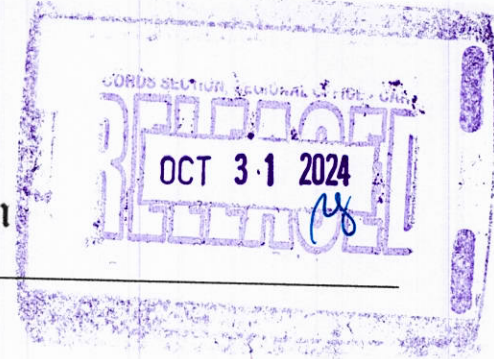




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CARAGA REGION



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. **1192**, s. 2024

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS OF INSPIRING FILMS: "PITONG KABANG PALAY"
AND "MAESTRA"**

1. Attached is the letter from Paglaum Shows and Events regarding the special screenings of the two inspiring films on November 30 (Saturday) and December 1, 2024 (Sunday), at Robinsons Movieworld, in celebration of National Children's Month and Filipino Values Month.
2. Participation in this activity is strictly voluntary, at personal expense, and should not interfere with any DepEd activity scheduled on these dates.
3. For dissemination.

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION
Director III
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Regional Director

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

JOEL B. ROSALES
Chief, Administrative Services Division *Joel B. Rosales*

Encl.: None

Reference: Letter signed by Paul Alcantara, Marketing Manager of Paglaum Shows and Events

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

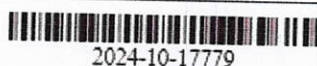
CELEBRATIONS

VALUES EDUCATION

CLMD/emv
10/31/2024



Address: J.P. Rosales Avenue, Butuan City
Trunkline No: (082) 225-1151
Telefax No: (085) 342-5959
Email: caraga@depd.gov.ph
Website: caraga.depd.gov.ph



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Effectivity	02.01.23	Page	1 of 1



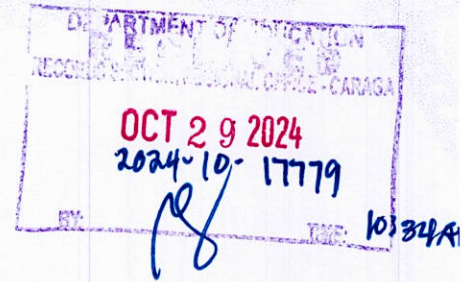
October 28, 2024

DIR. MARIA INES C. ASUNCION

Regional Director

DepEd CARAGA- Administrative Region

Butuan City



Dear Madam:

As we celebrate **"National Children's Month and Filipino Values Month"**, Paglaum Shows & Events in cooperation with TOFARM Film Festival, Groundhit Entertainment Production and Regis Films and Entertainment present for special screenings three inspiring films:



"PITONG KABANG PALAY" – On the rice fields of Isabela, the Dela Cruz family lives a simple frugal life, devoid of electricity or any luxury, making ends meet by planting rice and gathering what the season offers. The young Balong dreams of graduating and helping his parents, as he and his siblings witness the daily struggles their parents experience. As his mother Deling and his father Jaime try to find ways to feed the family while supporting their studies, Balong and his brother Lito try to compensate by studying hard and earning honors at school. Dreaming of a better life, Balong counts the sacks of rice they have left, the money they need, and the little moments that led to an inevitable departure that will leave them all affected.

"Maestra" is a movie tribute to the heroes of the past, the present and the future generation – the TEACHERS. It is created to immortalize stories of the lives, struggles and triumphs of teachers in a full-length film. Maestra features a multi-awarded cast of respected artists like FAMAS Lifetime Achievement Awardee *Gloria Sevilla*, International multi-awarded actress *Angelie Bayani* and young multi-awarded actress *Ana Luna*.



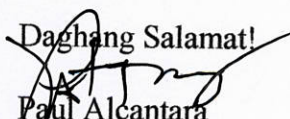
The objectives of the films are the following:

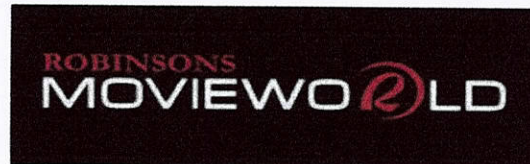
1. emphasize the importance of love for family-it's a testament that no family is ever perfect but despite it we strive to make things better;
2. to make the students, teachers and parents FEEL GOOD and be THANKFUL about life.
3. appreciate the little MIRACLES despite all the negativity happening in our world.
4. educate the Filipino youth to contribute to a better and productive Philippines.
5. show the importance of pursuing education and increase awareness among students on the relevant issues tackled in the film (i.e. finishing school and bullying)
6. deepen their appreciation of the independent films as a means to inspire and create a positive change in one's mindset and a great tool for educational entertainment / enrichment; and
7. present a wholesome, family-oriented entertainment that will truly inspire, inspire and inspire students.

In this regard, we would like to invite your students to watch the film in **DIGITAL 2D**. Our general admission is pesos: **TWO HUNDRED ONLY (php 200.00)**

Administrators, School Heads, Faculty/Teachers and DepEd personnel will be admitted for free, their ID's shall serve as their complimentary pass.

Please find herewith are DepEd advisories, reading materials and other film details.

Daghang Salamat!

Paul Alcantara
Marketing Officer
#09159397888



**November 30 and December 1
Saturday and Sunday**

Screening time;

7:30am-

9:00am-

For more inquiries pls txt or call;

Paul- 0915939788

Arnold Reyes ✧ Sue Prado ✧ Micko Laurente ✧ Precious Miel Espinosa
at sa unang pagganap ni Alfonso Ynigo Delen



Hanggang kasalan hanggang maging lino ng pamilyang sagana sa pagmamahal,
kung ginugupo sila ng di matatagpuang habirapan

Pitong Kabang Palay

sa direksyon at panunulat ni Maricel C. Cariaga

TOOFARM
FILM FESTIVAL
2010

ipinakilala ARNOLD REYES ✧ SUE PRADO ✧ MICKO LAURENTE ✧ PRECIOUS MIEL ESPINOSA at sa unang pagganap ni ALFONSO YNIGO DELEN
inihahandog ng UNIVERSAL HARVESTER INCORPORATED at sa pakiki-isa ng LUNA STUDIOS, JIMUTAL LIGHTS & SOUNDS at SIXTH SENSE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION
"PITONG KABANG PALAY" sa direksyon at panulat ni MARICEL CARIAGA
Sound Supervisor RHANCE "BUNZO" ANONUEVO ✧ Musical Director / Composer LORENZO NIELSEN ✧ Editors JD DOMINGO at RHANCE "BUNZO" ANONUEVO
Production Designer MARICEL CARIAGA ✧ Director of Photography JUN GONZALEZ
Line Producer BAYANI SANTIAGO, JR. ✧ Supervising Producer IANNE OANDASAN
Producers UNIVERSAL HARVESTER INCORPORATED at MARICEL CARIAGA ✧ Executive Producer DR. MILAGROS ONG HOW



CAST



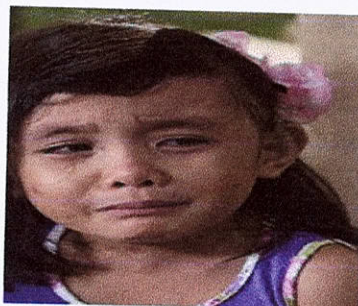
Arnold Reyes is an actor, known for *Birdshot* (2016), *Astig* (2009) and *Condo* (2008).



Sue Prado is an actress and assistant director, known for *Manila Skies* (2009), *Area* (2016) and *Ang kwento ni Mabuti* (2013).



Micko Laurente is an actor, known for *Bambanti* (2015), *Maalaala mo kaya* (1991) and *T.P.O.* (2016).



Miel Espinoza is an actress, known for *Maalaala mo kaya* (1991), *Patay na si Hesus* (2016) and *Pitong kabang palay* (2016).



Alfonso Yñigo Delen is an actor, known for *Pitong kabang palay* (2016), *Maalaala mo kaya* (1991) and *Ipaglaban mo* (2014).

My Movie World

Your Online Guide to Entertainment. TV Shows. Music. Artists. Films.

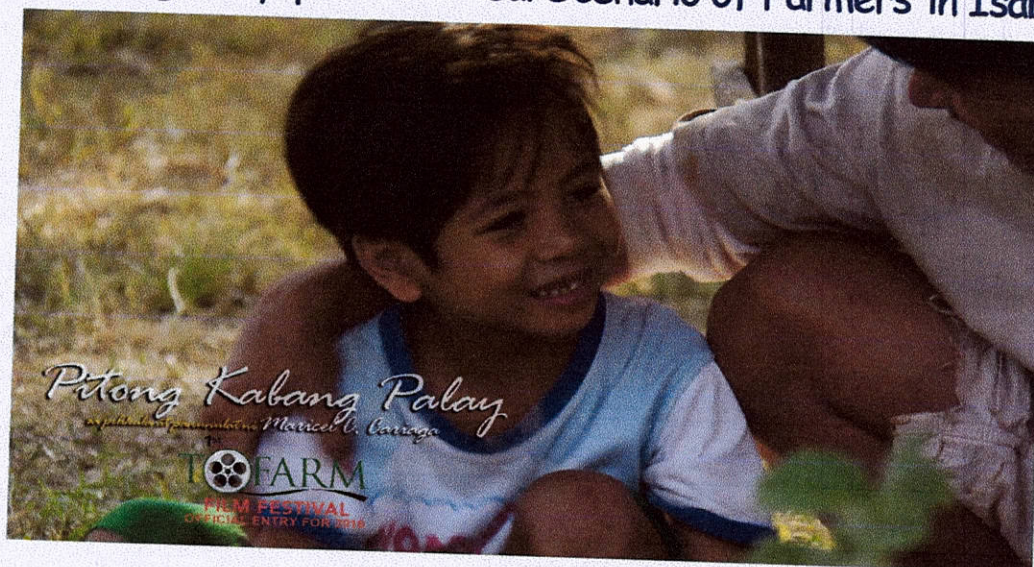
Movie Review: Pitong Kabang Palay



On the rice fields of Isabela, the dela Cruz family lives a simple, frugal life, devoid of electricity or any luxury, making ends meet by planting rice and gathering what the season offers. The young Balong dreams of graduating and helping his parents, as he and his siblings witness the daily struggles their parents experience. As his mother Deling and father Jaime try to find ways to feed the family while supporting their studies, Balong and his brother Lito try to compensate by studying hard and earning honors at school. Dreaming of a better life, Balong counts the sacks of rice they have left, the money they need, and the little moments that led to an inevitable departure that will leave them all affected.

Simple, Effective and Affecting. The film captures the lives and struggles of farmers in the province. They deliver the message that they like to convey and they utilize the strength of the kids to touch our heart. The child actors and actress are really good in this film from Micko Laurente to Alfonso Ynigo Delen up to Precious Meil Espinosa. Pitong Kabang Palay is closest in terms of representation of farmers in our society and what the festival aims to achieve. The surprise for me in this year's ToFarm Film Festival 2016.

'Pitong Kabang Palay' presents Real Scenario of Farmers' in Isabela



ToFarm Film Festival chose this entry of **Maricel Cariaga** titled **'Pitong Kabang Palay'** as one of the six competing films because of its simplicity in storytelling but leaves a nagging truth about the real plight of Isabela farmers after harvest time. It is the time that they call—'gawat' or 'tag-hirap' because the farmers really do not have any source of income for four months.

Filmmaker Cariaga chose her home province as the setting of her movie, which she considers closer to her heart since she and her husband are both farmers in real-life. Isabela is the Philippines' second largest province and the largest in the island of Luzon in terms of land area, but the reality of it all—not all farmers own the lands they till. Most farmers are just 'nakikisamak' or a better term for it is that—'nakikipisan' or rely on percentage on the yields of the farm.

She crafted the story just for a week prior to making it to the festival's deadline in December last year, but since her familiarity of the topic—it wasn't such a challenge to finish it and eventually got chosen and was granted a Php1.5 million-seed money to start filming the script she wrote.

Despite the fact that her province is strategically located in the center of Cagayan Valley region and considered to be the country's second highest rice-growing and the top corn-producing province, Maricel is challenged to make a statement through her film. Her film also attempts to celebrate the most treasured resource of her province—the Isabelinos with its trademark of being survivors and have the resilient spirits.

She chose Isabela as the backdrop of her film because she wants to show how the farming situation in the said province, unlike Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija and Nueva Vizcaya—it is non-irrigated. Their plants rely only on rain or if the fields are near the rivers then it is the only time they can start planting or harvesting.

"The film is very simple. It presents a reality on how farmers get to survive for four months after they harvest their crops until the time they harvest again," Cariaga shares.

'Pitong Kabang Palay' revolves around Balong, the second child, smart and gleeful kid, who knows how his parents persevere in order to make both ends meet. And because of his parents' love and determination, he imbibed such traits and turns out to be an industrious, reliable and loving son and a brother to his kin. The story points out the real treasure of his parents and that is he.

Heading the cast members are **Arnold Reyes** and **Sue Prado** as the husband and wife—Jaime and Adelaide dela Cruz. **Micko Laurente**, the Best Child Performer of the Year 2016 at PMPC Star Awards is the eldest son—Lito while **Alfonso Yñigo Delen** is Balong and **Precious Miel Espinosa** as the youngest child—Shirley.

Angeli Bayani Anna Luna and Ms. Gloria Sevilla

a Dr. Carl Balita Production

MAESTRA

a film by Lemuel lorca

directed by LEMUEL LORCA written by ARCHIE DEL MUNDO
executive producer DR CARL BALITA line producer SARAH PAGCALIWAGAN-BRAKESIEU
associate producer LILIA V. MERCIALES director of photography TEY CLAMOR
production designer JOHN PAUL SAPITULA production manager EDNA MENDOZA
assistant director LORNA SANCHEZ script supervisor RENZ ESTACIO
edited by MARK CYRIL BAUTISTA sound & scoring IMMANUEL VERONA music by VEHNEE SATURNO





SYNOPSIS

Three generations of courageous women will teach you the most important lessons in life. A poor dreamer who reaches the top, an Aeta teacher who dreams of passing the licensure exam, a veteran educator who believes a teacher never quits. They all meet in a place where the dreamers and the dream become one.

"Teaching is not a profession; it's a devotion." Ito ang kwento ng tatlong guro na hango sa totoong buhay. Si lah Bantang Seraspi (Anna Luna) ay anak ng isang mangingisda sa Romblon. Mahirap ang kanilang pamilya kaya sinikap ni lah ang pagiging scholar. Tutol ang kanyang ama (William Martinez) sa pagiging guro sa akalang walang asenso ang ambisyon ng anak. Hindi pinanghinaan ng loob si lah bagkus lalo siyang naging determinado upang makapagtapos ng pag-aaral. Confidante at sumusuporta sa pangarap niya ang kanyang kaklase at kapwa Education student na si Poldo (Paul Salas). Napatunayan ni lah na hindi dahilan ang kahirapan upang sumuko. Kaya naman naging Cum Laude siya. Naghahanda naman siya sa LET (Licensure Examination for Teachers) kaya nag-review siya. Dito niya nakilala si Gennie (Angeli Bayani), isang Aeta na makailang ulit pumalya sa pagkuha ng LET. Si Gennie naman ang nagpatuloy sa pagtuturo ng kapwa katutubo sa Tarlac matapos simulan ng mga misyonaryo ang pagtatayo ng eskwelahan ng Tarukan. 30 taon siyang nagtuturo sa paaralan. Binabagtas niya ang limang oras na paglalakad at pagtawid ng ilog upang magbigay kaalaman sa mga Aeta. At kapag may hindi nakakapasok na estudyante si Gennie dahil sa kahirapan ay kinukumbinse niya ang magulang ng bata upang magpatuloy sa pag-aaral. Ito naman ang nagiging dahilan sa paglayo ng loob ni Nonoy (Karl Medina), asawa ni Gennie. Natutuwa kay Gennie si Ms. Espie (Gloria Sevilla). Kahit matanda na ay dedicated pa rin sa pagtuturo si Ms. Espie. Nais na siyang patigilin sa pagtuturo ng kanyang anak (Suzette Ranillo) upang magkaroon sila ng oras sa isa't isa dahil iginugol ni Ms. Espie ang kanyang panahon sa pagtuturo. Napag-isip isip din ni Ms. Espie na mas mahalagang pagbigyan ang kanyang anak ngunit hindi pa rin siya titigil sa pagbabahagi ng kaalaman.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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MAESTRA

GRADED "A" BY THE CINEMA EVALUATION BOARD

Summation of CEB member

It is "well-made advocacy film that movingly pays tribute to teachers in the barrios who selflessly choose to serve the grassroots at the expense of a stable financial income and oftentimes personal comfort. This is an "advocacy film that does not get too didactic. It is a quiet and effective film that is able to pay tribute to a most under-appreciated sector of society." It is "highly inspirational, although at times, it may become pushy in promoting its message."

To summarize: "The movie touches you in all the right places."

It may be slow at times but the pace was probably chosen to mirror the long, arduous treks that teachers have to take to get to their schools. The sweeping cinematography in fact shows how literally, teachers climb mountains and cross rivers to get to the schools; in this film, it is a far-away school in Sitio Tarukan.

There are three teachers whose stories we see in the film and they all meet in Carl Balita's Review Center. Iah (Anna) is a young lass from Romblon University and despite dire straits, she manages to graduate cum laude. She sometimes starves herself, goes without sleep for days and cannot even afford Manila paper for her presentations. Yet her desire to become a licensed teacher and help her family improve in life prods her on to continue her struggle.

Gennie (Angeli) is a para-teacher in Tarukan committed to teaching her Aeta community and has not given up in trying again and again to take the licensure exam. She does not only attend to the students' needs in school but also she goes out of her way to convince her students' father to bring his children back to school, whether it is kaingin season or not. She finds a friend and a tutor in Iah and their wait for the results of the exam becomes an exciting one.

Esperanza (Gloria Sevilla) is a veteran educator and Review Center lecturer who is the true model of dedication and commitment despite her age and poor health. Her inspirational poems and her pep talks are legendary in the Review Center and she will only retire if she can continue writing books and poems to encourage more people to become the best teachers they can be.

The director seamlessly weaves these three stories in the "narrative linearity" of the film. "The inclusion of the actual Iah, Gennie, and Esperanza in the CBB gives the film the impact of the movie's message." The audience will see for themselves that the three characters they have come to admire on the big screen are all real and living testaments of how noble some people can be.

"The ensemble cast headed by Anna Luna and Angeli Bayani is particularly convincing in portraying this often under-recognized heroes." "The three female leads are all very good because they all gave understated performances." "Angeli is true to form as usual while Anna turned in a brilliant portrayal of Iah." "There were excellent performances across the board."

"This is a fitting tribute to teachers and it should be shown in schools so that teachers and students alike will see how much respect the teachers should be getting." "The movie makes one wonder how one teacher or another has made an impact in his or her life."

"Congratulations! This is a masterpiece. Every teacher and student in the Philippines should see it!" "This should make a round of schools."

(By Ms. Digna Santiago)

“Maestra” Review: A Heartfelt Story of the Heroes We Call Teachers



Usually, advocacy films tend to be too preachy. They lost the audience with giving away way too much of what message they want to deliver. But Lemuel Lorca's **Maestra** gives us a more profound story, telling three individuals of their dreams, aspirations and what they sacrifice to pursue their passion.

The film tells the story of Iah, Gennie and Esperanza. Three educators who has no sign of giving up on their love for teaching. We see Anna Luna as the naïve but driven Iah, a shoo-in to be one of the topnotchers of the Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET). And then there's Gennie, played tremendously by the Angeli Bayani. From start to finish, Bayani plays Gennie flawlessly as the aeta teacher, not licensed yet but the drive to teach keeps her on taking the LET more than ten times. Then, here's Miss Esperanza Bautista played by Ms. Gloria Sevilla. She should be resting, enjoying her retirement. But like what she said, "*Ano kayang mangyayari sa bayan natin kung ang mga guro ay mapapagod na?*"

That line struck me, educators must not tire from their work. Because without them, the world would be unlivable. **Maestra** is that film that will show you more than what are teachers, it will present the sacrifices they have to go through just because they have this unexplainable passion to teach not just children but people of all ages.

It's tedious at first getting to what the story really is, on what these characters are to each other. The story of Iah, Gennie and Esperanza are inspiring and worth telling. These educators are more than just teachers, they are heroes inside and outside the walls of schools. It's a heartwarming tribute to our second parents and its story is definitely a tearjerker.



Office of the President of the Philippines
MOVIE AND TELEVISION REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION BOARD
MTRCB Building, No. 18 Tanog Avenue, Quezon City, Philippines 1103
Telephone No. 376-7380 Email Address: admin@mtcrb.gov.ph Website: www.mtrcb.gov.ph

PERMIT TO EXHIBIT THEATRICAL

This certifies that the material below has been reviewed and classified by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board:

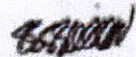
Movie Title	MAESTRA
Applicant	DR. CARL BALITA REVIEW CENTER
Running Time	1hr. 39min. 41sec.

Classification	Reason/s for Classification
G GENERAL AUDIENCE VIEWERS OF ALL AGES CAN BE ADMITTED	Suitable for all audiences.
Permit Number	P-MP-2023-010242
Date of Issuance	29 March 2023
Date of Expiration	29 March 2028

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION BY THE
FOLLOWING REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

PAREJA, CESAR STRAIT
FAGAR, MARIA LOURDES CHOA
MATIAS, ELOISA CRUZ

ISSUED UPON THE APPROVAL OF
THE REVIEW COMMITTEE


DIORELLA MARIA G. SOTTO-ANTONIO
Chairperson

Prepared By: Armando B. Villas

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