

OFFICIAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES

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campAlign

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“ ”

I AM INDEED VERY HONORED TO FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SENATOR LEILA DE LIMA, THE AWARDEE FOR 2018, AND ALL THE PAST AND PRESENT RECIPIENTS OF THE IGNITE AWARDS.

LET ME SAY THAT WHILE I HAVE LONG BEEN ACTIVE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE, THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM PERSECUTION, AND THE RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS, I WOULD LIKE TO BELIEVE THE PANEL OF JUDGES IS ALSO MAKING A STATEMENT ABOUT MY LONG-TIME ENGAGEMENT WITH ECONOMIC RIGHTS.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR DESTROYING ECONOMIES CANNOT JUST BE ALLOWED TO WALK AWAY FROM THE WRECKAGE. IT IS HIGH TIME WE SEEK JUSTICE FOR ECONOMIC CRIMES.

WALDEN BELLO

IGNITE AWARDS SEASON 3
MOST DISTINGUISHED
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER

IGNITE AWARDS SEASON 3
MOST DISTINGUISHED HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER
In recognition of their continued activism and membership
involvement with Amnesty International
Given this 10th day of June 2021 at the
LUXURY HOTEL, QUEZON CITY

WALDEN BELLO, CENTER LAW NAMED IGNITE AWARDEES FOR SEASON 3

“IGNITE AWARDEES THIS YEAR STAND IN THE TRADITION OF PAST WINNERS WHO HAVE SHOWN EXCEPTIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS WORK AND COURAGE TO CHAMPION HUMAN RIGHTS, OFTEN IN THE FACE OF GREAT DIFFICULTY.

BUTCH OLANO, SECTION DIRECTOR

On 28 May, Amnesty International Philippines announced its Ignite Awards for Human Rights Season 3 winners following the theme “Protect the Protest”, Amnesty’s newest campaign on the right to protest launched globally in 2022.

Walden Bello and Center for International Law (Center Law) were named Most Distinguished Human Rights Defenders for individual and organization in recognition of the impact their human rights work bring in demanding for justice and accountability from the government. The Outstanding Young Human Rights Defender Award was given to Franchesca Paula Garcia for her advocacy on violence against women, safe spaces, and equal rights for the LGBTQIA+ community, while Art that Matters for Music was awarded to Calix and BLKD of the rap group, Sandata, for their work on ‘Kolateral’, a collaborative album featuring songs about the ‘war on drugs’.

Amnesty International Philippines Section Director, Butch Olano, highlights how Ignite Awardees this year stand in the tradition of past winners such as Senator Leila de Lima in Season 1 and the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism (PCIJ) in Season 2 among others – individuals and organizations who have shown exceptional human rights work and courage to champion human rights, often in the face of great difficulty. This year’s theme, Protect the Protest, is not only reflected on the write up in the CVs of the awardees but is very much embedded in the minds of the people and communities whose testimonies speak volumes about how the awardees’ human rights work played a big part on their advocacy in claiming their rights.



A new panel of Board of Judges joined Ignite Awards for Seasons 3 and 4. Amnesty International Philippines received the support of a strong set of Board of Judges from the academe, human rights, peace and transitional justice advocacy, gender and LGBTQIA+ community, and the press.

Amnesty International Philippines is very grateful to have received the support of five prominent human rights defenders in the Ignite Awards Board of Judges panel. Two of them, Dr. Rolando Tolentino and Dr. Jasmin Galace, are esteemed educators advancing socio-political discourse and analyses through their work in their respective educational institutions and human rights advocacies. We have one of the best photojournalists in the country, Ezra Acayan, who has been awarded for his work on the “war on drugs” and the COVID-19 pandemic through his photographs. Joe Wong, Executive Director of the Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTAN) brings in the Southeast Asian human rights perspective into the judging process. And Amnesty’s very own Regional Office representative, Jerry Bernas, whose expertise in movement-building and governance completes

the panel for the latest awarding season and the next one in 2026. The added-value of their contribution in recognizing the human rights impact of the work that finalists and awardees accomplished is immeasurable, cementing for the third time the credibility of Ignite Awards, the first ever award-giving body for human rights defenders in the Philippines since its launch in 2017.

The Ignite Awards nomination process started in May 2022, and the shortlist of nominees based on eligibility requirements was finalized in January this year. A three-month rigorous due diligence work followed with the aim of getting the most relevant information and testimonies from various individuals, communities and institutions that the finalists work with, in compliance to the criteria for judging – impact of human rights work (40%), coverage (40%), credibility (20%). This season's Protect the Protest theme also puts the judging in perspective, focusing on human rights defenders who have led the push back against repressive policies and practices in the government, making sure that the people-powered movement is strengthened more, secured and safe from attacks from human rights violators.

On this third round, Amnesty has proven indeed that ordinary people can do extra-ordinary human rights work in order to ensure that individuals and communities continue to have the freedom to demand for what is right for them, just, and lawful from the government.

Butch Olano expressed his aspiration for Amnesty to one day be able to recognize all the unsung heroes of protest or to give trophies to the rest of the nameless human rights defenders who have tirelessly and courageously faced and fought against injustices brought about by state and non-state forces including big businesses and corporations. But acknowledged as well that the winners this season symbolize that protest is indeed ripe and will continue to carry human rights activism along many generations to come so long as power remain with the people.

Amnesty International Philippines honors the vibrant activism in the Philippines which goes out to all individuals and communities who continue to side with the truth, and persevere that somehow, in the end, humanity will win the fight for human rights for all!

ABOUT IGNITE AWARDS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES BELIEVES THAT INSPIRING PEOPLE INTO TAKING ACTION ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHOSE RIGHTS HAVE BEEN VIOLATED OR ABUSED ENSURES THAT NO ONE IS EVER LEFT BEHIND, ALONE, OR FORGOTTEN.

IGNITE AWARDS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, THE FIRST EVER HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS IN THE COUNTRY, AIMS TO RECOGNIZE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS WHO BROUGHT ABOUT IMPACT BY CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES, POLICIES, ACTIVISM, AND ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS WORK. IGNITE AWARDS ALSO SERVES AS A TOOL IN TRANSFORMING THE PERCEPTION OF FILIPINOS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS BY SHOWING THAT EVEN ORDINARY PEOPLE CAN DO EXTRAORDINARY HUMAN RIGHTS WORK.

www.amnesty.org.ph/ignite-awards



IGNITE
Season 3

BRAVE AWARD

**WE CAN FIND THE SPARK OF
COURAGE IN ALL OF US TO SPEAK
OUT FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.
WE CAN TWEET. WE CAN PROTEST.
WE CAN WRITE LETTERS.
WE CAN BE A WITNESS.
AND TOGETHER WE CAN ACT AS ONE
ALONGSIDE HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS, TO FIGHT INJUSTICE
AND BUILD A FAIRER WORLD.**

62 Amnesty International Philippines members were recognized as Brave Member Awardees in this season of Ignite Awards for Human Rights.

While Ignite Awards seek to honor individuals and organizations working on human rights issues outside Amnesty International, Brave Award recognizes Amnesty's very own homegrown human rights defenders.

The Brave Award co-cycles with Ignite's awarding season, and is given to active and consistently paying members of Amnesty International Philippines.

Motivation, equitability and reciprocity are the main principles that Amnesty observes when giving recognition to its members for the Brave Award. These principles ensure that Amnesty's core standards are highly reflected in the work rendered by its member-recipients in achieving excellence in their human rights work.

Among the members who received the Brave Award are five hall of famers who have consistently complied with the set criteria for three consecutive seasons - they are Gena Agbon, Jude Nelson Apolonio, Estelle Lopez, Anecita Natinga, and Robert Quinimon. Recognizing their commitment, not only on the basis of taking action but membership compliance and financial accountability as well. Amnesty International Philippines is truly grateful for all their work, and the effort they tirelessly give to the human rights advocacy even when faced with risks.



SPEAK UP FOR THE RIGHT TO SPEAK OUT: THE 15 FACES OF PROTEST

*With written contributions from
HRYC 2023 Campers: Matthew Saligumba
and Sikey De Guzman*

THEY SAY THE YOUTH ARE THE HOPE AND THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION; BUT RIGHT NOW, IN THESE CHALLENGING TIMES, THE YOUTH HAVE SHOWN UP AND EXHIBITED THEIR RESILIENCE IN THE FIGHT FOR CHANGE AND DEMOCRACY. ON THE 22ND DAY OF AUGUST 2023, FIFTEEN YOUTH ACTIVISTS FROM DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY, BRINGING DIVERSE ADVOCACIES AND TALENTS AND ARMED WITH HOPE AND PASSION FOR CHANGE, GATHERED IN ONE PLACE TO SPEAK UP FOR THE RIGHT TO SPEAK OUT. THESE 15 YOUNG PEOPLE, WITH A BURNING PASSION FOR CHANGE AND A VISION OF A WORLD WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ENJOYED BY ALL, WORKED TOGETHER IN THE HOPES OF CREATING A SAFE COMMUNITY WHERE THE RIGHT TO PROTEST IS ENJOYED AND PROTECTED.

EXPLORING PROTEST: DAY 1 & 2

The camp started with the core of all our advocacies—human rights and the meaning and the nature of protest. It was an unexpectedly physical activity, learning about human rights through an amazing race. But in addition to learning about human rights concepts, principles, and actors, it strengthened the camaraderie of the camper-activists when exposed to unforeseen situations, and showed the importance of our adaptability, empathy, and unity.

On the second day of the camp, we explored the definition of peaceful protest, the power of effective mobilization, and

how protest and activism shaped Philippine history and our political and social landscape. Listening to the the different stories of protest across years and countries, we realized that protest does not only exist on the streets. It's important to understand that just like there are many kinds of art, protest has many forms—there's the traditional that most people know, but there also digital or online protest that takes place on our social media accounts, and of course, activism where we can protest through music, poetry and visual art. This is why protest can spark anywhere and from anyone, we all speak up in our own ways and enable protest to exist in our schools, homes, and communities.

“ ”

THERE'S A LOT OF EXPECTATIONS THAT HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PUT ON TO OUR YOUTH. EXPECTATIONS FROM FAMILY, SCHOOL OR WORK, AND EVEN IN THE MOVEMENT. THEY WILL ALWAYS USE RIZAL'S "KABATAAN ANG PAG-ASA NG BAYAN" BUT FAIL AT UNDERSTANDING OUR CONDITIONS AND EXPERIENCES.

YES, WE MAY BE YOUNG, VIBRANT, AND FULL OF LIFE. BUT WE ALSO STRUGGLE. WE STRUGGLE TO FIND STABILITY, PUT THINGS TOGETHER, EXPRESS OUR TRUE SELVES, AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE FAST-PACED ENVIRONMENT. OUR PATHWAY WILL NEVER BE STRAIGHT. THERE WILL BE BUMPS AND FORK ROADS ALONG THE WAY. THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN WE PRIORITIZE OURSELVES, OUR WELL-BEING. AND THAT IS OKAY!

I HOPE WE ALL FIND OUR SPACE IN THE WORLD AND IN THE MOVEMENT. THE SPACE WHERE WE FEEL SAFE, BRAVE, AND SUPPORTED.

**ANJELICA MIA TONOGBANUA,
YOUTH BOARD MEMBER 2021-2023**



**STRENGTH
IN
Pride**

PROTECT
EARTH



The sessions of the day also highlighted what should be the obligation of the state to promote and protect the people's right to expression and assembly. This opened our eyes to the different shades of injustice in society and gave us a glimpse of the many perspectives on the current struggle against the rotten political system in the country.

WHO WE ARE AS ACTIVISTS: DAY 3 & 4

The third day is one of the most challenging. Continuing the previous days' sessions, we looked at young activists' experiences in online spaces, recognizing the increasing expansion of protest into digital spaces in recent years. It's interesting to see that sometimes, one does not need to be visible to be heard. Bringing the last two and a half days together, we had a session that grounded these learnings on our own lived realities as youth activists. We reflected on our own fears and motivations, privilege and burdens—because the truth is, it isn't easy to be an activist, and there are even more barriers as a youth activist—and this session was a safe space to acknowledge that and better understand how all of our diverse identities and situations contribute to who we are as activists. There were a lot of stories shared. At the end of it, we realized the importance of feeling supported, and being a part of a collective when fighting for a radical and equal society. This is how we can intensify our campaigns, build up our mobilizations, and sustain our fight. This was reflected in the vision we created, imagining answers to “What if protest is safeguarded?” “What if red-tagging is outlawed?” “What would the world look like if instead of being seen as a threat, the right to protest is exercised freely?”

Skills-Building came in on the fourth day of the camp. In teams, we learned about the different components we'll need in building power through people-led movements: human rights education, campaigning and mobilization, and communication and disruptive storytelling. The human rights education team looked into tools and frameworks for designing a human rights module. The campaigning and mobilization team worked on strategically identifying stakeholders and tactics for their local/community-based campaigns. The communications and disruptive storytelling team learned about the heartwired approach and designed their own posters. We ended the day with a session on Activist Safety, Security, and Well-Being which covered practical tips on safety and security and a much needed reflections on how we can take care of ourselves as activists, and people.



CONTINUING PROTEST AFTER HRYC 2023: DAY 5

On the last day of the camp, ideas and activities that have started to take their place in the minds of the camper-activists have now taken shape as plans. We had the opportunity to assess ourselves as human rights defenders, and we also had the chance to establish our roots again with bigger plans in mind—supporting more people in our communities and standing with the Filipino masses at the core. The last afternoon we spent together was full of reflection, gratitude, learning, and contemplation for all these new experiences that we will bring with us as we go back to the communities we serve. Indeed, it was a fulfilling day full of realization and grounding.

After a week of workshops and training, we felt more equipped with evolving skills and knowledge, and more confident in embarking on this quest to campaign for human rights, and our advocacies in our respective communities. HRYC 2023 left a mark on us as young activists. It was a surreal experience that will forever change our lives. These young activists gathered in one place, brought together by the desire to uphold human rights. We were united by our advocacies, bound by our love for the people, and found support and courage in each other.

** Co-designed and co-facilitated by youth activists, the Human Rights Youth Camp is an intensive workshop focused on knowledge-building, skills training and campaign design. The 5-day camp brought together youth and children activists from different parts of the Philippines.*





HRE REGIONAL COORDINATOR VISITS THE PHILIPPINES

IN RECENT YEARS, THE HRE EFFORTS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES HAVE SLOWLY BEEN RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY BY THE AMNESTY MOVEMENT AS A RESULT OF CONTINUED HARD WORK BY THE SECTION. ONE CONCRETE MANIFESTATION OF THIS WAS THE RECENT VISIT TO THE COUNTRY OF SOMYA DIMRI, AMNESTY'S ASIA PACIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION COORDINATOR.

The visit aimed to document HRE experiences of the Philippine Section, particularly the work done in the communities where Centers of Community Action have been established through the application of Human Rights-based Community Organizing (HRbCo). One specific target output of the visit is to produce a video documentation of the Section's HRE work for cross-learning and possible collaboration with other Amnesty entities, with the hope that other Sections may find inspiration in what the Philippines has been doing.

HRbCo is a project being implemented by the HRE program since before the pandemic. It recognizes the fact that HRE work is not just about simply giving one-time training and lectures but entails a more holistic approach to create impact. A set of action-oriented activities and context-based interventions are

carefully designed for each case or community.

Occasionally, direct assistance, such as giving funds for income-generating projects, food, and medical needs, is also provided when the situation calls for it.

The 8-day activity which ran from 23 to 30 July included visits to three communities in Mindanao, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), interviews, and a learning session. Somya Dimri also met with families of victims of the 'war on drugs', and an FGD was held with them in Quezon City. Amnesty Philippines has been supporting these families through the Justice Project's series of human rights education sessions aimed at empowering them to claim their rights and seek justice from the government.

The field visit in Mindanao started on 24 July where Somya, along with five other Amnesty staff and a videographer, took a 2-hour flight from Manila to Cagayan De Oro where they met with Section Director Butch Olano who joined the community visits. From there, they travelled by land travel to Malaybalay, Bukidnon where the team rested for the night. The following day, the team visited the Manobo-Pulangiyan (MP) indigenous community.

The Manobo-Pulangiyan indigenous community has been in a years-long fight to reclaim their ancestral domain. Displaced from their ancestral land and with little to no help from the government, the Manobo-Pulangiyan indigenous community has been living under dire situation. The Section has supported the indigenous community in their lobbying efforts to award them their ancestral land title and ultimately be able to return to their ancestral lands, which is vital for their survival and freedoms. After talking to the leaders of MP, the team headed to Tagum City in Davao del Norte.

On 26 July, Somya and the team travelled to Manat village, in Trento, Agusan del Sur to meet the Manat Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs).



For many years, these farmers have been receiving very low rental of P635.00 per hectare per year from a private company who have been leasing their agrarian lands of more than a thousand hectares for more than 20 years for palm tree cultivation and production. Amnesty Philippines helped the farmers organize themselves and demand an increase in land rental plus economic benefits. When the activity ended, the team again embarked on a 2-hour land trip to Cagwait where another indigenous group was waiting. The team was welcomed by a cultural presentation from the tribal leaders of KATRIMMA-LACORTAN, and they all shared a simple yet sumptuous dinner afterwards.

KATRIMMA-LACORTAN stands for Kahugpungan sa Tribong Manobo ug Mamanwa sa Lanuza, Cortes ug Tandag, an organization of indigenous peoples communities from three cities and municipalities namely Tandag, Cortez, and Lanuza in the province of



Surigao del Sur. These communities have long been fighting for their ancestral lands, peace and security, and for the fulfillment of their economic, social, and cultural rights. They have been subjected to various forms of human rights violations. These indigenous cultural communities have also become victims of red-tagging or have been publicly accused of working against the government. In the morning of 27 July, a paralegal training entitled "Know Your Rights: Arrest, Search and Seizure" was conducted for the members of KATRIMMA-LACORTAN. After the session, the team headed back to Butuan City and took an early return flight to Manila the next day, 28 July.

The last activity was conducted on 29 July with a group of women who represented the families of victims of the 'war on drugs' from a community in Quezon City. They shared the different training and learning sessions Amnesty Philippines has provided them. The group expressed their gratitude to Amnesty as well as to other supporting groups for all the knowledge imparted to them through various types of human rights education sessions. During the FGD, one participant shared that they used to be afraid before, but after learning about human rights, they learned to overcome their fears; and that they will continue to fight for their rights and seek justice for the deaths of their loved ones under the 'war on drugs' campaign.

The visit culminated with a dinner for Somya. She received Amnesty Philippines merchandise as an appreciation gift. Somya later wrote an email from London thanking everyone for "an insightful visit". She said that the interaction with the communities and visiting the impactful work that the Philippines is doing has been a pleasure to witness, and that there were so many ideas and learnings that she took back with her.

The HRbCo project can be an effective tool in bringing about positive transformation in people's lives. It is but worth to recognize the equal contribution of the communities themselves who, through human rights education, do not only remain passive learners but have become active and committed partners in taking steps towards advancing and safeguarding human rights.

THE LIFE-CHANGING POWER OF WORDS

WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



READING THE NEWS CAN BE REALLY DEPRESSING. SOMETIMES THERE SEEMS TO BE SO MUCH WRONG IN THE WORLD, THE IDEA OF CHANGING IT FOR THE BETTER FEELS IMPOSSIBLE. BUT AS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S WRITE FOR RIGHTS CAMPAIGN SHOWS, YOU CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE BY DOING SOMETHING "LITTLE".

WRITING A LETTER, SENDING A TWEET, SIGNING A PETITION. SURELY YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE WORLD WITH SOMETHING SO SIMPLE? YES, YOU CAN!

Since Write for Rights started in 2001, millions of people, just like you, have changed the lives of those whose human rights had been stripped from them. In fact, since 2001, more than 50 million actions have been taken, while over 100 people featured in our campaign have seen a positive outcome to their case! Taking just a little bit of time to send, post or write a letter really does make the world of difference to the people we have supported through the campaign – and we're continuing to make an impact.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER FREE

Bernardo Caal Xol, a Guatemalan teacher and environmental activist, worked tirelessly to defend communities affected by hydroelectric projects on the Cahabón river in northern Guatemala. In November 2018 he was sentenced to more than seven years in prison on bogus charges aimed at preventing his human rights work. During Write for Rights 2021 more than half a million actions were taken for Bernardo and in March 2022 he was released.

YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL

HOW YOUR WORDS CHANGED LIVES

WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



SINCE 2001



50,876,920

letters, cards,
emails and petition
signatures sent



OVER 100

people featured
in the campaign
experienced
positive change
in their lives



IN 231

countries and
territories people
have taken part
in Write for Rights

WRITE A LETTER, CHANGE A LIFE



**WRITE A LETTER,
SIGN A PETITION,
SEND A TWEET**

TAKE ACTION TODAY!

1. Read about the people we're fighting for.
2. Contact Amnesty Philippines' Campaign Program at the National Secretariat if you wish to host a Write for Rights letter writing event in your school or community.
3. Sign the online petitions on the website:
www.amnesty.org.ph/write4rights

**"I AM SO VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE LETTERS.
FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, THIS CAMPAIGN
HAS KEPT ME ALIVE. IT'S WHAT HAS STOPPED
THEM FROM KILLING ME, BECAUSE THEY KNOW
THAT YOU ARE THERE."**

JANI SILVA, WRITE FOR RIGHTS 2020



THAPELO MOHAPI

**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



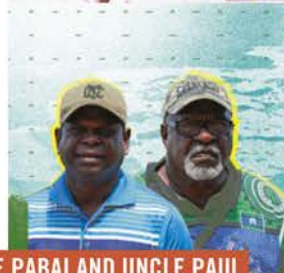
ANA MARIA SANTOS CRUZ



ROCKY MYERS



MAUNG SAWYEDDOLLAH



UNCLE PABAI AND UNCLE PAUL



**WRITE FOR RIGHTS 2023 FEATURES
11 PEOPLE WHO HAVE PAID A GREAT PRICE
FOR SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER. AMNESTY
PHILIPPINES IS HIGHLIGHTING FIVE CASES.**

If you have any doubts that your words can make a difference, Jani Silva, an environmental activist from Colombia can assure you they do. Jani's fearless opposition to environmental contamination and human rights violations had frightening consequences. She was followed, intimidated, and threatened with death.



Martial Law Bloodlines

TATTOO • TUGTUGAN • TEACH IN

goes to Iloilo

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ENGAGEMEDIA'S ONLINE VIDEO PLATFORM, CINEMATA, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES CONDUCTED ITS MARTIAL LAW BLOODLINES VISAYAS LEG IN ILOILO CITY ON 30 JUNE TO CELEBRATE THE LAST DAY OF THE PRIDE MONTH.

The teach in part of the festival looking at generational trauma as one less discussed effects of martial law, where children and relatives themselves of martial law heroes are at the front and center of the conversation, is an attempt to offer an alternative narrative to the discourse on the enduring vicarious trauma brought about by human rights violations during this dark period in Philippine history.

We heard stories from victim-survivors over the years, Martial Law Bloodlines provided a stage where Filipinos listened to the stories of their children and relatives, equally devastated by the human rights violations they experienced during Marcos, Sr.'s dictatorship. To be able to break the cycle and ripple effects of generational trauma, conversations around transitional justice need to be had. This also ensures that the Filipino people shall never forget, and that the horrors of martial law accumulated in the last 50 years will never be passed down again to another generation of activists.

Ron De Vera, former Amnesty Philippines Board Member, a staunch gender-rights activist, and the son of martial law hero, Adora Faye De Vera shared their family's martial law story. Ron shared lessons on transitional justice, and how it centers on social reform to prevent massive human rights violations from happening again through education and campaign. He shared how his mother influenced his LGBTQIA+ advocacy and why allyship is important in activism work. Gender-based human rights violations happened during Marcos, Sr.'s martial law, and while this has not been highlighted in the past, it is crucial to keep on talking about how intersectionality of discrimination impacts the most marginalized and vulnerable during human rights catastrophes such as putting an entire country under the martial rule.

Martial Law Bloodlines Visayas opened the screening not just for films about martial law but stories about Pride as well. Aside from Cinemata, various local organizations set up booth in the festival including Dakila Iloilo Collective, Western Visayas State University's Mag-aaral na may Adbokasiya sa Pagtib'ung sang Kulturang Manggad (MAARAM), and Sinemaskom, with support from Amnesty International Philippines Region VI members and volunteers in Iloilo City.





EDJOP (1986)

ALTERNATIVE HORIZONS



The documentary focuses on the life and struggles of youth student leader Edgar Jopson, known as Edjop, who was killed by the military in September 1982. The 34-year-old was an intellectual who stood with the masses to pursue social change.

SI BIBOY KAG ANG SIGBIN SA SIUDAD (2021)

DIRECTED BY HANNAH BRITANICO

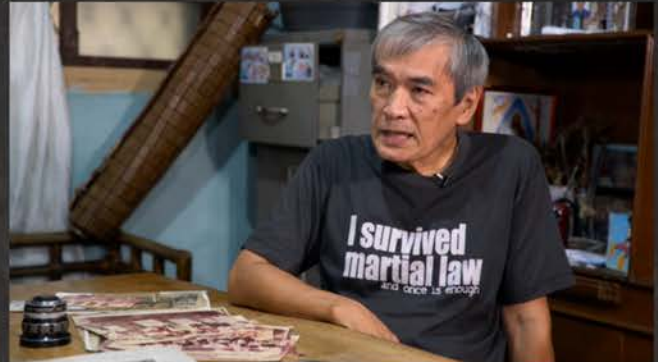


Awarded Best Regional Entry for Animation, the 34th Gawad Alternatibo

Biboy chases after a sigbin, a creature that took his father away. In his search, he meets kids whose family members were also taken away by the creature. Even with the dangers he faces, Biboy perseveres until he uncovers the sigbin's identity.

SINGKWENTO: LITO OCAMPO (2022)

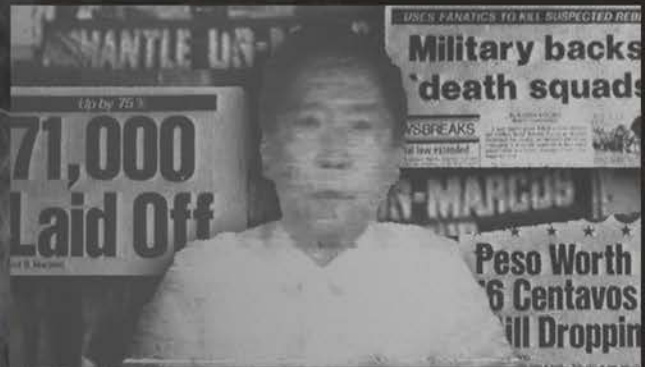
ALTERMIDYA



For Lito Ocampo, a Filipino photojournalist who experienced torture and detention during Martial Law, photography paved the way for him to show the people's struggle against the Ferdinand Marcos, Sr. dictatorship.

DALUYONG

POLITICAL FILMMAKING IN A PERIOD OF SOCIAL UNREST REDUX



This film collection documents significant events in the Filipino people's socio-political history, countering the Marcos myth and fantasy of greatness.

The collection is now permanently available on Cinemata.

 **Cinemata** <https://cinemata.org>

10 million
strong

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF MORE THAN 10 MILLION PEOPLE WHO TAKE INJUSTICE PERSONALLY. WE ARE CAMPAIGNING FOR A WORLD WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ENJOYED BY ALL.

In 1961, British lawyer Peter Benenson was outraged when two Portuguese students were jailed just for raising a toast to freedom. He wrote an article in The Observer newspaper and launched a campaign that provoked an incredible response. Reprinted in newspapers across the world, his call to action sparked the idea that people everywhere can unite in solidarity for justice and freedom.

This inspiring moment didn't just give birth to an extraordinary movement, it was the start of extraordinary social change.

"Only when the last prisoner of conscience has been freed, when the last torture chamber has been closed, when the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a reality for the world's people, will our work be done."

PETER BENENSON, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDER

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



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