FILIPINO AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN CHICAGO CELEBRATES “PASKUHAN SA CHICAGO AND SIMBANG GABI” AT SEAFOOD CITY

Chicago, 17 December 2018 – The Philippine Consulate General in collaboration with twenty (20) community organizations in Chicago celebrated the first ever “Paskuhan sa Chicago and Simbang Gabi” on Saturday, 15 December 2018, at the Market Mix in Seafood City in Chicago, Illinois.

More than 250 individuals attended this year’s Christmas party which kicked off with a Parol contest and judging at 2:00 pm followed by a cultural entertainment program, traditional “salu-salo” around sumptuous Filipino food, singing of Christmas carols, games and door prizes and capped by a Holy Mass (Simbang Gabi) at 6:00 pm.

Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin, in her welcome remarks, said: “As we celebrate the Season, we reinvigorate the vibrant cultural heritage of the Philippines and reinforce our sense of community. On behalf of the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago, we wish you the Blessings of the Season.” Consul General Jamoralin also congratulated the members of the Planning Committee, community leaders and guests for their commitment and dedication for the success of the first-ever “Paskuhan sa Chicago” and hoped that it will become a yearly event for the Filipino community in Chicago and Illinois.

The “Paskuhan sa Chicago” is presented by the Philippine Consulate in partnership with the following community organizations: Comstock Realty, Divine Mercy Crusade, Filipino American Historical Society in Chicago (FAHSC), Filipino American National Historical Society – Midwest(FANHSM), Filipino American Grandparents Association of Chicago (FAGPAC), Filipino Musicians in Chicago (FMC), Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO), Gawad Kalinga, Jerry Clarito Group, Joy Dance Club, Knights of Rizal (KOR), Ladies for Rizal, National Federation of Filipino American Association – Illinois (NaFFAA), Philippine American College of Clergy, Philippine American Cultural Foundation (PACF), Philippine Engineers and Scientists Organization (PESO), Filipino American Seniors Association in Chicago (PASAC), Sama-Sama Project, Trans American Financial Services, Wintrust and Zamboanga Del Norte Association of Illinois (ZAMNAI).

The event is co-sponsored by Seafood City, Homeland Realty, Inc., LBC, TFC and PNB.

END
Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin delivers her welcome remarks at the start of the "Paskuhan sa Chicago and Simbang Gabi" event held at the Market Mix Hall of Seafood City, Chicago on 15 December 2018.

Parol Competition winners: Front (L-R) 3rd Prize Mr. Adolph Cabagnot of the Filipio America Grandparents Association in Chicago (FAGPC), People’s Choice Award FAGPAC, Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin, 1st Prize Ms. Marie Salaraz of the Philippine American Cultural Foundation (PACF) and 2nd Prize Mr. Ruben Salazar of Filipino American Historical Society in Chicago (FAHSC). Back (L-R) Mr. Everett Icado, Ms. Marilyn Solomon, Mr. Roberto Munoz, Ms. Anna Liza Alcainara, Ms. Josephine Mascarenas-Diaz, Mr. Willi Buhay and Ms. Alpha Nicolasin.
Colorful shows and performances from different Filipino community organizations as well as games and raffle prizes delight the audience during the "Paskuhan sa Chicago and Simbang Gabi" event at the Market Mix Hall of Seafood City Chicago.
The packed Market Mix Hall of the Seafood City Supermarket on 15 December 2018 at the first ever “Paskuhan sa Chicago 2018.”

The Simbang Gabi, celebrated by Rev. Xamie Reyes of the Immaculate Conception Parish after the program, capped the evening’s event.
Members of the “Paskuhan sa Chicago” Organizing Committee 2018

Overall Chair: Philippine Consulate General, Chicago
Vice Chair: Philippine American Cultural Foundation

Committees:

Physical Arrangement:
  Joy Dance Club
  Sama-Sama Project

Invitation:
  Knights of Rizal
  Ladies for Rizal
  Philippine American College of Clergy

Program:
  Filipino Young Leaders Program
  Filipino American Historical Society in Chicago
  Philippine Engineers and Scientists Organization

Exchange Gift/Door Prizes:
  Filipino Grandparents Association in Chicago
  National Federation of Filipino American Association-Illinois
  Filipino American Senior Association in Chicago

Parol Contest and Prizes
  Comstock Realty / Wintrust / Trans American Financial Services
  Jerry Clarito Group

Food:
  Joy Dance

Budget and Sponsorships
  Gawad Kalinga

Photo and Documentation
  Philippine American Cultural Foundation

Simbang Gabi Mass
  Divine Mercy Crusade
  Zamboanga del Norte Association of Illinois

Auditor
  Filipino Musicians of Chicago

Fiscal Agent
  Philippine American National Historical Society-Midwest

The Filipino American Community
and
The Philippine Consulate General in Chicago
in partnership with Seafood City, Chicago
Present

"Paskuhan sa Chicago 2018"
and Simbang Gabi

Saturday, December 15, 2018
2:00pm to 7:00pm

Seafood City Market Mix
Corner of Elston & Cicero Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois 60630
MESSAGE FROM THE PHILIPPINE CONSUL GENERAL

On behalf of the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago, I would like to congratulate the members of the Planning Committee, community leaders and members as we celebrate the first ever Fil-Am wide Christmas event, “Paskuhan sa Chicago” 2018, held on Saturday, 15 December 2018, at the Market Mix – Seafood City in Chicago, Illinois.

As the Christmas Season is just around the corner, let us find ourselves reflecting on the year past. For Filipinos, Christmas means time with our family and loved ones. It is a meaningful season, especially to our Overseas Filipino Workers, who miss their families and the Christmas traditions back home.

To reinvigorate and preserve our cultural heritage, the Philippine Consulate General has engaged the Filipino community to make the Filipino Christmas tradition and spirit come alive in our own special way.

The Consulate General looks forward to another “Paskuhan sa Chicago” every year with our community’s support and commitment.

*Malingayang Pasko and Manigong Bagong Taon sa ating lahat!

Acknowledgements:

Program
Venue: Main Hall, Market Mix

1:30 - 2:20 PM Registration*
1:45 - 2:15 PM Parol Contest and Judging*

START OF THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM

2:30 PM Introduction
   Everett Icao and Alpha Nicolasin (Master of Ceremonies)

2:45 PM Singing of National Anthems
   Philippine and USA

2:50 PM Welcome Remarks
   Honorable Gina A. Jamoralin
   Consul General of the Republic of the Philippines

3:00 PM Opening Entertainment

3:15 PM Announcement of Parol Competition Winner

3:30 PM Special Number

3:45 PM Exchange Gifts

4:00 PM Noche Buena

4:20 PM Dance Performance

4:35 PM Closing Remarks
   Ms. Jelly Carandang
   FANHS-Midwest

4:40 PM Closing Performance

5:00 PM Raffle and Door Prizes

6:00 – 7:00 PM Misa De Gallo / Simbang Gabi

*The event will be at the foyer of Market Mix in Seafood City.