

# **FDCCP PRESS RELEASE- Davao Film Festival 2012**

**Davao City host Sineng Pambansa National Film Festival in June , new Cinematheque to be inaugurated**

**The film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCCP) will stage the first *Sineng Pambansa* National Film Festival in Davao City from June 29 to July 3,2012 ,featuring the finalists of the FDCCP's first National Film Competition held last year. The Festival films will be screened at the following malls SM City Davao, Abreeza G-Mall and NCCC Mall**

**The Film Festival is a joint undertaking of the FDCCP and the City Government of Davao headed by Mayor Sarah Duterte. The formal opening on June 29 will be a red carpet event, at the SM Cinema 3. Awarding ceremonies for the winners among the finalists will take place at the Abreeza Cinema 4 on July 1.**

**Highlighting the opening night on June 29 will be a special screening of excerpts from the latest film of Cannes Best Director Brillante Mendoza, *thy Womb*, a joint project of the FDCCP and Mendoza's Center Stage Production, and shot on location in Tawi-tawi. Mendoza and the film's lead actor, internationally acclaimed actress Nora Aunor, will be the guests at the opening of the festival.**

**In line with its program of bringing national film festivals to the regions, the FDCCP selected Davao to be the staging ground for the first *Sineng Pambansa* and cultural history Mindanao. With its wealth of local talent, it is also an important regional base for the emerging independent film community in the Philippines.**

***Sineng Pambansa* (National Cinema) is the flagship program of the FDCCP, whose guiding motto is "bringing Filipino films to Filipinos" all over the country and in Filipino communities overseas. The FDCCP has staged no less than nine film festivals since last year in Iloilo, Zamboanga, Baguio, San Fernando in Pampanga, Marawi, Tawi-tawi, and Ilocos Norte.**

**The FDCCP initiated National Film Competition in September last year and receive about 120 entries consisting of full-length features and documentaries from three geographical areas (Luzon, Visayas, Minadanao), and animation shorts from all over the country. A unique aspect of this competition is that the language of the locality was used in the dialogue or the narration, in order to underscore the validity of the country's indigenous cultural heritage through the medium of film. The 23 finalists were awarded seed money to finish their films. A second batch a meritorious entries would be founded later this year.**

FDCP Chairman Briccio Santos, noting that the finalists came from as far north as Kalinga and Benguet and as far south as Davao, Marawi and Jolo, remarked that “the region-based filmmakers are now contributing their outstanding talent and creativity to the making of a true *Sineng Pambansa* or National Cinema.”

The finalists from the first FDCP National Film Competition, and the regions they represent, are the following:

### **Full-Length feature film**

**Luzon:** Ang mga Kidnaper ni Ronnie Lazaro, Sigfried Barros-Sanchez, Metro Manila; Qwerty, Eduardo Lejano Jr., From Manila; kanana kanu, Jocelyn Banasankapuno, from Kalinga.

**Visayas:** Ang Mga Aswang, John Reymund Macahilas, Iloilo; Beadworks, ronny N. Poblacion, Iloilo: *Gugma sang panahon sang bakunawa*, Peter Solis Nery, Iloilo.

**Mindanao:** Tambara, Orvil C. Bantayan, Davao; Duwaya (Polygamy) Najib Alyhar, Benito-Zacaria, Marawi; Malan, Agustin Pagusara Jr., Davao; In Banka Halit Sin Duwa Sapah, Fyred Alsad Alfad III, Jolo, Sulu; Qiyamah, Gutierrez Mangansakan II, Maguindanao.

### **Documentary**

**Luzon:** jingle lang ang pahinga, Dominador Escasa Jr., Tagaytay; illustrated by, Levi “Pepper” Marcelo, Manila.

**Visayas:** Ginabuhay it Bulig (Binubuhay na pag tulong), Lester G. Babiera, From Aklan.

**Minadanao:** Tagurih: The Kites of Sulu, Dempster P. Samarista Sulu; *Animation* (national)

Kalon, Blecyrezza E. Piluden.

Si Pagong at si matsing, Analyne D. Pineda

### **The Film Competition jury**

Seasoned film experts will comprise the jury for the film participating in the national film festival featuring the finalists of the FDCP’s National Film Competition.

They are Christian Merer, Counselor for Cultural affairs of the French Embassy and Sabrina Baracetti, president of the Centro Espressioni

Cinematographic and festival president of far east film festival Odine, Italy (documentary); Kim Ji-seok, executive programmer of the Busan international film festival and Paolo Bertolin, consultant of Venice film festival, (full-length feature), with two Filipino film critics beefing up the jury.

### *Newest Cinematheque to open, Lino Brocka statue to be unveiled*

A related event during the National Film Festival will be the inauguration of the FDCP's Davao Cinematheque, also a joint undertaking of the FDCP and the City Government of Davao under Mayor Duterte. The inauguration will take place on June 29, a few hours before the official opening of the film festival. The cinematheque is located on Palma Gil Street, in a building donated by the city government of Davao.

Highlight of the Cinematheque inauguration will be the public unveiling of a commemorative statue in tribute to the late national artists for film Lino Brocka's well-known cinematic achievements. The work of art was commissioned by the FDCP, designed and executed by Filipino sculptor Jonas Roces.

FDCP Chairman Briccio Santos and Mayor Duterte will lead government officials, representative from the motion picture industry, and film enthusiasts from Davao in the enaugural rites officially opening the second operational Cinematheque in the country. The first Philippine Cinematheque set up by the FDCP was launched in Baguio City in September 2011.

"The opening of this new Cinematheque will augur well for the emerging role of Davao City as one of the leading centers of culture and the cinematic arts not only in the Philippines, but throughout the southeast Asian region as well," according to Chairman Santos.

The Cinematheque is a vital part of the Sineng Pambansa or National Cinema program of the Film Development Council of the Philippines. It is intended to be an alternative and accessible venue for classic and contemporary Filipino films, both mainstream and independent; for state-of-the-art foreign films sourced through the FDCP's Film Cultural Exchange program with other countries; and for workshop and symposiums on directing, scriptwriting, editing, cinematography, and all other aspects of filmmaking.

# 1st Sineng Pambansa National Film Festival

## SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
<b>JUNE 29, 2012 (FRIDAY)</b>		
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM	SINENG PAMBANSA SCREENING ( 29 June – 3 July 2012 )	Davao City Malls (SM, Abreeza, NCCC & Gaisano)
12 NOON	Sineng Pambansa* <u>*PRESS CONFERENCE</u>	Grand Men Seng Hotel
3:00 PM – 4:00PM	Opening of the Cinematheque & Unveiling of the Lino Brocka Statue	Davao City Cinematheque Palma Gil St., Davao City
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM	RED CARPET NIGHT* <u>*PRESS CONFERENCE</u>	SM City Davao Annex Atrium
<b>JUNE 30, 2012 (SATURDAY)</b>		
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Film Screenings	Davao City Malls (SM, Abreeza NCCC & Gaisano)
7:00 PM	Chairman's Night	Shrine Hills
<b>JULY 01, 2012 (SUNDAY)</b>		
10:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Film Screenings	Davao City Malls (SM, Abreeza, NCCC & Gaisanno)
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Sineng Pambansa National Film Festival Awards Night <u>*PRESS CONFERENCE</u>	Abreeza Mall
<b>JULY 02-03, 2012 (MONDAY- TUESDAY)</b>		
10:00 AM- 9:00 PM	Film Screening	Davao City Malls (SM, Abreeza, NCCC & Gaisano)