



L.A. CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIMS OCTOBER 2016 AS FILIPINO-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH



*Left photo above shows (L-R) Councilmember Gil Cedillo (Council District 1), Mr. Mel Orpilla (Fil-Am Community Rep), Consul General Adelio Angelito Cruz, Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell (Council District 13), LAFACE President Rea Lazo and Public Works Commissioner Joel Jacinto.
Right photo above shows with Councilmember O'Farrell (Council District 13) and Consul General Cruz,*

Los Angeles, 04 October 2016 – The Los Angeles City Council, led by Councilmembers Mitch O'Farrell and Gil Cedillo, honored the Filipino American community in Los Angeles by presenting a Resolution proclaiming October 2016 as Filipino-American History Month on 30 September 2016 at the John Ferraro Council Chamber of the City Hall of Los Angeles.

Members of the City Council praised the Filipino-American community for its achievements and contributions with its 429 years of historical presence in the United States when in 1587, the Manila-built galleon ship *Nuestra Señora de Esperanza* landed at Morro Bay California transporting the first Filipinos to visit the United States.

The recognition of Fil-Am History Month serves to honor the unique relationship that the Philippines has with the US. The celebration of Fil-Am History month is important because it also recognizes the efforts of the thousands of Filipinos working in the Greater Los Angeles Area, in particular the City Hall.

The City Council also recognized Filipino Americans including Ms. Gina Alexander, Mr. Rembrandt Flores, Ms. Ruby De Vera, owners of Parks Finest and officers of Fil-Am Arts for their achievements and contributions to the betterment of the community. After the presentation of the resolution, a short program followed. Honorees spoke highly of Filipino labor leaders such as Larry Itliong, Philip Vera Cruz, and a large group of Filipino farm workers and the pivotal role they played in the Delano Grape Strike of 1965, which led to the formation of the United Farm Workers Movement.

Consul General Adelio Angelito Cruz, Mr. Mel Orpilla and Ms. Rea Lazo, President of the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE), accepted the resolution in behalf of the Filipino-American community in Los Angeles.



Photo above shows (3rd from L) LAFACE President Rea Lazo, (5th from L) Public Works Commissioner Joel Jacinto, 9th from L) Mitch O'Farrell (Council District 13), Consul General Cruz and the Filipino American community.



Photo above shows Consul General Cruz addressing the audience.



Photo above shows Consul General Cruz with Filipino Americans with their Certificates of Recognition from the LA City Council.