



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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FILIPINO STUDENTS SHOWCASE PRIDE AND CULTURE AT THE *BATTLE OF THE BAMBOO*

The Consulate General of the Philippines in Chicago would like to inform the Filipino American community that Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin supported the annual *Battle of the Bamboo* held at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Forum on 24 February 2018.

The Consul General graced the occasion before an auditorium packed with high school and college students, Fil-Am media and members of the Filipino-American community in Chicago who came in droves to show their support to their group.

The Battle of the Bamboo is an annual Filipino cultural dance competition among different schools in Chicago and the Midwest. In its 15th year, the Filipinos in Alliance (FIA) hosted the yearly event with the mission to provide an environment where Filipino Americans can challenge themselves to understand their Filipino American heritage. The FIA at the University of Illinois at Chicago is one of the member schools of the Midwest Association of Filipino Americans (MAFA) whose objective is to promote unity and cooperation among Filipino and Filipino-Americans around the Midwest.

This year's competing schools/dance troupes were Marquette University's Bayanihan Cultural, Niles North High School's Kapit Bayan, Northside College Preparatory High School's Isang Hakbang, St. Louis University's Filipino Student Association, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's PSA Barkada and University of Michigan at Ann Arbor's FASA Traditional.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Philippine Student Association (PSA) group that performed the legend of "*Alitaptap*" emerged as the champion. The second-place winner went to Niles North High School and third place finisher was Marquette University.

Chicago, 26 February 2018





Introduction of the performers at the start of the Battle of the Bamboo held at the UIC Forum on 24 February 2018.
(Photo courtesy of Ms. Anna Liza F. Alcantara)



Group Photo with Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin with the Filipino-American community before the start of the Battle of the Bamboo. *(Photo courtesy of Ms. Anna Liza F. Alcantara)*