



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS ANGELES



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PHILCONGEN LA SPOTLIGHTS FILIPINO CULINARY HERITAGE WITH HEIRLOOM BATCHOY PRESENTATION



Mrs. Erlinda De Guzman and family sharing their heirloom batchoy recipe with the community

LOS ANGELES, CA – In line with its mandate to promote Philippine culture and heritage, the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles hosted a special culinary event entitled, *Presentation on the Heirloom Recipe of Batchoy of Halina Restaurant* on 25 November 2025 at the Consulate's Community Hall.

The event showcased the legacy behind Halina Restaurant's signature *batchoy* – a family heirloom recipe first crafted over a century ago by Brigida Flores Halili - De Guzman. Originally

served at the family's *karihan sa silong*, the recipe was passed down through generations and eventually became the hallmark dish Bocaue, Bulacan's renowned Halina Restaurant.

The presentation was led by featured guests Mrs. Erlinda Ortega De Guzman and her son, Mr. Andrew De Guzman, who shared the history and cultural significance behind their family's recipe.



On-site participants gaining hands-on experience

In his opening remarks, Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz expressed his appreciation to the De Guzman family for sharing their culinary legacy with the community. “By sharing their recipe with us tonight, the De Guzmans offer more than culinary knowledge, but also a glimpse into the values of their creators, which include their resilience, hospitality, and respect for our cultural heritage,” he said.

During the demonstration, the De Guzmans detailed the distinct characteristics of their heirloom batchoy, which contained pork lomo, melts, kidneys, pig's blood, ginger, onions, and garlic. They emphasized that the recipe does not include noodles, eggs, *chicharon*, or long green chili or chili leaves, which distinguishes it from other batchoy variations.

The event was attended by Filipino chefs, restaurateurs, and members of the Filipino community. It was also livestreamed on Facebook, where it has since garnered over 10,000 views.

The presentation also featured an exhibit highlighting the history of the family's signature batchoy and their ongoing efforts to have the dish recognized as part of the country's culinary heritage.



Consul General and Mrs. Cruz (third and fourth from left) following the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to the De Guzman family

The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles extends its sincere appreciation to the De Guzman family and all participants for contributing to the success of this special culinary event.
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