



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
Region VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BOHOL**

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DepEd, Division of Bohol Advisory No: 099, s. 2022  
November 8, 2022

(In compliance with DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2013, this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO No. 28, s. 2001 but for the information of DepEd Officials, Personnel/ Staff as well as the concerned public.)

**ALAB NG LAHI NATIONAL FRONT**

1. This office disseminates the Regional Advisory No. 228, s. 2022, announcing the Alab ng Lahi National Front to take place in Central Visayas this coming November 30 in Lapu-Lapu City, December 1 in Mandaue City and December 2 in Cebu City.
2. For details, refer to the attached enclosures.
3. For the information of all interested and concerned parties.



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CID  
- For info  
11/7/22

Regional Advisory No. D 2 2 8, s. 2022  
4 November 2022

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**ALAB NG LAHI NATIONAL FRONT**

1. This Office disseminates the communication received from Melissa Braga Montilla, President/CEO, Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc., announcing the Alab ng Lahi National Front to take place in Central Visayas on November 30 in Lapu-Lapu City, December 1 in Mandaue City, and December 2 in Cebu City.
2. Participation of the schools in this educational endeavor is subject to the discretion and approval of the Schools Division Superintendents, and to the provisions of DECS Order No. 28, s. 2001 entitled "Prohibiting the Commercialization of DECS organization through endorsements and Accreditation of Goods and Services", and DepEd Order No.9, s. 2005 entitled "Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-On-Task' and all other existing DepEd policies, regulations, and ensuring compliance therewith.
3. For details, refer to the attached enclosure.
4. For the information of concerned parties.

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**Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc.**  
**#22 Arellano St.Tacloban City. ( 09152180143)**

SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ, EdD, JD, CESO V

October 28, 2022

Director IV  
Regional Director

Dearest Sir:

Greeting!

First and foremost, allow me to introduce myself, I am Melissa Braga Montilla representing for and on behalf of the Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc/ Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company.

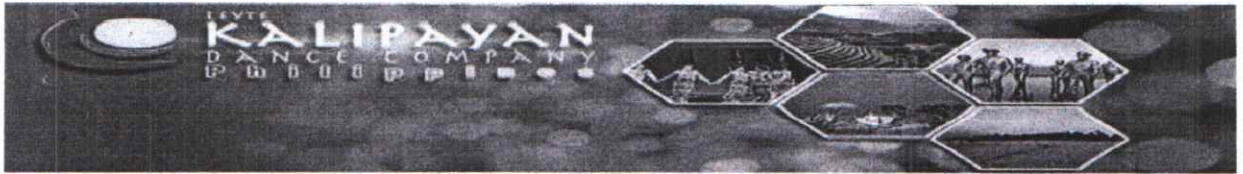
In connection to the worldwide Filipino Cultural Awareness Campaign spearheaded by our very own, the Internationally Acclaimed Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company, with project entitled "ALAB Ng LAHI", this is to promote the rich heritage and tourism industry of our country, and most importantly to bring across the message on the magnificence of our culture and tradition to the 3rd and 4th generations of Filipinos across the globe. **The ALAB NG LAHI kick-off for international front is on July 2023 and for national front will take place in Central Visayas on November 30 Lapu-Lapu City, December 1 Mandaua City, and Cebu City for December 2, 2022.** May those schedules above be blocked for our student's special activity for the month of November and December for at least 1 hour and half minutes show.

Allow me to give you a brief background about The Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company, it is a homegrown folkdance troupe from the province of Leyte, It was organized in 1961 by Teresita Veloso Pil, and this marks of 61<sup>st</sup> year anniversary. It is composed of young high school and college student from the different universities and colleges in the region, that they form part as dance scholars of the dance company.

Awareness of Filipino Culture and Tradition expressed through dance and music is our primary purpose, as well as to promote peace and goodwill to humanity, therefore, ensures exposure of this to our local community, as well a national and international audiences. It has been successful with its various cultural missions aboard, that includes 31 international tours, and performed in 37 countries, in Europe, Middle East, South America, United States of America and South East Asia and still continue up to this day, our most recent was in 2018 3<sup>rd</sup> cultural mission to Southern part of the United States of America for 2 months. 2019 World Flora Exposition in Taichung, Taiwan. In 2020 even at the height of pandemic we continued our mission to present the lighter side of the world during its trying times, we participated on the 24<sup>th</sup> international folklore festival in Sophia, Bulgaria, and in 2021. The 17<sup>th</sup> International Folklore festival, Nava Prata, Brasil

Leyte Kalipayan first voyage was in 1964 when it was designated by President Diosdado Macapagal as the official cultural ambassador to foreign land.

Being in ground zero after typhoon Yolanda was never a hindrance to keep our advocacy, Six (6) months after typhoon Yolanda we were called by Cultural Center of the Philippines to represent Philippines for the cultural exchange during the 82nd birthday of Queen Sirikit of Thailand, then followed with ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw in, Myanmar in 2014. In 2016, it was recognized by world dance organization, and now Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company included on the list as one of the best in the world ([www.dance.dance.com](http://www.dance.dance.com)).



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Your concurrence is a value added to our children's learning, and that your office will be one with us in this noble endeavor to refresh and educate the younger generation of students, allowing them to experience an authentic actual representation on the rich heritage of our country Philippines.

Please find attached Promotion video and company Profile for better appreciation. Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

**Melissa Braga Montilla**  
President/CEO  
Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc.  
Executive Director-Leyte Kalipayan Philanthropic Development Office  
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LEYTE KALIPAYAN  
DANCE COMPANY

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## **Company Profile**

The Leyte kalipayan Dance Company, one of the best folkloric dance troupes in the Philippines today, has been dancing for 61 years across the globe. It's a home grown folk dance troupe, an accredited non-profit organization of the province of Leyte.

The Company started out as the Leyte Filipiniana Dance troupe, founded in 1961 by Teresita Veloso Pil, with the encouragement of Sister Mary Canisius Murphy, the School Directress then of the Holy Infant College in Tacloban City, Leyte, Philippines

The dance troupe is composed of young high school and college students from different Colleges and Universities in the region. These students were considered scholars of the dance troupe who are not only trained to become exemplary in the field of arts, but training includes value and character formation of the dancers for them to become good cultural ambassadors and better citizens of our society.

It has undergone 31 international tours, and performed in 37 countries, in the Middle East, South America, United States of America, Europe, and Southeast Asia. Achievements includes a major awards, winning silver medal in an International Folklore Festival in Dijon, France, a grantee of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, and an awardee of the National Gawad for Dance. It was internationally recognized and now listed as one of the Best Dance Companies in the World by World Folklore Organization in 2016 ([www.danceanddance.com](http://www.danceanddance.com)).

The initial public performance was in September 1961 for the school's college day celebration. From that point forward, it was an onward push for the young dance troupe when invitations began to pour in, propelling its performance tours in the municipal, regional, national and international levels.

It was on 1965, on its 4th anniversary, when then Philippine President Diosdado Macapagal designated the dance group as the official cultural ambassador for abroad and left for 10 months to the United States, danced and electrified a whole nation with their endearing exuberance.



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In **1980**, the dance troupe participated at various international folklore festivals in Israel, Italy and Switzerland and won the silver medal at the Dijon International Folkloric Festival in France, where 32 other international groups contended. In 1981 the company visited Saudi Arabia where it won the hearts and admiration of 12,000 Filipinos. 1982 was a banner year with performances at the 1982 World-Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee. They as well attended the prestigious Wolf Trap International Children Festival in Virginia, U.S.A., travelled to New York City and Washington D.C. to perform on the occasion of the state visit of President Ferdinand Marcos in September 1982.

In **1990**, they were designated as the official Philippine delegate to the 1990 Asian Folklore Festival held in Malaysia, wherein the Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company was the only Filipino dance troupe member of International Council of Organizations for Folklore Festivals and Folk Art (CIOFF) based in Europe.

Manifesting exemplary performance during the festival, was a gateway towards more European tours. They danced their way into the hearts of the audience at the various folklore festivals in Spain and Portugal in 1993; The Netherlands, Belgium and England **1995**; Germany and Portugal in **2009**; and due to popular request, they made a Third time tour to Spain, Italy and Switzerland. Beijing China in **2006** Folklore Festival.

In November 8, **2013**, this legendary institution survived the devastation of super-typhoon Hayan aka (" Yolanda"), the strongest typhoon in the history of mankind that made land fall, which caused the dance troupe to lose everything that mattered to them, a rehearsal hall called home for 40 years, and treasures preserved for 5 decades. Indeed, the devastation brought the dance troupe to ground zero.

To this effect, because of social responsibilities it has to forcibly get up on its feet, facing uncertainties where the road would lead them after math.

Despite the status quo and being homeless for years, the shattering made them not lose hope, but rather relied on the wonderful gift of talent from GOD, that gave courage to face life challenges, which led themselves to find means to bring back the dance troupe to its normal form. They used costumes that were hand-picked from the ruins, and very grateful to some alumni who spared to buy costumes and instruments. Unfortunately another typhoon "Urduha" struck the province, were all



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Instruments were soaked in water, for venue was not available to safe keep all costumes, props and instruments.

The dance troupe is having its temporary shelter and their 11<sup>th</sup>venue at Holy Virgin of Salvacion, through the family of Dr.Conchita Merin, who were kind enough to accommodate the group, while still finding its way towards our new permanent dwelling place.

The Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc. endured to live, kept its mission, and its social responsibilities to its countrymen. After surviving from the disaster, "Kalipayan Voices" was formed to present on behalf of the Dance troupe who was still on ground zero ,with selected kalipayan members with high caliber singing voice were taken in for the singing group, which made the Leyte Kalipayan Company Continue its mission with Kalipayan Voices as front while the dance troupe was recovering. On January 20, 2014 "Kalipayan Voices" sang for the king of Sweden , on February 20, 2014, Voices with Rondalla performed for World Tourism Governor, hosted by the Governor of Leyte, Dominico Leopoldo Petilla. May 31, 2014. the Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company had its first ever performance after Yolanda, a thanks giving show initiated by the dance troupe which was dedicate to the different INGO's who helped rebuild Leyte fast, held at Palo Municipal Hall, Palo, Leyte sponsored by Mayor Remedios Petilla, and the Department of Tourism Eastern Visayas Regions, through Director Karen Tiopes. On June 15 Leyte kalipayan being back on their feet performs for the German guests of Cathy Buenvitacola, held at Pasqualino, St Rita Samar. On June 27 the Municipality of Palo through Mayor Remedios Petilla who hosted another thanks giving show for Korean Military Volunteers, succeeded by another thanks giving show hosted by City of Tacloban through Honorable Mayor Alfred Romualdez for Pacific & American friendship, volunteer soldiers who helped on the rehabilitation of the province of Leyte, and the city of Tacloban.

As it continued to prosper, in 2014 right after the devastation it responded to the Philippines National Government call through National Commission for culture and Arts and Department of Foreign Affairs to represent Philippines on the 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday of Queen Sirikit of Thailand. On October 8, 2014 the dance troupe performs for Freight Process Out Sourcing Solution inauguration, October 20, 2014 70<sup>th</sup> Leyte Landing Anniversary, performed for Philippine President Benigno" Noynoy' Aquino and dignitaries.



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**December 2014** Leyte Kalipayan was designated as official cultural ambassador for cultural exchange at 2014 ASEAN SUMMIT held at Nay Pi Taw, Myanmar.

**2015** was also a busy year for the dance troupe with significant performances was in store in their own locality, to start with Jan 3 an exclusive show for Veloso- Wright Nuptial at Hotel Alejandro, Tacloban, January 04 Thanks giving show for donors who help rebuild Sto Nino Church that was wrecked by typhoon Yolanda. January 17, 2015 an audience with Pope Francis during his Pastoral visit at Daniel Z. Romualdez Airport. March 21 exclusive performance for Ms. Julie Anover German guests, at Pasqualino, Sta Rita, Samar. May 9, 2015 performance for TY Family Hermanidad in Pinabacdao, Samar. May 23- LIDE, Isabel, Leyte, May 30 Leyte kalipayan Dance Company Summer Recital, at Leyte Normal gym. July 17 Exclusive for Pil- Veloso Clan Reunion at Patio Victoria,. December 15, 2015 Pryce Group of Companies, Pryce Hotel, Cagayan , De Oro.

**April 16, 2016** DEPED Division Mancom at Patio Victoria. May 16, 2016 Leyte Kalipayan Summer Dance Adventure recital at Robinsons Place. July 8, 2016 HAIYAN book launching, Robinsons place, Tacloban City. Series of cultural awareness campaign was conducted at different venues: Aug 30 St Therese Educational Foundation, Sept 3, 2016 Angelicum Learning Center, Sept 06- Holy Infant College, Sept 19 Municipality of Pastrana, Leyte. October 1- Tzu-Chi Foundation optical medical mission. Oct 19- Opening of Leyte Gulf Anniversary, Palo, Leyte. November 10 Information Communication Technology Summit, Leyte Academic Center, Palo.. December 03, 2016 La Naval Academy, Naval, Biliran. December 10, 2016 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region Conference, at Leyte Part Hotel, Tacloban City. December 13, 2016 Department of Tourism Region VIII. December 13, 2016 Sangunian Panlalawigan, Christmas Party. December 16 Leyte National High School MAPHE Month. November Caritas Pilipinas 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, sponsored by the Governor of Leyte.

On year **2017** Leyte Kalipayan performed for Philhealth Area III Summit, hosted by Honorable Mayor Christina G. Romualdez February 28, 2017. March 15, a welcome party for Mrs Barbara and Hilda Wright land, at Patio Victoria, Tacloban City. March 24, 2017 performance for Green Peace at University of the Philippines, Visayas. April 29- performed for San Jose Fiesta, Dulag, Leyte. April 20, 2017- 50<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of Julita Parish, Julita Leyte. May 17- LKDC Summer dance recital at Robinsons Place, Tacloban City. May 21- 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Ms Glenda, Jaro Gym, Jaro, Leyte. June 07,





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**2017**- Philippines League of Secretaries, Leyte Academic Center, Palo, Leyte. June 25, 2017- Banko Central Ng Pilipinas to welcome BSP Governor.

July 21, 2017, Performed with Waraynon Initiative Network, RTR Gym, Calanipawan, Tacloban City., July 2, 2017- performed for WIN benefactors and sponsors. July 16- performed for Senior Citizens of Sta Fe, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day Novena of St. Anne. August 8, 2017 ASEAN 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Mac Arthur Park, Palo, Leyte. August 20, 2017 show for Local Government Unit, San Miguel Leyte. On May 16, 2017 performed at Ritz Tower for World Curriculum Seminar. October 17, 2017 opening performance for the 79<sup>th</sup> Gulf Anniversary, Mac Arthur Park, Palo. October 19, 2017 performed for the National Convention Material Testing Engineers, Oriental Hotel, Palo, Leyte.

From July to August **2018** was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cultural Mission of the dance troupe to the United States of America. It has been 30 years before its last visit in 1982. It has successfully completed their 2 months Cultural Mission in East Coast, United States of America, where it has fascinated thousands of Filipino American with their exemplary and standing ovation performances in the following cities Dallas, Texas, Goodyear, Arizona San Diego, California, Los Angeles, C.A., Las Vegas, Nevada.

After the their US tour, the Leyte Kalipayan continue to create cultural awareness for Indigenous month celebration on October 4, 2018, October 4- BFAR 6<sup>th</sup> Supplier Convention, Oriental Hotel. November 30, 2018 For the Love Leyte Guinsyaman, San Miguel, Leyte.

February of **2019** the dance troupe was invited to grace the occasion of World Flora Exposition in Taichung, Taiwan. November 9 & 12, 2019 Leyte Kalipayan Dance Company Rondalla performed with Philippines National Artist for Music Dr. Ramon Santos and UP An Balangaw in commemoration for the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of typhoon Yolanda through a Sarswela entitled "Lunop Han Dughan", at Leyte Normal University gym, Tacloban City. **In 2020 representation in World Folklore Festival in Sophia, Burlagia, 2021 Nova Prata Brasil. In 2022** Inauguration of New Leyte Capital Building in Palo, Performance for Department of Science and Technology event at Oriental Hotel , Palo, hosted by Governor Dominico Petilla and Mayor Matin Loreto Petilla.



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### Mission & Vision:

Leyte Kalipayan Dance Troupe Inc. as a folkloric dance troupe's primary **purpose** is to promote the rich cultural heritage of the Philippines, presented through dance and music; vanguard of Philippines tourism industry of the country.

We envisioned advocates of Folkloric Arts and Music, upholding and sustaining cultural heritage, and with added value formation, we honed young individuals not only to become exemplary of arts, but better citizens of our society and cultural ambassadors of our country.