



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

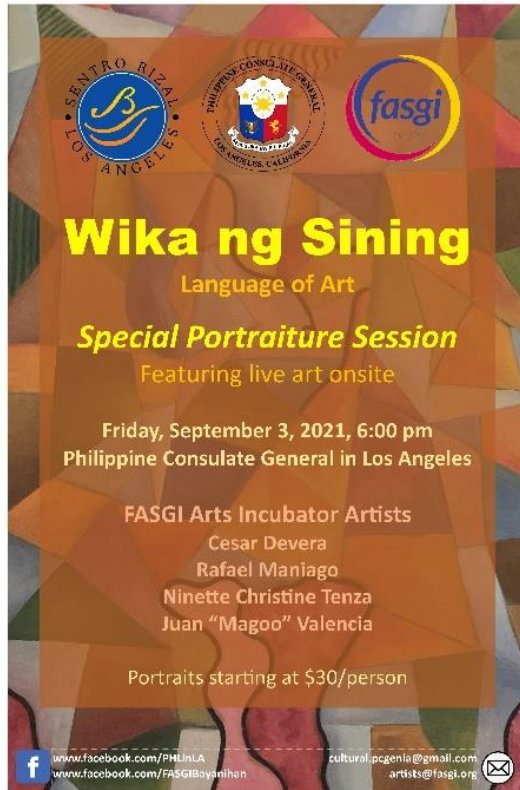
PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



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## PhilConGen LA Concludes Buwan ng Wika Celebration with Special Portraiture Session



08 September 2021, Los Angeles – The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles hosted a special Portraiture Session by members of the Filipino American Service Group Inc. (FASGI) Arts Incubator Program on Friday, 03 September 2021, at LA PCG’s Community Hall.

The portraiture session is the culminating event for *Wika ng Sining*, a month-long art exhibit celebrating *Buwan ng Wikang Pambansa at Kasaysayan*, jointly organized by the Sentro Rizal in Los Angeles and FASGI.

Four talented visual artists namely, Mr. Rafael Maniago, Mr. Cesar Devera, Mr. Juan “Magoo” Valencia and Ms. Ninette Christine Tenza made on-the-spot portraits of various members of the Filipino-American community who graced the event.

In his opening remarks, Consul General Edgar B. Badajos noted that intercultural understanding is a good antidote to xenophobia and hate. He also mentioned that “promoting Filipino culture through events like this is a good way of enticing more travelers into the country with the anticipated normalization of international travel as we emerge from the global pandemic.”



The guests included Fil-am community leaders and the winners of the recently-concluded *Ms. Filipina International* and *Ms. Filipina Teen International*. The beauty titlists namely, Adilene Marie Klink (Miss Filipina International Tourism), Ms. Nathalie Jabonero (Miss Filipina Teen International), and Ms. Cady Shamulus (Miss Filipina Teen International 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up) spoke to the gathering about their various advocacies, including promoting Philippine tourism and encouraging the community to stay positive and helpful to each other during these difficult times. END