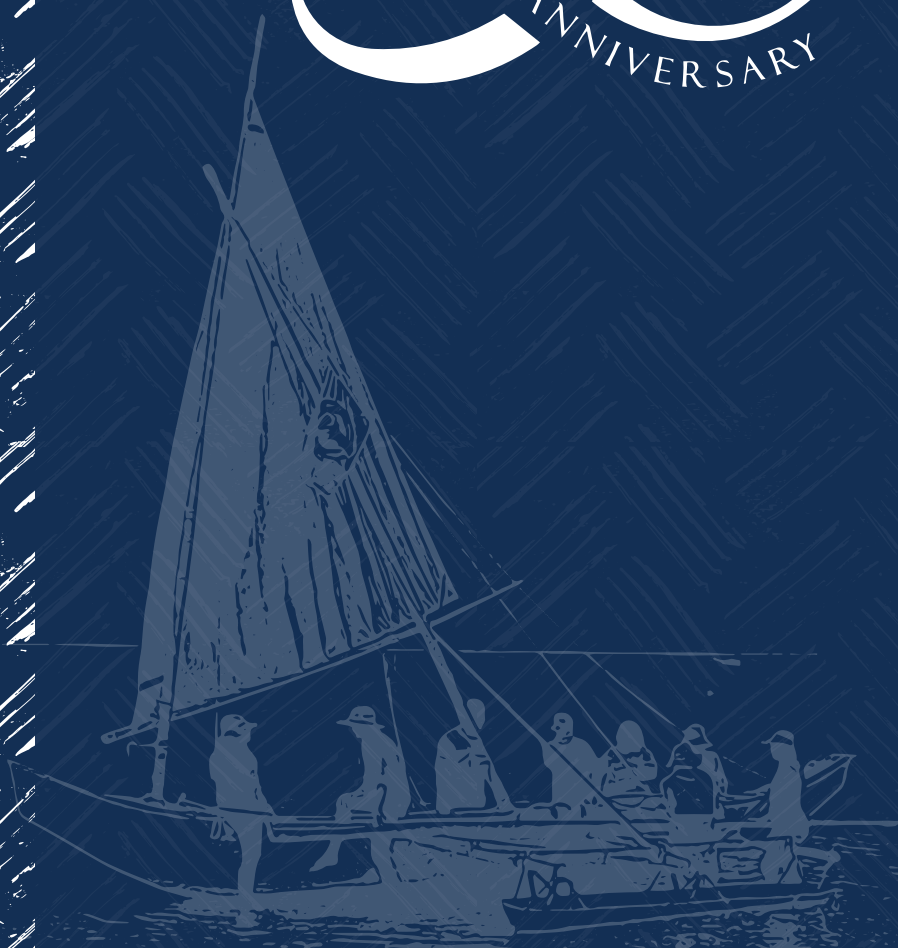


Celebrating **30**TH
ANNIVERSARY



**Northern Marianas
Humanities Council**
Navigating the Human Experience



Contents

Section 1: 30th Anniversary Celebration Program	3
Section 2: Keynote Speaker:	6
The Most Reverend Bishop Ryan Jimenez	
Section 3: 2021 Governor’s Humanities Awardees	9
Antonio U. Piailug for Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices	
Dr. Sylvia C. Frain for Research and Publications in the Humanities	
Walt F.J. Goodridge for Research and Publications in the Humanities; Preservation of CNMI History; and Outstanding Humanities Teacher	
Catherine R. Perry for Preservation of CNMI History	
Denton-Joe O. Pangelinan for Preservation of CNMI History	
Section 4: 17th Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition Winners	15
Jill Anne Mallari, Mount Carmel School (1st Place Senior Division) - “Homebound”	
Aubrey Tabenas, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School (1st Place Junior Division)	
Section 5: The Council: Board Members, Past Chairs, Mission, Vision, Values, Goals, and Objectives	18
Section 6: 2020-2021 Financial Donors	27
Section 7: Invest in the Humanities	30

Northern Marianas Humanities Council’s 30th Anniversary Celebration

Navigating the Human Experience

Program

Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 30th Anniversary Celebration Navigating the Human Experience

Emcee: Romolo Orsini

5:00 – 6:00	Bar Service & Silent Auction	
6:00-6:15	Opening Kulu	Lee Tenorio, Chair NMHC Development Committee
	Posting of Colors	SSHS JROTC Color Guard
	Singing of Anthems	Da Kine
	Opening Prayer	The Most Reverend Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez The Roman Catholic Diocese of Chalan Kanoa
6:15-6:25	Welcoming Remarks	Tracy Guerrero, Chair LTC (Ret.) Lawrence Camacho, Vice Chair Northern Marianas Humanities Council (NMHC)
6:25-6:30	1st Course: Tuna Poke Salad Pohn Chant	Antonio Pailug, Cecilio Raiukiulipy, and Mario Benito Master Navigators
6:35-6:45	2nd Course: Smokey Eggplant Soup Kantan Chamorrta	Carmen Taimanao & Manny Borja
6:45-7:05	3rd Course: Flame Grilled Angus Beef or Pan Seared Onaga Fish Steak Keynote Address	The Most Reverend Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez The Roman Catholic Diocese of Chalan Kanoa
7:05-7:10	4th Course: Coconut Tiramisu Special Remarks	The Honorable Governor Ralph DLG Torres Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

7:10-7:35

Governor's Humanities Awards

Antonio U. Pailug
for Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices

Michael White, Chair
NMHC Nominating &
Bylaws Committee

Denton-Joe O. Pangelinan
for Preservation of CNMI History

Catherine R. Perry
for Preservation of CNMI History

Dr. Sylvia C. Frain
for Research and Publications in the Humanities

Walt F.J. Goodridge
*for Research and Publications in the Humanities,
Preservation of CNMI History,
and Outstanding Humanities Teacher*

7:35-7:40

Sengebau Poetry Recital

Jill Anne Mallari
1st Place Senior Division Winner
Mount Carmel School

Aubrey Tabenas,
1st Place Junior Division Winner
Francisco M. Sablan Middle School

7:40-7:45

Closing Remarks & Recognition of Sponsors

Dr. Bobby Cruz, Chair
NMHC Program Committee

7:45-8:00

Retiring of Colors

SSHS JROTC Color Guard

Closing Kulu

Leonard Leon
NMHC Member

Live Music & Dancing

Sugar King Band

9:00

Silent Auction Winners

Romolo Orsini. Emcee



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The Most Reverend Bishop Ryan Jimenez



Ryan Pagente Jimenez was born in Dumaguete City, Philippines on December 18, 1971 to Rogelio and Lilia Jimenez, and was raised on the island of Siquijor with his three siblings. While a student at Saint Joseph Seminary during the 80s, Jimenez discovered his aspiration to become a priest.

He moved to Quezon City and earned his Bachelor's degree in Pre-Divinity at the Ateneo de Manila University in 1992. From 1993-1995, he taught at the Sacred Heart School for Boys, a Jesuit high school in Cebu City.

He later furthered his studies in California at Saint Patrick's Seminary & University, earning a Bachelor in Sacred Theology (S.T.B.), Master's degree in Divinity, and Master's degree in Theology. Bishop Ryan is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Fordham University's Graduate School of Religion and Religious Studies.

He first served the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa as a teacher at Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja Catholic school on Rota back in 1995. He served in that capacity for two years, after which he continued his studies for the priesthood as a diocesan seminarian.

Bishop Jimenez had his sacerdotal ordination at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa on June 8, 2003. His first assignment took him to Kristo Rai parish. He was later transferred to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral parish to serve as its Rector. Since then, he has served his beloved diocese in numerous capacities including as Chancellor, Presbyteral Council member, Personal Secretary to the Bishop, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Editor-in-Chief for North Star, the weekly diocesan newspaper, adjunct faculty member at Mount Carmel School, and many other ministerial appointments.

On December 28, 2010, Pope Benedict XVI appointed Bishop Jimenez as Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. He took on this important governance role vacated by the resignation of the late Bishop Emeritus Tomas A. Camacho on April 6, 2010, at age 76, and the untimely death of then-Apostolic Administrator Very Reverend Manuel R. Corcuera that same year.

After almost six years of vacancy, Pope Francis appointed him as Bishop on June 24, 2016. His Episcopal Ordination and Installation was held at the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral on August 14, 2016. The principal consecrator was Archbishop Savio Hon Tai-Fai, S.D.B, then-Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Agana in Guam, and then-Secretary for the Congregation of the Evangelization of Peoples. Co-consecrators were Bishop Tomas A. Aguon, then-Bishop Emeritus of Chalan Kanoa, and Bishop Julito B. Cortes (Bishop Ryan's former high school teacher), Bishop of the Diocese of Dumaguete, Philippines.

Bishop Jimenez episcopacy is centered on shepherding all the Catholic faithful in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa towards becoming joyful missionary disciples, following his chosen call *Volumus Iesum Videre*, "We would like to see Jesus." (John 12:21)

2021

Governor's Humanities Awardees

Antonio U. Pailug

Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices



Antonio “Tony” Urmeyang Pailug is a Carolinian Master Canoe Builder and Master Navigator of the Werieng school of navigation. He began his training as a young boy on Satawal and has been building canoes and sailing for over 40 years. He now resides in Saipan where he is part of the Canoe Federation. His work is now focused on perpetuating the art and knowledge of canoe building and wayfinding through teaching and mentoring here in the CNMI and Guam. Pailug co-manages Department of Community and Cultural Affairs’ Seafaring Traditions. The program built the Guma Hegai at Civic Center in Susupe, where Pailug is leading the carving of a voyaging canoe. Prior to this Saipan canoe project, he completed the Sakman Fanhigāyan in Guam and sailed the canoe to Saipan and back. He also teaches canoe building and wayfinding at the Pailug Seafaring Academy in Guam.

Dr. Sylvia C. Frain

Research and Publications in the Humanities



Dr. Sylvia C. Frain has been living, studying, and working in Oceania for over twenty years. She has nurtured deep, long-term relationships with local elders and educators in Micronesia, as well as knowledge holders and researchers beyond Oceania. Since 2013, Dr. Frain has lived in New Zealand where she has been dedicated to regional interconnections and international efforts of decolonization and demilitarization. Dr. Frain has made a major contribution to the field of humanities research in the region, having (co)published over ten quality-assured, peer-reviewed academic articles; book chapters; web blogs; and has additional forthcoming works. With support from a Northern Mariana Humanities Council grant, she e-published her thesis “Fanohge Famalão’an & Fan’tachu Fama’lauan: Women Rising! Indigenous Resistance to Militarization in the Marianas Archipelago,” available for free through *Guampedia*.



Walt F.J. Goodridge

*Research and Publications in the Humanities;
Preservation of CNMI History;
and Outstanding Humanities Teacher*



Walt F.J. Goodridge is originally from the island of Jamaica, West Indies, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Columbia University. He has lived on Saipan since 2006. Beginning in that year until 2010, he wrote a weekly business/inspirational column in the Saipan Tribune titled “The Saipanpreneur Project.” The column encouraged readers to use their talents, cultural worldview, and more as the

basis for a means of economic survival.

He has authored the following seven books about Saipan history and culture: *Chicken Feathers & Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Worker on Saipan with Chun Yu Wang*; *Saipan Living: a relocation guide*; *There's Something About Saipan*; *Saipan Now!*; *From Bugle Boy to Battleship with Battle of Saipan veteran Lloyd Glick*; *Drinking Seawater with Riza Oledan-Ramos*; and *“Amelia Earhart on Saipan”* (a tour souvenir booklet). He has also provided “WWII Pilgrimage Tours” to military personnel, researchers, families and even Battle of Saipan veterans.

His “Passion Profit” seminars, “Saipan Writers” workshops, “Vegan Living” cooking demonstrations, and career-focused school visits have highlighted his role as an educator. Walt also launched welovesaipan.com (alongside 20 other Saipan-related sites) to respond to the negative information about Saipan that existed online.

Catherine R. Perry

Preservation of CNMI History



For over a decade, Catherine Perry has hosted the Your Humanities Half-Hour (YHHH) radio program. A resident of the CNMI since she was ten years old, Perry says her interest in the humanities began when she developed a love of reading as a child. She is a Marianas High School alumna who went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in

Broadcasting with a concentration in Multi-cultural Studies from Evangel University in Missouri. In her time as the host of YHHH, Perry has interviewed over 500 people for the 30-minute on-air program. She sees the program as an opportunity to build understanding and synergy in the community. Her work has focused on creating a space comfortable enough for guests to share freely about the knowledge they hold. She considers herself a “facilitator of people’s stories.” She also hosts a live podcast on Facebook called Marianas Stories.



Denton-Joe O. Pangelinan

Preservation of CNMI History



Denton Pangelinan has been a professional photographer and videographer for four years. In that time Pangelinan has been an integral player in two projects centered on the humanities. He directed the film *Our Culture Will Heal Us*, which documented oral accounts of CNMI residents in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. He also is currently in post-production of the film *Resilience and Reverence: Wartime and Women of the NMI*, a documentary that collects oral accounts of CNMI women who experienced World War Two. Pangelinan is of Chamorro and Palauan descent and was raised in the village of Dandan. Filmmaking for him is both a means of creative expression and an outlet for healing.

17th Valentine N. Sengebau

POETRY
COMPETITION
WINNERS

Homebound

Performed by Jill Anne Mallari

Mount Carmel School (1st Place Senior Division)

In the middle of nowhere, here my heart lies
Other people envy me, while it's right in front of my eyes
My whole youth I pondered life under city lights
Failing to appreciate the stars above that shine bright

From waves crashing shore to the horizon across the sea
From the sun's golden rays to the wonderfully humid breeze
From super typhoons - the infamous Yutu and Soudelor
We've remained Marianas strong- now and forevermore

As an island girl born and raised
All you tend to do is count down the days
Of when you'll graduate and finally go free
Thousands of miles away, straight to the east

Now I'm 2 years away from leaving
Life as I knew it was given a whole new meaning
Lately, I and myself admiring every detail crossed
Always taking my time to look around and pause

I have never been more proud to call Saipan my home
Even if there may be no malls around to roam
The flame trees that surround, sticky burrs that stick
No other life I'd rather pick

Nothing feels better than three minute walks to friends
Or meeting at cha for bida on the weekends
The frequent "around the islands" from Marpi to Ladder Beach
Only a 20 minute drive far from reach

All forms of love here is found
The calamities and family orientation all around
And if you were to ask me what I would miss the most
It's the hour long rosaries I'd have to boast



The Task

By Valentine N. Sengebau

Performed by Aubrey Tabenas

Francisco M. Sablan Middle School (1st Place Junior Division)

The warmth of our ember glowing
During the chilly and dark night
Should offer warm embrace to ancients
Dwelling under tottering huts
Enduring a torrent of raindrops,
And the cold night winds
And occasional quakes
Yet despite the lack of luxuries
Nothing hampers their souls.
For their spirits soar
Through the cosmos
In harmony with the moons and stars
And waltzing with the puffy cotton clouds
Proud and elegant in cultural and traditional attire
And free from bondage.
The sound of their folklore and chants
Should lull the man-made upheaval and distress
And infuse peace and harmony into micronations.
Like the gentle waves caressing
And hugging our shores
Across the 3 million miles.
Our seas whether ebbing or flowing
Bridge us into insular galaxy.
Our forefathers treasured the sea
Because it's our path, defense and meal
From ages and ages.
We must learn many things from the sea.
It belongs to no one
But for all to share but not possess.
The sea retains its identity.
Of course we are all searching for a pot of gold
At the end of the rainbow
And we all dream in hope
To reach this destiny.
However in spite of our shortcomings
Here and then there
We must continue sailing
Through the rain and storms
Guided by the stars at night
And by birds and currents at day
On our individual outrigger canoes
Holding our heads up high
With pride, honor, and dignity
Because each of us is an ambassador
Of his cultural heritage
Entrusted to us by our ancestors
To preserve, uphold and hand over
To the seeds of the bearers
Of the cultural torch.



The Council

Board of Directors

Tracy M. Guerrero, Chair

Lawrence F. Camacho, Vice Chair

Gretchen (Gin) A. Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

Allen M. Perez

Bobby J. Cruz

Colin J. Cruz

Herman T. Guerrero

Leonard Leon

Lyrard (Lee) B. Tenorio

Michael A. White

Ni N. Deleon Guerrero

Past Chairs

2021	Theresa Arriola
2020-2021	Robert T. Torres
2018-2020	Polly DLG Masga
2016-2018	Frankie Eliptico
2014-2016	Robert Hunter
2012-2014	Dave Attao
2010-2012	Tracy Guerrero
2009-2010	Charles Reyes, Jr.
2008-2009	Debra Cabrera
2005-2008	Herman Guerrero
2004-2005	Elizabeth Rechebei
2003-2004	Carmen Gaskins
2002-2003	Lynnette Tenorio
2001-2002	Robert T. Torres
2000-2001	Isamu Abraham
1998-2000	Herman Guerrero
1996-1998	Edward Manibusan
1994-1996	Herman Guerrero
1994	Edward Manibusan
1992-1994	Daniel Nielsen
1991-1992	Agnes McPhetres

Mission

It is the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's mission to navigate and explore the human experiences of the indigenous and diverse peoples of the Commonwealth by enriching their lives through research, dialogue, programs, and publications.

Vision

Navigating the Human Experience: to advance the humanities, to understand our history, to explore our world today, to discover the marketplace of ideas, to protect the value of language and culture, to celebrate our human identity, and to shape our future through the power of discourse.



Values We Respect

Objectivity/Neutrality

- Removing and checking our biases
- Creating safe spaces for dialog sharing and challenging conversations
- Understanding and open-mindedness
- Compassion, empathy, kindness, and sensitivity for others' experiences and to new ideas
- Seeking the truth and a way of understanding

Quality

- Of scholarship and research

Identity

- Of the history of place
- Of the fluidity of culture and language

Diversity of Opinions

Integrity and Accountability

- Being trustworthy
- Taking fiscal responsibility
- Representing communities in the best light
- Meeting standards and goals

Passion

- for the work we do and having fun while doing it

Creativity

- Using creative solutions to problems

Collaboration

- Breaking down silos
- Exchange of Ideas

Flexibility and Adaptability

- Recognizing the need to change and taking action

GOAL 1

Preserve and promote the indigenous languages and cultures of the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI).

The Chamorro people were the first inhabitants of the Mariana Islands. They lived together, in relative isolation from the rest of the world, attached to these islands and surrounding ocean for more than a millennium, speaking a common language and bounded by a culture embodying a unique set of customs, beliefs, and values. The Carolinian or Refaluwasch people of the Mariana Islands are descendants of people who immigrated from the Caroline Islands. Intermittent waves of people from the Caroline Islands sailed to the Mariana Islands beginning in the early 1700's and brought with them their own unique languages and cultures.

The Chamorros and Carolinians were subject to centuries of foreign colonial and religious policies and practices that systematically deprived these groups of the right to their own languages and heritage. "The indigenous peoples' languages derive and are also crucial to identity, culture, health, governance, socio-economic well-being, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies" (UN adapted statement). For the indigenous people of the Northern Mariana Islands, the legacy of past colonial practices and the enduring influence of Western culture ever present in their homeland remain as imminent threats to the survival of their languages and cultures.

Objectives

- 1.1 Increase the practice and use of NMI indigenous cultures and languages in the public sphere.
- 1.2 Develop activities that celebrate the arts, music, history, and language of the indigenous people.
- 1.3 Increase the exhibition and interpretation of NMI indigenous cultural assets.
- 1.4 Develop programs that compare indigenous and non-indigenous accounts of NMI customs, traditions, heritage, and language.

GOAL 2

Develop and improve educational programs in literacy and language.

Literacy and language are essential to a community's ability to develop and empower itself. These communication tools help develop shared knowledge and critical thinking. The Council supports the reflection of our individual and shared values and beliefs that lead to constructive discourse. By supporting the development of literacy and language, we are directly helping the community navigate their own experiences.

The Council has invested significantly to improve family literacy in which adults and children interact through storytelling, reading, and writing. The Council is committed to evaluating its current projects and providing more educational opportunities that supports effective literacy and language programs.

Objectives

- 2.1 Create and promote a theme under the Community Grant Program to encourage sustainable educational projects that improve literacy and language.
- 2.2 Support the development of a Pacific Literature course
- 2.3 Evaluate and improve existing council projects that promote literacy.
- 2.4 Support the resource needs of the PSS Chamorro Carolinian Heritage Studies program.
- 2.5 Conduct writing workshops

GOAL 3

Increase publications and scholarship in the humanities.

Studying and documenting who we are leads to greater understanding and awareness of our contemporary issues and the world in which we live. Through the humanities, the Council is in a unique position to lead efforts to interpret human documents and artifacts and translate their value to society.

Objectives

- 3.1 Increase the research capacity among humanities practitioners and emerging scholars.
- 3.2 Examine contemporary issues in the humanities

GOAL 4

Promote the diversity of experiences and perspectives within the NMI.

We live in a world filled with diverse groups of people each with their own unique experiences and perspectives. As a neutral broker, the Council seeks opportunities to discover the marketplace of ideas and various expressions of identity that define us, empowering us to celebrate our differences.

Objectives

- 4.1 Introduce NMI indigenous languages and cultures to non-indigenous communities.
- 4.2 Relate the humanities to all cultures and perspectives represented in the NMI.
- 4.3 Promote the historical and cultural aspects of identity development in the NMI



GOAL 5

Provide capacity-building activities for individuals to acquire the skills and tools to create their own humanities content and programs.

The humanities ignite our imagination and help us to understand our experiences and our relationships with other people and the environment. The Council endeavors to seize the moment and the tools available in this digital age to support emergent critical thinkers in their quests to cultivate new knowledge and new ways of thinking about our humanity. In order to discover the marketplace of ideas, the Council is committed to building the capacity for future generations to be active participants in the humanities.

Objectives

- 5.1 Provide training in the use of modern technology to deliver humanities content.
- 5.2 Increase the research capacity among humanities practitioners and emerging scholars. [Ref. 3.1]
- 5.3 Develop a sustainable plan for designing, building, and operating a humanities complex.

2020-2021

Financial Donors

30th Anniversary Financial Donors

Corporate

Anaks Holding, LLC (Bridge Capital)
Bank of Guam
Bo Sea Corporation
Canaan Realty, LLC
Coconut Capital, LLC (Bridge Capital)
D&W Saipan, Inc.
FreeBird, LLC
FT Condo, LLC (Bridge Capital)
Guerrero Family Trust
H.S. Lee Construction (Serenti Hotel)
Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc.
Kevin's Corporation
Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC
M.S. Villagomez, Inc.
Marfega Trading Co., Inc.
Marianas Fast Food, Inc.
Marianas Legal Strategy Group, LLC
Marianas Medical Center & Pacific Labs, LLC
Moylan's Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
Netcare Life & Health Insurance Company
Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
PROA LLC (Bridge Capital)
Robert T. Torres Law Group
Saihon Development, Inc.
Saipan Comfort Homes LLC (Triple J Saipan)
Saipan Shipping Company
Saipan Shrimp LLC (Triple J Saipan)
Seven Leaves LLC (Bridge Capital)
Tang's Corporation
Transcends LLC (Naked Fish)
Westview Property LLC (Bridge Capital)

Organizations

CNMI Government
CNMI Public School System
Federation of State Humanities Councils
National Endowment for the Humanities
National Park Service
Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Individual Donors

Allen M. Perez
Colin J. Cruz
Edu Banaag
Jason & Angel Miyashita
Joann T. Aquino
Leo G. Pangelinan
Polly DLG Masga
Stephanie Hydal
William & Catherine Van Meter
And those who choose to remain anonymous



Invest in the Humanities

Invest in the Humanities

We all live the humanities in our daily lives. The humanities play a critical role in connecting people, addressing issues of importance, providing space for diverse perspectives, and deepening our intellectual and cultural interests.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council works year-round to support projects and activities that foster awareness, understanding and appreciation for the local history, languages, and cultures; public policies and institutions; stories that define who we are as a community; and the places where we live, work, and play.

View our annual report online at www.nmhccouncil.org to find out where we invest in the humanities.

We invite you to invest in the humanities by making a financial donation to your Humanities Council. CNMI businesses may redirect up to \$5,000 of their Business Gross Receipt Taxes (BGRT) to the Humanities Council each year pursuant to CNMI Public Law 15-20 as an Educational Tax Credit (ETC). Individual taxpayers also benefit, as donations qualify toward itemized deductions on annual tax returns.

Make your gift to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council today by cash, check, or credit card. We will gladly pick up your donation, provide a receipt, and assist you with steps for claiming an ETC on your monthly BGRT form,

**Thank you for supporting
the humanities!**



◀ Scan here to make a donation via



The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization incorporated in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: Tax ID# 66-0487631.

EVENT SPONSORS

Eddie Dela Cruz
Floyd and Polly Masga
Governor Ralph Deleon Guerrero Torres
Isla Shave Ice
Leni Leon
Lucy Sablan
Luis Ogo
Maria Rebecca Manalo
MarPac Distributors, Inc.
Michael A. White
Saipan Cares for Animals
Sugar King Band
Susana Deleon Guerrero
Tracy M. Guerrero
Tropical Gardens



This program was sponsored in part by funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations in the program are those of the participants and do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

To learn more about the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, please contact us at:

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 506437
Saipan, MP. 96950-4336

TEL. NO

(670) 235-4785

STREET ADDRESS

Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold
Road, Gualo Rai Rd, Saipan, 96950,
Northern Mariana Islands



www.nmhccouncil.org



[www.facebook.com/
670humanities](http://www.facebook.com/670humanities)



Northern Marianas
Humanities Council



[670humanities](https://www.instagram.com/670humanities)