

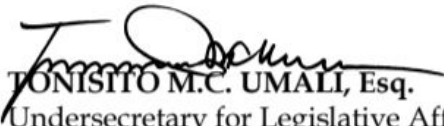


Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR FINANCE

MEMORANDUM
OUF-2021-0222

FOR : UNDERSECRETARIES
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
BUREAU AND SERVICE DIRECTORS
REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSISTANT SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
SCHOOL HEADS AND TEACHERS
REGIONAL CULTURE AND ARTS COORDINATORS

FROM : 
ANNALYN M. SEVILLA
Undersecretary for Finance


TONISITO M.C. UMALI, Esq.
Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, External
Partnerships, and Project Management Service

SUBJECT : NATIONAL HERITAGE MONTH

DATE : 24 March 2021

1. The month of May was declared as the National Heritage Month (NHM) by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 439, s. 2003, in recognition of the month of May being the month of traditional festivities and the month of the people's participation in the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage as part of the life of a nation.
2. As the lead agency tasked in carrying out activities in the celebration of the national heritage month, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) enjoins all cultural agencies, national government agencies (NGAs), schools, Philippine embassies and consulates, public libraries, and private institutions to participate in the national event by encouraging them to initiate their own heritage-related activities for the month of May.
3. The celebration aims to create among the Filipino people consciousness, respect, and love for the legacies of the nation's cultural history.



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4. For 2021, the NHM celebration shall carry the theme, “VICTORY AND HUMANITY: Upholding Filipino Heritage and Identity” in solidarity with the commemorations of the 500th anniversary of the Victory at Mactan (27 April 2021) and the 500th anniversary of the Philippine part in the first circumnavigation of the world (16 March - 29 October 2021). The theme underscores the need to strengthen public awareness and explore initiatives on advocating for the conservation and promotion of Philippine cultural heritage and the Filipino identity in this time of crisis.
5. The objectives of the month-long celebration are the following:
 - a) To strengthen the advocacy of caring and upholding both tangible and intangible local cultural heritage in this time of crisis;
 - b) To recognize the value of Philippine cultural heritage by participating in events relative to the NHM celebration and the Quincentennial Commemorations of the Philippines (QCP);
 - c) To promote solidarity amongst the Filipinos by encouraging them to initiate their own heritage-related activities for the month of May in line with the NHM 2021 theme and celebration, including online workshops and talks, webinars, competitions, etc.; and
 - d) To explore the use of various virtual platforms to help in the promotion and other initiatives for the NHM 2021.
6. The central office, regional offices, schools division offices and schools are encouraged to organize their own heritage-related activities including forums, online workshops and lectures; and engage the public to participate in them. Virtual exhibits or showcasing/featuring on the official Facebook Page or on other social media platforms of DepEd Gabaldon School Buildings that were conserved and restored is highly suggested. Such activities are requested to be submitted by the Regional Culture and Arts Coordinators to the NCCA through Cecilia R. Mendiola of the External Partnerships Service - Culture and Arts on or before April 7, 2021 for inclusion in the official 2021 NHM Calendar of Activities for better promotion.
7. All are encouraged to participate in initiatives relative to the conservation and preservation of Philippine cultural heritage, including talks and workshops, and to join competitions and other activities of cultural organizations to raise awareness and promote solidarity in caring for our local culture and the arts!
8. For further inquiries and clarifications, kindly contact Steven Daniel C. Arevalo, Senior Administrative Assistant III at email sdarevalo@deped.gov.ph and Cecilia R. Mendiola, External Partnerships Service - Culture and Arts at email ndcep2014@gmail.com or the NHM secretariat of the NCCA Cultural Heritage Section; at mobile number (09260626345) or e-mail at nhmsecretariat@gmail.com.

For your information and guidance.