PRESS RELEASE
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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Two engineers, two lawyers, two marketing and communications professionals, a Broadway producer, an educator, a transportation infrastructure specialist, and a culinary enthusiast, form the fifth batch of young Filipino- American leaders who will embark on an immersion trip to the Philippines to meet with influential Filipino personalities and deepen their understanding of issues affecting their country of heritage.

Now on its fifth year, Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO) continues to give high-performing, next-generation Filipino-Americans the opportunity to reconnect with their roots and engage with government leaders, business executives, cultural experts, social entrepreneurs, and innovators in different fields in the Philippines.

The following are the 2016 FYLPRO delegates:

1. Noel Aglubat (New York, NY)
2. Tiffany Batac (Washington, DC)
3. Joanne Boston (Daly City, CA)
4. **Mark Calaguas (Chicago, IL)**
5. Brandon Dela Cruz (Honolulu, HI)
6. Elizabeth Frilles (Honolulu, HI)
7. Christopher Lapinig (Los Angeles, CA)
8. Maria Teresa Quintans (Tamuning, Guam)
9. Donny Rojo (Seattle, WA)
10. Jhett Tolentino (New York, NY)

Minister Patrick Chuasoto, the Embassy's *Chargé d'Affairés ad interim* and Chair of the FYLPRO Selection Committee, noted the high caliber crop of applicants to the 2016 edition of FYLPRO.

"The application process has been highly competitive this year and we are proud of the ten delegates who made the final cut. They have enormous leadership potential, and all have exhibited the will to be involved not only in shaping the future of the Filipino-American community but also in contributing to Philippine development," said Minister Chuasoto.

The 2016 FYLPRO immersion trip, which will be held on 23 November – 02 December 2016, is a joint undertaking by the Philippine Foreign Service Posts in the United States, the Ayala Foundation, Inc. and the Filipino Young Leaders Program Organization.

Learn more about the 2016 FYLPRO delegates via this link: **FYLPRO 2016**. ###