



PAMBANSANG KOMISYON PARA SA KULTURA AT MGA SINING

# M E S S A G E

Our heritage is a legacy from our past. It is something that we are living with today, and hopefully something that we can pass on to future generations. Intertwined with our heritage is our culture, a record of life and history, as well as an irreplaceable source of creativity and inspiration. Like our DNA, our cultural heritage determines who we are.

In the season of celebrating the National Heritage Month, with the theme, "Victory and Humanity: Upholding Filipino Heritage and Identity," it is but fitting that we look back at two victories embedded in our history: the Battle of Mactan and the first circumnavigation of the world.

The Quincentennial celebrates both: our ancestors' bravery in the struggle for freedom, and their hospitality and humanity to others, bridging the differences in language and culture. It is our humanity that we showed to the Jews in 1938, the Vietnamese in 1976, the East Timorese in 2000; the same humanity that our nurses abroad and all our frontliners today give with a smile.

Let us pass these values, along with our collective heritage and identity as Filipinos, to the next generations. For these are persistent reminders of our humanity and victory as a nation.

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), through the Subcommittee on Cultural Heritage (SCH) and in partnership with the Filipino Heritage Festival Inc., enjoins everyone in the celebration of our cultural heritage.

*Mabuhay ang kalinangan! Mabuhay ang pamanang Filipino!*

  
**ARSENIO "NICK" J. LIZASO**  
*Chairman*



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