

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 30, 2008

The search is on for the next batch of Filipino world-class artists

Leila Florentino, played Kim in the Broadway-run of Miss Saigon; Grace Nono, a multi-awarded folk music vocalist; and Rowena Arrieta, a concert pianist based in New York – all accomplished world-class talents -- share the same school, the Philippine High School for the Arts.

And the school is in search for the next batch of world-class artists and cultural leaders as PHSA opens the 2009 Annual Nationwide Search for Young Arts Scholars (ANSYAS).

A haven for the artistically gifted and talented children and adolescents, PHSA provides a special secondary education curriculum oriented to the arts while offering the Basic Education subjects prescribed by the Department of Education (DepEd).

The 31-year old government-run school is committed to the conservation and promotion of the Filipino artistic and cultural traditions. As such it provides specialized studies for creative and artistic expressions in the following disciplines: Creative Writing (Fiction, Poetry, Playwriting, and Journalism in English and Filipino); Dance (Classical Ballet, Modern Dance, Philippine Folk Dance, Dance Composition and Staging); Music (Solo Voice/Solo Instrument, Theory, Composition, and Ensemble Classes (Chorus and Chamber); Theater Arts (Acting, Production Management, Technical Theater, History of the Theater, Theater Theory and Directing); and Visual Arts (Visual Perception, Sculpture, Art Appreciation, Studio Painting, Materials and Techniques, Figuration, Pottery, and Printmaking).

Applicants must meet the following criteria: a Filipino citizen with outstanding ability in an art discipline: Music (instrument and voice), Dance (ballet and folk), Theater Arts, Visual Arts, and Creative Writing; graduating Grade VI or VII pupils this School Year 2008-2009; of above-average intelligence; proficient in oral and written Filipino and English; without any debilitating illness; and willing to study in a residential high school.

Likewise, applicants must be determined to pursue a college degree in Architecture, Fine Arts, Music, Dance, Theater Arts, Journalism or any related courses upon graduation from PHSA.

As a state-supported special secondary school, PHSA accepts only a limited number of freshmen every year. Annual intake averages 40-50 students only to ensure a more individualized and differentiated academic and arts training programs.

PRESS RELEASE

PHSA is a special school founded on June 11, 1977 and established by Presidential Decree (PD) 1287. In 1990, under Executive Order 420, the school was converted into a regular government agency attached to the DepEd and implements its program in consultation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

The successful applicant receives free tuition fee, board and lodging, classes with master teachers, a monthly stipend, plus the chance to represent the country and the school in international festivals, competitions and exchange programs. Application is likewise free.

PHSA students have recitals, exhibits, competitions, and festivals slated regularly. They also participate in outreach projects held in rural and urban communities where they share their experiences. With their teachers, students attend educational and exposure trips locally and abroad.

Recently, six dancers from the Juilliard School of Dance in New York City came to PHSA for in-depth contemporary dance technique workshops for its students in ballet and theater arts.

Application forms and the list of requirements per discipline are downloadable from the PHSA website www.phsa.edu.ph.

All application requirements and documents must be sent directly to ANSYAS 2009 c/o Assistant Director Reynaldo O. Wong, Philippine High School for the Arts, National Arts Center, Mt Makiling, Los Baños 4030, Laguna. For enquiries, please email phsa@laguna.net or call telefax: (+6349)5365971 to 73 and 5362862.

All applications, documents, and requirements must be received by the ANSYAS Committee on or before 30 September 2008 for Luzon applicants; 15 October 2008 for Visayas applicants; and 30 October 2008 for applicants from Mindanao.

END

PRESS RELEASE