



PHILIPPINE HERITAGE AWARDS

I. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish an annual conservation recognition program under which monetary prizes, awards and citations will be given by the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the Commission, for special achievements and important contributions and services in the area of heritage preservation and conservation efforts in accordance with Section 37 of Republic Act No. 10066 or the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009.

II. Definition of Terms

a. Adaptive reuse shall refer to the utilization of buildings, other built-structures and sites of value for purposes other than that for which they were intended originally, in order to conserve the site, their engineering integrity and authenticity of design.

b. Built heritage shall refer to architectural and engineering structures such as, but not limited to, bridges, government buildings, houses of ancestry, traditional dwellings, quartels, train stations, lighthouses, small ports, educational, technological and industrial complexes, and their settings, and landscapes with notable historical and cultural significance.

c. Conservation shall refer to all the processes and measures of maintaining the cultural significance of a cultural property including, but not limited to, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, protection, adaptation or any combination thereof.

d. Commission shall refer to the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)

e. Cultural agencies shall refer to the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Komisyon sa Wikang

Filipino, National Archives of the Philippines, National Historical Commission of the Philippines, National Library of the Philippines, and the National Museum,

f. Cultural heritage shall refer to the totality of cultural property preserved and developed through time and passed on to posterity

g. Cultural heritage worker shall refer to an individual undertaking cultural heritage work.

h. Cultural institution shall refer to entities engaged primarily in cultural work.

i. Cultural property shall refer to all products of human creativity by which a people and a nation reveal their identity, including churches, mosques and other places of religious worship, schools and natural history specimens and sites, whether public or privately-owned, movable or immovable, and tangible or intangible.

j. Intangible cultural heritage shall refer to the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, as well as instruments, objects and artifacts associated therewith, that communities, groups and individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage, such as: oral traditions, usages, customs, languages and other expressions; performing arts; social



practices, religious rites, rituals, culinary traditions and festive events; knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, worship; and traditional craftsmanship.

k. Restoration shall refer to the action taken or the technical intervention to correct deterioration and alterations.

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III. Categories and Prizes

a. Adaptive Reuse

This category is for projects that utilized buildings, other built-structures and sites of value for purposes other than that for which they were intended originally, in order to conserve the site, their engineering integrity, and authenticity of design.

b. Conservation – Built Heritage

This category is for projects that relate to conservation of our built heritage including bridges, government buildings, houses of ancestry, traditional dwellings, quartels, train stations, lighthouses, small ports, educational, technological and industrial complexes, and their settings, and landscapes with notable historical and cultural significance.

c. Conservation- Movable Cultural Properties

This category is for the restoration and conservation of movable cultural properties.

d. Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

This category is for projects that safeguard native forms, folk forms, oral traditions, usages, customs, languages and other expressions; performing arts; social practices, religious rites, rituals, culinary traditions and festive events; knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, worship; and traditional craftsmanship.

e. Heritage Education and Interpretation

This category is for publications, performances, cultural practices and traditions, events, exhibitions, displays, site interpretations, tours, seminars/workshops/trainings, and multimedia including smart phone apps, websites and social media which emphasize and promote education, interpretation, and community engagement towards the protection and conservation of tangible and intangible cultural properties.

f. Heritage Programs Support

This category is to recognize the extraordinary commitment and active involvement of an organization, local government unit, or corporation in supporting heritage programs.

IV. Procedures

A. Administration of the Award

- 1) The Philippine Heritage Awards (PHA) Secretariat which shall plan, organize and implement the Philippine Heritage Awards is hereby created under the Cultural Heritage Section.



- 2) It shall also enlist the support and cooperation of private sector experts from the various field of cultural heritage to ensure that the awards are implemented in a successful and impartial manner.
- 3) The PHA Panel of Experts shall be constituted before or during the application period. As the first deliberation panel, they are tasked to screen applications and recommend to the PHA Panel of Jurors the candidates for the Philippine Heritage Awards. It shall be composed of highly regarded scholars, academicians, researchers, critics, and other knowledgeable individuals.
- 4) The selection of the members of the PHA Panel of Experts shall be based on the following criteria:
 - a) should have achieved authority, credibility and track record in his field(s) of expertise;
 - b) should have extensive knowledge in his field(s) and his views on Philippine culture and cultural heritage must be national in perspective;
 - c) should be a recognized authority in the study or research of Philippine culture and cultural heritage;
 - d) must be willing to devote sufficient time and effort to the work of the Panel;
 - e) must be willing to sign a non-disclosure statement in order to safeguard the confidentiality of the deliberations;
 - f) must not have been convicted with finality of any crime by a court of justice or dismissed for a cause by any organization, whether public or private.
- 5) The PHA Panel of Experts shall be composed of a maximum of three (3) members from each award category; the Panel of Experts for the Adaptive Reuse and Conservation – Built Heritage shall be chosen from the National Committee on Monuments and Sites Each category shall have one representative in the PHA Panel of Jurors.
- 6) Any member of the Panel of Experts may be removed for just cause upon recommendation to the NCCA Board of Commissioners by at least two thirds (2/3s) of the members; in which case, the PHA Secretariat shall again select the replacements for those who decline or resigned until the first deliberation panel is completed.
- 7) The list of nominated members of the PHA Panel of Experts shall be reviewed by the PHA Secretariat as needed, for purposes of adding new members or replacements.
- 8) The PHA Panel of Jurors shall be composed of 12 members which include the representatives from the six award categories and the six heads of the national committees under the Subcommission on Cultural Heritage. As the second deliberation panel, they shall further review and make recommendations on the applications submitted by the PHA Panel of Experts and will submit its recommendations to the NCCA Board of Commissioners as the final deliberation panel.

B. Eligibility and Criteria for Selection

The Philippine Heritage Awards shall be given to groups and/or individuals whose projects have met the following criteria:

1. The project must have been completed within the last two years prior to the closing date of the applications with exceptions of projects such as school curriculums and tours which are continuously implemented under the Heritage Education and Interpretation category.
2. The project must be within Philippine territory.



Projects will be assessed against a broad spectrum of criteria on heritage outcome, conservation practices, social and community benefits, sustainability, challenges faced and partnerships demonstrated. The detailed criteria shall be attached on the call for applications.

C. Application Procedures

1. The Philippine Heritage Awards Secretariat shall announce the opening of nominations through the media releases.
2. A project may be submitted to more than one category.
3. Applications may be submitted by any individual, government and non-government cultural organization, and educational institution.
4. Applications shall be accepted only when these are submitted in writing and with proper supporting documentation, as follows:
 - 4.1 A cover letter signed by the individual applicant or by the head or designated representative of the applicant organization. The cover letter of the applicant organization shall be accompanied by a Board Resolution approving the application concerned with the said resolution signed by the organization President and duly certified by the Board Secretary.
 - 4.2 A duly accomplished application form;
 - 4.3 Photographs and/or slides of the project (on CDs, VCDs and DVDs);
 - 4.4 For the categories Adaptive Reuse and Conservation Built Heritage the following documents are required to be submitted: Floor Plans, Construction Design, before, during and after photos showing the progress of the construction
 - 4.5 Any other document that may be required or may support the application.
5. Applications received beyond the announced deadline for the submission of applications shall not be considered.
6. All inquiries and applications shall be submitted to:
The PHILIPPINE HERITAGE AWARDS SECRETARIAT
Cultural Heritage Section
National Commission for Culture and the Arts
NCCA Building, 633 General Luna Street, Intramuros 1002
Manila

D. Deliberation Process

1. The PHA Secretariat shall pre-screen the applications based on completeness of documentary requirements.
2. The PHA Panel of Experts shall convene to deliberate and vote on the applications. They shall be grouped according to the six categories to shortlist the applications for presentation to the second deliberation panel.
3. Representatives from the projects in the shortlist shall be invited to present their project to the Panel of Experts.
4. The PHA Panel of Jurors shall further evaluate the shortlist submitted by the Panel of Experts through conducting of ocular inspection, vote across categories for only one awardee per category and provide citations for the shortlisted applications displaying exemplary efforts.
5. The result of the deliberation shall be submitted to the Board of Commissioners further deliberation and voting.



6. Proxy votes will not be allowed in the deliberation process. Designation of permanent representatives of agencies and committees should be made at the outset to allow them to cast votes.
7. No addition can be made to the submitted list at any level of the deliberation process.
8. The final list of awardees shall be submitted to the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

E. Entitlements

Each awardee shall receive a certificate, plaque or trophy, marker for the Conservation – Built Heritage and Adaptive Reuse categories and a cash prize in the amount of PhP 200,000.00 net of taxes

F. Presentation of the Awards

The Philippine Heritage Awards shall be presented annually by the President of the Republic of the Philippines during the National Heritage Month celebration every May in fitting ceremonies to be organized by the PHA Secretariat.