan ang kuwento nina Amy Miranda at Nelia Paris, mga Filipino nurse sa ibang bansa na viral sa video-sharing app dahil sa kanilang pagsayaw. Nabigyan sila ng pagkakataong ibahagi ang kanilang talento sa “ASAP Natin ‘To” ngayong Linggo sa pamamagitan ng pinakabagong segment na “ASAP Discoveries.” Ikinuwento ng 2 na naisip nilang mag-post ng mga video sa TikTok para magpasaya ng ibang tao, lalo’t maraming pinagdadaanan ang mga tao ngayong panahon ng pandemya. “Kahit papaano ay maibsan ang kalungkutan [ng iba], kahit panandalian lang,” kuwento ni Paris, na 15 years na sa kaniyang pinagtatrabahuhan

sa England sa United Kingdom. “Naisip ko na to make a difference, at least magpasaya sa ating kapuwa tao, ‘yong mga simple pong mga funny clips, mga simpleng pagsasayaw,” sabi naman ni Miranda, na nagtatrabaho sa United Arab Emirates. “Para sa akin, 1 lang po na tao ang matuwa, para sa akin malaking bagay na iyon,” dagdag ni Miranda. Nakasama virtually sa isang dance number ng 2 Pinoy nurse sa “ASAP” sina Donny Pangilinan, Belle Mariano, Loisa Andalio, Ronnie Alonte, Andrea Brillantes, at Seth Fedelin. Inilunsad noong nakaraang linggo ang “ASAP Discoveries,” kung saan itinatampok sa Sunday concert program ang mga talentadong Pinoy na nakikilala online.

## ‘Kun Maupay Man It Panahon’ wins at Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland



***Kun Maupay Man It Panahon***, starring Charo Santos-Concio and Daniel Padilla, has won the Cinema e Gioventù Prize from the Concorso Cineasti del presente Junior Jury at the 74th Locarno Film Festival in Switzerland

This was announced on the official Facebook page of the Yolanda-set film with the international title “Whether

the Weather is Fine” as well as on the page of Film Development Council of the Philippines head Liza Dino. “WOOOOHOOOO!!! GO PHILIPPINES!!! So proud of you guys! #TEAMFDCP is here to always support. May Tokyo na, may Locarno pa!!! Mabuhay ang pelikulang Pilipino,” wrote Dino in her caption. Directed by Carlo Francisco Manatad, the film made its world premiere as part of the festival’s Concorso Cineasti del Presente, or

Filmmakers of the Present Competition. It is the sole Philippine film selected to compete in the section, which highlights works of emerging directors from around the globe. “Kun Maupay Man It Panahon” is set during the onslaught and aftermath of supertyphoon Yolanda (Haiyan, and centers on “a mother (Santos-Concio) and her son (Padilla) as they

struggle for survival and deal with absurdity of fate,” according to its synopsis. It also stars newcomer Rans Riful. Aside from its Locarno tilt, the film will make its North American premiere via the Toronto International Film Festival, where it will be screened under the Contemporary World Cinema section starting September 9.

# Happy Birthday Christal!



**C**hristal Joyce Sunga celebrated her debut with fashion and elegance at Ambassador

Hall Center in San Antonio, Texas last July 9, 2021. Christal's whole family were



present, Mary Joy Palos and Gonzalo Palos Jr. (Parents), brothers Marco Jacob and Gonzalo

Joaquin Palos. Many close friends attended the debut as well. Great foods and drinks were served right after the dinner, Christal and her group of Hip Hop friends performed their aerobic like dance style. Everyone enjoyed the performance. Christal wants to express her gratitude to all friends who helped to make this event successful especially to all her sponsors who contributed and gave special envelopes was such a great gesture. Lastly, to everyone who helped organized, gave love and support. We wish Christal more success in her future endeavors.

# Happy Birthday Dennis Zapanta!

**O**n July 10, 2021, the weather was hot and humid but it was a sweet and unforgettable day as we celebrated Dennis Zapanta's birthday at Niemitz Park in Cibolo, TX.

Every member of Fil-Am Pickleball group of San Antonio along with his loving family were in attendance. In the photo are his beautiful and talented wife in the world of pickleball, named Kathleen and handsome son, Kaden. There were a lot of delicious Pinoy foods with special lechon, drinks, and desserts at the event.

The music was provided by DJ Romeo. Mr. Zapanta is the founder of Fil-Am Pickleball Club of San Antonio, Texas. He is now an Ambassador of this Club. He is very passionate in what he does and welcomes the Fil-Am community of San Antonio to join the club to promote better health, fitness, and camaraderie. Mr. Zapanta always encourages and supports everyone who



wants to better themselves in the field of pickleball. Keep up the great work Mr. Zapanta! The Fil-Am community wishes you good health and long happy life.

# Happy Birthday Rylee B. Gibson

**T**his cute and sweet little girl is an Angel of the Fil-Am Pickleball of San Antonio, TX. She celebrated her 5th birthday at Takas Park last August 12, 2021 in a hot but fun afternoon. Rylee is the daughter of Czarina Bersabe. Rylee has an older sister named Maiah who always accompany Rylee with Lolo Bob Bersabe to Takas Park Pickleball court during the game who is also cute and sweet like her. The birthday party was celebrated with ice cream, lumpia, pansit, and drinks. Rylee had an amazing time celebrating her birthday with some friends her age group surrounded by several Pickleball players. In the photo, Rylee is with her loving Lolo Bob and longtime friend Mr. Manny Ibarra. We wish Rylee a very Happy birthday and many more twinkle star birthdays to come.





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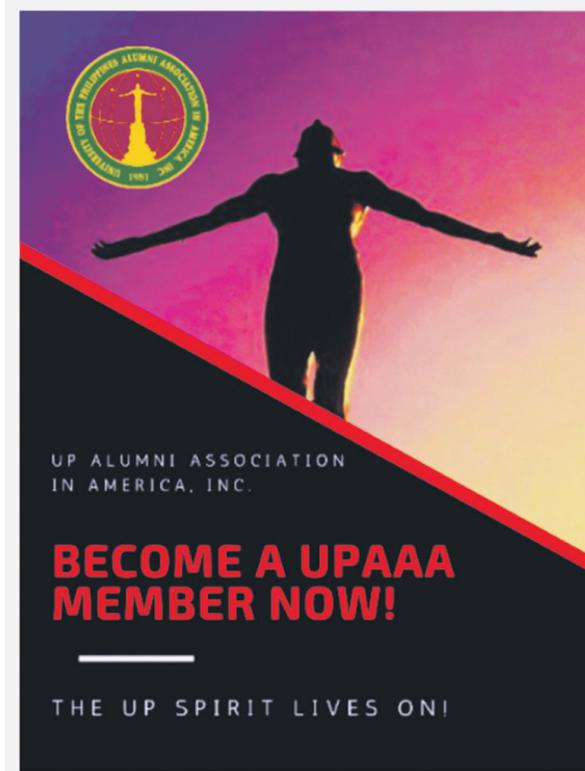

# UPAAA General Reunion and Convention Goes Virtual on October 22-24

By Ryan Tejero

This year, UPAA in America, Inc., together with UPAA of Nevada are hosting the 21st General Reunion and Convention (GRC) on October 22-24, 2021. With the theme, "Arise: Pagbangon at Parangal," this unique virtual celebration is expected to gather participation of UP alumni from all over the world.

Exciting activities are lined up in this year's event. A new set of UPAAA Board of Directors for 2022-2023 will be inducted at the GRC. Election of the new members of the Board will run for a month from August 15 to September 15. A total of 28 Board members will be elected from about 50 nominees. Only active-paying dues members can participate in the election process. The newly-elected board will choose the 16 officers of UPAAA, while the remaining 12 elected Board members will be appointed by the incoming President as Chairs of Standing Committees.

The 2021 UPAAA Distinguished Alumni Awards, and the 2021 UPAAA Special Recognition Awards will also be inducted during the event. The awards will be given to outstanding individuals and groups who are embodiments of the Oblation, serving with pride, remaining strong and bold amid strife and challenges. Nomination to the awards will close on August 31, 2021. Please send nominations to AwardsUPAAA@gmail.com. October 22nd will serve



as Fellowship Night where participants will have socializing and meeting up virtually with former classmates and friends. October 23rd will formally open the GRC with Keynote Address, General Sessions, Awards Night, Tiyangge (virtual marketplace), Ikot-Toki (virtual show and tell rooms), and Tambayan (virtual networking lounge). October 24th will include the UPAAA General Assembly, Installation of Officers, State of the University Address, Jubilarian Virtual Parade, and the last day of the following: Tiyangge (virtual market place); Ikot-Toki

(virtual show and tell rooms), and Tambayan (virtual networking lounge).

The GRC offers a variety of sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities. Sponsors will have full access to the event and their websites will be included in the publicity materials produced for the event. You may email [upaaagr.chair@gmail.com](mailto:upaaagr.chair@gmail.com) for your sponsorship interest. UPAAA is a 501(3)c nonprofit organization. Any donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

If you are interested to register as a participant, you can visit <https://upaaagr2021.vfairs.com> and click on attendee registration. Participants have plenty of opportunities to donate in

this fundraising event by purchasing pages of the digital souvenir program book.

With the surge in membership and significant accomplishments of UPAAA this recent years, current President Daisy M. Rodriguez says "We should be proud of what we have achieved as a team. The end result is a collaborative work of all of the officers and members. As President, it is my duty to foster unity, energy, direction and inspiration among a group of leaders who bring with them the passion, dedication and commitment to the Alma Mater. We brought UPAAA to a higher level of excellence, honor, and service – values we learned from the University."

If you want to become a member and make a difference in the lives of UP students and alumni, and the community, you may access the online membership form at [www.upainamerica.org](http://www.upainamerica.org).




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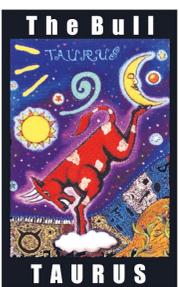
## August 2021



### ARIES

According to your star chart this month, you may experience a hitch in your plans in August 2021. Tensions exist between your desire to act and

the necessity to take time to firm up the details. Information comes haltingly in bits and pieces. Expect more "prickly" interactions, as many are more critical or picky and seem to constantly change their minds. De-stress, not do-stress. Expect small changes and glitches. Don't sweat the small stuff. Relax on your compulsion to be in control. Be more flexible.



### TAURUS

Before disruptions disturb your habits, you have a little time. If, within your relationship, adjustments are necessary it is to fortify the bond. Solidarity,

determination and will, are part of a busy schedule. Some small slip ups due to lack of involvement are to be expected. If your modesty is lacking, try to rectify your aim. It is finally the moment for confessions, you decide to communicate on the little details that are spoiling your life.



### GEMINI

Go to the physiotherapist to remove those knots from your upper back, you need it. You will receive a significant amount of money

from an investment made long ago. If you are single, you will live a summer time full of romances and new loves. If you have a partner, it is the best time to decide important aspects of your relationship. Be very honest but tactful, direct but not antagonistic. Crises with your partner are permanent and do not seem to have a good ending. If you are single, welcome love.



### CANCER

Your maternal urge dominates as Venus transits your Sun sign from August 7 through September 6. You are more able to nurture and emotionally

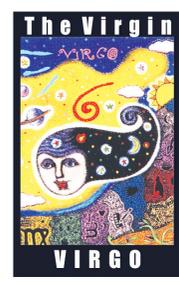
support yourself and those around you by providing a stronger emotional cushion or comforting home environment. Just watch going to extremes with too much care taking especially toward the



### LEO

Whether in friendship or in love, this month, you bring out the big game! Your conquering state of mind is your strength. Even if the planets try to

dissuade you, you fight several fights at once, you only listen to yourself and yourself alone. No question of letting yourself be blinded by beautiful promises. Why not share your ideas rather than keep them for yourself. From the third week your projects are successful, the bonds are tightening, you are in tune with others. Some people manage to touch you, you are told that you have a heart that falls in love easily.



### VIRGO

Stress and anxiety are not good travel companions. Try to put a solution. Your economy needs a break. Stop wasting ... You will fall in love with your

partner this vacation as if it were the first time. If you are single, your social life will increase, you will meet a lot of new people. A certain lack of action romance-wise is no big deal, everything will come in its own time. By letting the events go at their own pace, you will have the chance to enter your home, quietly, without making any noise.



### LIBRA

You may feel issues of self-worth or self-esteem rise up. Old relationships may surface or you yet again confront the same tired feelings of barriers

and distance. You may be sensitive to criticism especially about your creative ideas, sense of style or beauty or lack of availability in personal relationships. Respond gently with the relationships that matter to you most. Be more loving and kind especially to yourself. On the other hand, end difficult relationships now with a sense of relief, as endings can be clean and permanent.



### SCORPIO

It's an adventure, the planets widen your field of vision and everything becomes clearer. You have the necessary perspective to understand and act according to

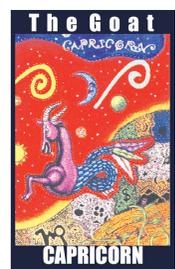
your own interests. Gradually you manage to free yourself from your shackles, you shine, yet it was not won. Success is at the end, the summer ends in beauty. Your popularity is skyrocketing, emotional bonds are tightening, you make good friends, they will evolve over time. Proposals, projects, everything progresses at the speed of light, the month of August seems productive. You can achieve feats, just want it. Friendly relationships are intense, and the choice of love is obvious.



### SAGITTARIUS

August is the perfect month to invest in what you have been wanting so much. If you are in a couple, you will live a second honeymoon. If, on the contrary, you

are single, why not download that mobile application to meet someone special? Romance-wise, if at the beginning of the month emotions are on edge, a return to calm is expected quickly. By deciding to stop hiding things you address the real emotional issues, a good progression is expected. Whether to engage in a dialogue or to find communication, the stars transmit strength and courage to you. The love you show your partner gives you balm for the heart because you are struggling to finalize an unsuccessful project but you are motivated.

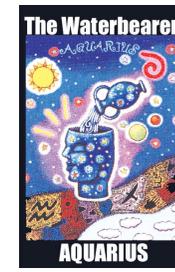


### CAPRICORN

All work and no play Capricorn makes you a good provider but also unavailable or exhausted at home. With your ruler in good relationship to Jupiter, especially mid month, you

can move to diffuse underlying tensions. If your home and family life has suffered from the necessity or compulsion of work, now is

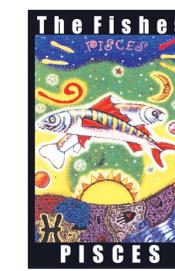
the time to remedy this. Family time should prevail. Restore your connections to your children, partner, family and friends. Family vacations, gatherings, reunions are all favored. Focus on the needs of children or doing child's play. It will remind you both of what you are working for and to reclaim the playful child within your hard-worked Capricorn soul.



### AQUARIUS

The planets accompany you throughout the month, meetings are beautiful and energizing, you are energetic. Some approaches take you on the road

to success, you are supported by your entourage whatever the circumstances. Your projects materialize, your exchanges are productive, you are on a small cloud. Foresight and caution, you anticipate the hard knocks. You learn from your past experiences, so you're making big strides. When it comes to matters of the heart, there is fantasy, when it comes to brightening your relationships, planetary influences leave you carte blanche, you're doing very well. This is a good time if you want to enjoy family fun.



### PISCES

Your skin will be very dry this summer, do not forget to hydrate as much as possible with creams or after sun. Money-wise, stop thinking so much about

your economy, invest more money in quality leisure with your family or friends. As for Love: Take advantage of your physical attractiveness to conquer or win back that person you love so much. You prefer action to passivity, it's your right. You do not waste your time waiting to be served on a silver platter you act on your own. Without being impulsive you are spontaneous and everything becomes easier. Before you rush you double check if the game is worth it. If with your partner you dream of novelty and sharing, you are rewarded. Small adjustments to clarify a situation disturb the beginning of the month, little by little a nice balance is back.

(Sources: <http://astrologyk.com/horoscope/monthly/>; <https://www.321horoscope.com/2021/horoscope/2021/html>; <https://www.sunsigns.org/2021/horoscope/>; <https://www.yearly-horoscope.org/2021-monthly/>; <https://www.astrosofa.com/horoscopes/>; <https://www.free-horoscope.com/horoscopes/monthly/2021/leo.htm>)

# Peak season of popular fruits in the Philippines

By Jeline Malasig / InterAksyon

The Philippines is a tropical country that produces lots of fruits. It is no surprise then that people warmly received a post on Reddit that featured a seasonal chart of the country's most popular fruits. The chart by Reddit user "versonjohn" lists fruits that are ripe in particular months. The only fruits available year-round in the country are bananas, papayas, pomelos and, of course, the coconut. (Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/breaking-news/2018/06/04/127991/peak-season-philippines-popular-fruits-chart/>)

## ATIS (Custard Apple)



Atis has lots of seeds that are coated with a soft sugary pulp that tastes like custard. The sweet fruit is available from September to December. (Pixabay/Stock Photo)

## CHICO (Naseberry)



Chico has a sweet and malty flavor that has an edible coat. It's also called an energy fruit because it has high levels of sugar. The fruit is available every January and February. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

## DALANGHITA (Mandarin Orange)



Dalanghitas are considered an important fruit around Chinese New Year because it symbolizes good fortune. They are available from January to February and October to December. (Lazada)

## DUHAT (Java Plum)



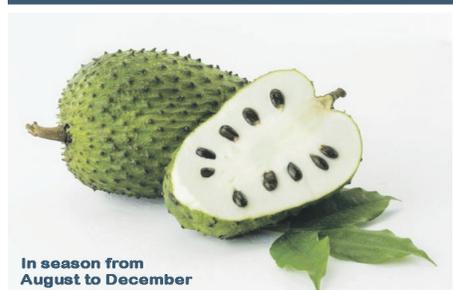
The duhat leaves a dark violet stain on the tongue when eaten. It is likened to an astringent since it causes a tart, slightly raspy "puckering sensation" in the mouth. Available from March to July. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

## DURIAN



Durians are notorious for its "love it or hate it" smell, described either as 'heaven' or 'badly-maintained latrine.' Despite this, durian is known as the "King of Fruits," partly for its size, aroma and prickly demeanor. Durians are in season from August to October. (Wiki)

## GUYABANO (Sour Sop)



In season from August to December

Guyabano is a rich source of Vitamin C and a range of essential B vitamins like niacin, thiamine and riboflavin. According to studies, guyabano extract attack malignant cells at the earlier stages of cancer. (Photo: Health & Beauty Tips)

## KAIMITO (Star Apple)



A childhood favorite, kaimito comes to season in March and April, where it fully ripens to its so-sweet and so-milky goodness, never mind if its sticky latex builds a thin "mustache" around your lips. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

## LANGKA (Jackfruit)



Slices of langka is usually mixed in halo-halo or banana cue recipes because of their sweet flavor. Langka, or jackfruit, is the largest tree fruit in the world, and can reach up to 80 pounds (35 kg) in weight. They are in season from March to May.

## LANZONES (Langsat)



In season from August to December

Sweet and sour lanzones is rich in vitamins A, B, C, thiamine, niacin, fiber, riboflavin, pantothenic acid, ascorbic acid, and minerals like iron, manganese, zinc, potassium, phosphorus, magnesium, copper, and calcium. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

## MANGA (Mango)



Mango is the national fruit of the Philippines. One of its ripe varieties, the champagne mango, is considered the sweetest mango in the world. It is in season from March to June.

## MANGOSTEEN



If Durian is the "King of Fruits," then Mangosteen is the "Queen of the Fruits," for its high antioxidant properties and crown-like shape when sliced horizontally. Available from June to November. (Photo: Max Pixel)

## MELON



Melons are mixed with salads, halo-halo and sometimes even condensed milk. It is also used to prepare juice that is usually a hit during summer. They are available from April to July.

## NIYOG (Coconut)



The coconut tree itself is called Niyog, and the name also refers to the mature fruit, from which coconut milk and cooking oil can be extracted. Young coconut fruit is Buko, whose tender meat is sweet as a dessert or refreshment, along with the juice. Available all year round.

## PAKWAN (Watermelon)



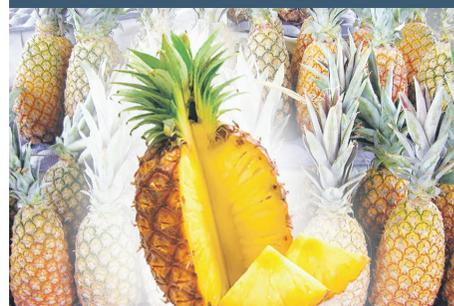
Pakwans are popular as desserts and is best eaten during summer because of its thirst-quenching properties. They are in season from March to July. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

## PAPAYA



Papaya was purportedly called the "Fruit of the Angels" by explorer Christopher Columbus because of its sweet and soft, butter-like consistency. It is in season throughout the year.

## PINYA (Pineapple)



The Philippines is the second largest producer of pineapples next to Thailand. These fruits are exported to other countries as well. Pineapples are in season from May to July.

## RAMBUTAN



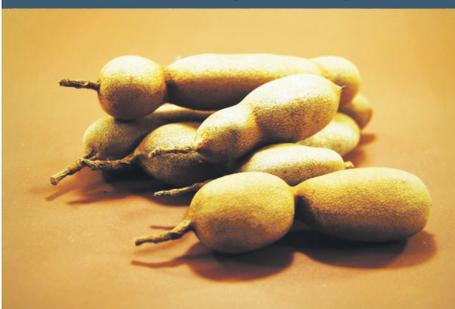
The fruit is similar to lychee but rambutan has a bitter pit seed inside. It is best eaten when it is bright red in color, which means it's ripe and sweet. They are in season from August to October.

**SAGING (Banana)**



Banana is considered the "most economically important fruit" in the country since it is one of the locally-produced fruits available throughout the year. (Pixabay/Stock Photo)

**SAMPALOC (Tamarind)**



Tamarinds are usually used as a flavoring for savory dishes like sinigang, but they can also prepared as sugar-coated local candies. Sampalocs are available from October to December. (Photo: Pexel Stock)

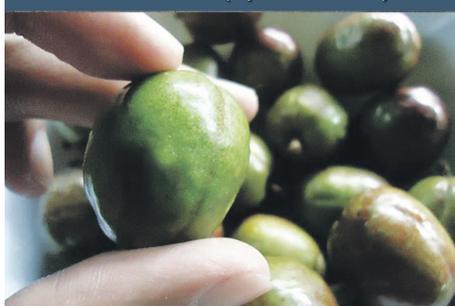
**SANTOL (Cotton Fruit)**



(Photo: Flickr/whologwhy)

Santol is also known as a cotton fruit since there is a white cotton-like membrane inside once it is peeled. Some locals eat it with salt to add flavor. It is in season from July to September.

**SINGUELAS (Spanish Plum)**



Singuelas were brought by the Spaniards to the Philippines in the 18th century, hence the name. Singuelas contains antioxidants that can help the body heal and repair. The fruit is available from April to June. (Photo: Wiki Commons)

**SUHA (Pomelo)**



Pomelo is the largest fruit in the citrus family. A cousin of the grapefruit, some people like to eat it with salt. Suha are available throughout the year. (Photo: The Green Grocer)

# FIL-AM FAVORITES FOREVER!

July 4<sup>th</sup> always brings to mind a Pinoy monicker "G I Joe" called out to a "Kano"... and with that GI Joe calling is the V (Victory Joe) sign. A story goes that when the Americans occupied the Philippines in the 1940's (which our old folks would call "Peacetime") kids who would call out to them would be treated with American chocolates: Baby Ruth, Butterfingers, Mars. And the new taste of America did not end there.

During that period, Filipinos went crazy over dozens of US goodies that the "PX" stored. In fact, it became a status symbol to have some US candy or soap or snack. I remember in school, when someone dared bring a can of Shoestring Potatoes – she would be the most popular student for the day...WE were shared some pieces and I would hold in my mouth literal strings not mouthfuls of the snack.

To this day, the now generation (That's us!!) from those Peacetime days 80+ years ago have not lost their taste for their favorite PX goods. We developed the taste for sugar sweet chocolate candies, marshmallows, vanilla ice cream, strawberry jam, and many more, as well as the savory creamy cheeses, the beefy hotdogs and burgers and the bubbly rootbeer.

Okay now...let's get to the meat of this July 4<sup>th</sup> FIL-AM menu that we never outgrew! Can you relate with any of these treats? I know you can.

- Hamburger and the burger buns - which faced off the pan de sal
- Southern Fried Chicken – which faced off our non-breaded fried chicken
- Vienna Sausage
- SPAM (Special Processed American Meat) – Spam Forever!!! And now there's SPAM Tocino / Spam Chorizo. Was this formulated for us Pinoys?
- Tabasco
- Mac n Cheese
- Potato Chips, Shoestring Potatoes
- Ice Cream
- All the now classic chocolate candies, mints, soft centers, etc.

- Brownies
- Ice Cream Float
- Milk Shakes
- Cheese---American Cheddar slices
- Grilled Cheese
- Butter – can't remember the brand
- Sanka Coffee
- Campbells Chicken noodle soup
- Campbells Cream of Mushroom Soup – an all-time favorite
- Catsups-Ketchup whatever...but this led to the formulation of our very own Banana Ketchup
- Mayonaisse
- Flying Saucer Sandwich – and from this sandwich making tool – the Aristocrat Adobo Flying Saucer was created!! (Still a favorite to this day)
- A&W Rootbeer
- Liver Spread
- Pan Americano Bread
- Popcorn
- Donuts
- US Steak – tastes like butter
- US BBQ and Virginia Ham
- Reynolds Aluminum Foil
- Cut Rite Wax Paper
- Betty Crocker cake mixes
- Gertrude Stewart's jams and marmalades
- US – style Meatloaf – to which we did our own "embutido"
- Pancakes, waffles,
- Nestle Cream
- Ham slices
- Bacon
- Hershey's Chocolate Sauce
- And of course the soda --- COKE

I should end this now... where's my stash of 3 Musketeers?

The relationship between the Philippines and the United States goes beyond food and I encourage everyone to explore and cultivate the relationship.





TAWA NAMAN D'YAN

Work-at-home Era

mieL's TAKE

WORKING FROM HOME



Pag sa pagkain  
FOODTRIP  
Pag sa tawanan  
LAUGHTRIP  
Pag sa tugtugan  
SOUNDTRIP  
Pag sa mukha mo  
BADTRIP

Kahit hindi mo na tuparin yung peksman. Yung mamatay nalang



PLACE PHOTO OF THE PRESIDENT YOU HATE HERE

facebook.com/MiriamSantiagoLines

YOU-KNOW YOU'RE FILIPINO IF:

You scratch your head when you don't know the answer



RICHPINAY.COM



I AM NOT A STALKER KAYA KITA SINUSUNDAN.

JUST FOLLOWING MY DREAMS

I'd lift my travel ban for you, baby.



Q: Anong sabi ng kabilang kilay sa kabilang kilay?  
A: Hi Brow!

May lahi ka bang keyboard?

TYPE kasi kita...



Yung iba  
Maganda sa malayo  
Yung iba naman  
Malayong gumanda

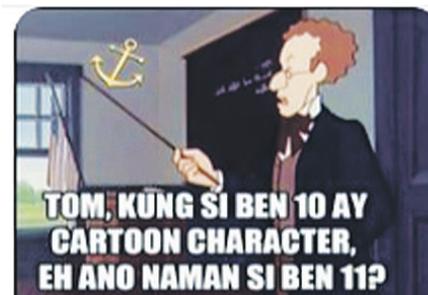
Ang babaeng hindi marunong magluto, ay dapat maghanap ng lalakeng hindi marunong kumain.



TIPAKLONG



TIPAKSHORT



TOM, KUNG SI BEN 10 AY CARTOON CHARACTER, EH ANO NAMAN SI BEN 11?



CONVENIENCE STORE PO

ANG MAG-ASAWA

☺ kapag pangit ang lalaki at maganda ang babae, ang tawag dyan ay DISKARTE  
☺ kapag babae naman ang pangit at gwapo ang lalaki, tawag dyan ay GINAYUMA  
☺ kapag parehong silang magandang mukha, tawag dyan ay TINADHANA  
☺ kapag ang mag-asawa ay parehong pangit, yan ang tinatawag na NO CHOICE

YOU-KNOW YOU'RE FILIPINO IF:

You have at least one relative who is a nurse



"Ma, Pa, I don't want to study nursing!"

RICHPINAY.COM

May nakapagsabi na ba sayo na ang CUTE mo?..  
Kung wala pa, Eh wala tayong magagawa ganun talaga!!!

Ang tunay na KAIBIGAN, ay parang MAGNET, didikit sa BAKAL pero hindi sa mga PLASTIK. :))

Leron, leron sinta.  
Bakit pandak ka pa?  
Nalilito ako, minions ka o panda?  
Pag nag-umbrella na, Mushroom na ang porma.  
Ano ba talaga?  
Tatangkad ka pa ba?



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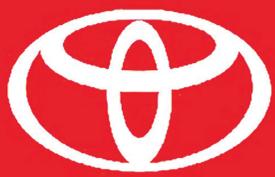
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