



HONOLULU

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PRESS RELEASE**Honolulu Celebrates *Kalayaan 2008*:
The 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence**

The Filipino-American community in Hawaii marked the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence with a celebration that showcased the Filipino peoples' unique and extraordinary artistic talents in music, arts and fashion.

On 11 June 2007, a gala dinner was hosted by Consul General Ariel Y. Abadilla at the Honolulu Country Club for approximately 400 guests which included the Mayor of the City and Country of Honolulu, Mufi Hannemann, as well as other notable public officials of Hawaii, U.S. military officials, local business executives and leading members of the Filipino-American community.

A major highlight of the celebration was the musical performance of Mr. Jay Cayuca, an internationally acclaimed violin virtuoso whose unique musicality has captivated audiences from around the world. The fashion designs of Mrs. Maricar Espina Aguila of Cebu under the label of UNA Creations complemented the music of Jay Cayuca.

Mr. Cayuca and Mrs. Aguila were invited by the Consulate specifically for the celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence.

The Independence Day celebrations continued on the morning of 12 June 2008 with the traditional Flag Raising Ceremony followed by a Thanksgiving Mass on the Consulate grounds. Members of the Filipino-American community, representatives of the Filipino-American veterans associations as well as the officers and staff of the Consulate attended the mass celebrated by Father Joven Junio of the St. Joseph Parish in Waipahu to give thanks and praise for the 110th Anniversary of Philippine independence. Father Junio dedicated the mass to the theme for this year's celebration - "Republic Service, Tungo sa Ganap na Kalayaan at Kaunlaran" (*"Republic Service, Towards the Fulfillment of Freedom and Progress"*).

The culmination of the celebrations for "*Kalayaan 2008*" was a reception held at the Island Art Galleries in Waikiki. The reception was hosted for a select group of 100 guests, composed of public officials of Hawaii, U.S. military officials, members of the consular corps, business leaders, members of the media and local personalities conversant on arts and culture. Island Art Galleries featured works by renowned Philippine artists, namely Fernando Amorsolo, H.R. Ocampo, and V. Tabuena, as the focal point of the event. Jay Cayuca again played his violin for the guests who were captivated by his performance of classical and popular music with boundless energy and extraordinary talent. The fashion designs of UNA Creations were also highlighted as part of the package of the Philippine cultural experience.

13 June 2008



Mr. Jay Cayuca, Philippine violinist, performing to the enjoyment of the Filipino-American community in Hawaii during the commemorative dinner on 11 June 2008 at the Honolulu Country Club in celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence.



Consul General Ariel Y. Abadilla assisted by M/Sergeant Ismael V. Ruiz of the Philippine Army as well the members the Filipino-American veterans association in Hawaii during the traditional Flag Raising Ceremony at the Philippine Consulate in Honolulu on 12 June 2008.



To mark the 110th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence, the Philippine Consulate General in cooperation with Island Art Galleries showcased Philippine art, music and fashion at the Hyatt Regency Waikiki. Shown above is the event's featured painting "Planting Rice" by Philippine National Artist Fernando Amorsolo.

(L-R) Mr. Alex Sotelo, Manager of Island Art Galleries; Miss Lovely Orsino; Consul General Ariel Y. Abadilla; Miss Jerryca Gasmen; Miss Crystel Acido; Mr. Jay Cayuca, Violinist; and Mr. Jeffrey Liu, Owner of Island Art Galleries.