



PHOTO RELEASE

## LA PCG JOINS BICOLANOS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 44<sup>TH</sup> PEÑAFRANCIA FIESTA

Los Angeles, 18 September 2018 - The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles joined the *Bicolanos* in Southern California in celebrating the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual *Peñafrancia Fiesta* held at the Lincoln Park in Los Angeles on 15 September 2018.



*Left photo: The Patron Saint is being carried by the Voyadores to the Altar for the Liturgical celebration. Right photo shows DCG Enciso giving his remarks for the occasion*

The Festival is organized annually by United Bicolandia Los Angeles (UBLA) to celebrate the feast day of Bicolanos' Patron Saint, the Blessed Virgin of Peñafrancia.

Deputy Consul General Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III graced the occasion, together with other Consulate General's officers. In his remarks during the program, DCG Enciso commended the UBLA for its dedication and commitment in organizing the Fiesta year after year, which showcases the richness and beauty of our Philippine cultural heritage and strength of Filipino Christian religiosity.

The highlight of the festival was a fluvial parade, featuring yellow-shirted "voyadores" carrying the image of the Patron Saint aboard a floral barge towed by boats around the lake. The fluvial procession is accompanied by a foot procession along the perimeter of the Park's manmade lake. Uniformed Knights of Columbus also provided the guard of honor. The celebration held in LA echoes the original Peñafrancia celebration held in the Philippines.

Booths from other local Bicol Support Organizations served signature *Bicolano* dishes such as *Kinunot*, *Laing* and *Bicol Express*, to the gustatory delight of guests.

The whole-day celebration, draws devotees and guests every year and has always been one of the largest and most colorful festivities of Filipinos in Southern California. END