CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
LOS ANGELES

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PHILCONGENLA CHAMPIONS PH CINEMA IN SOCAL



Special post-screening Q&A session for *Filipiñana* at Laemmle Glendale on 2 November 2026

LOS ANGELES, CA – The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles continued its support for Philippine cinema and Filipino creative talent through the promotion of film screenings and coordination with filmmakers and industry partners in October and November 2026.

The Consulate General supported the theatrical screenings of *Filipiñana*, the Philippines' official entry for Best International Feature Film at the 99th Academy Awards in 2027. Directed by Rafael Manuel, the film follows a young Filipina whose experiences at an





Consul General Cruz at the screening of *Filipiñana* at Laemmle Glendale

exclusive golf club lead to unsettling discoveries. It received the World Cinema Dramatic Special Jury Award for Creative Vision at the 2026 Sundance Film Festival.

The Consulate General coordinated with the film's North American distributor and helped promote its screenings in Southern California. Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz, together with other Consulate General officials, attended its screening at Laemmle Glendale on 2 November 2026, which was followed by a question-and-answer session with Director Manuel.

The Consulate General likewise supported the theatrical run of *58th*, an animated documentary directed by Carl Joseph Papa and produced by GMA Public Affairs and GMA Pictures. The film follows the efforts to secure official recognition of photojournalist Reynaldo "Bebot" Momay as the 58th victim of the 2009 Maguindanao Massacre.





The Consulate General engaged with the film's producers and promoted its screenings at Laemmle Glendale in October 2026 through its social media platforms. Officials and personnel attended the 27 October screening, which was followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. The film is also seeking consideration in the Best Documentary Feature Film category at the 2027 Academy Awards.

The Consulate General also lent support to *First Light*, the first Filipino-Australian co-produced feature film and Australia's official submission for Best International Feature Film at the 99th Academy Awards. Directed by Filipino-Australian filmmaker James Robinson, the Tagalog-language drama stars Ruby Ruiz, Maricel Soriano, Rez Cortez, and National Artist for Film Kidlat Tahimik.





The Consulate General facilitated connections with local film industry contacts to support the film's Los Angeles screenings. Its representatives also attended the 13 November 2026 screening for American Film Market (AFM) members and invited guests, which was followed by a question-and-answer session with the producers.

The Consulate General's support also extended to two (2) Filipino films featured at the 27th Newport Beach Film Festival (NBFF), held from 15 to 22 October 2026, as part of its celebration of Filipino American History Month.

Officials of the Consulate General attended the 21 October screening of *Sisa*, the festival's Filipino Spotlight presentation. Directed by Jun Robles Lana and starring Hilda

Koronel, the historical thriller follows a Filipina seeking justice for her family's murder during the American occupation of the Philippines. The film received the festival's Outstanding Achievement in International Filmmaking award.






Deputy Consul General Maria Alnee A. Gamble and other Consulate General officials at the screening of *Sisa* at the NBFF

The Consulate General likewise promoted *Bilyarista*, directed by Phil Giordano and starring Loisa Andalio and John Arcilla, which had its North American premiere at the NBFF. Ahead of the film's 16 October screening, the Consulate General held a virtual meeting with Director Giordano to express support for the film and convey its best wishes for its festival presentation.

Through these activities, the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles continues to support Filipino filmmakers and promote the international visibility of Philippine cinema. END