



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

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07 FEB 2018

DepEd MEMORANDUM  
No. **018**, s. 2018

**27th NATIONAL ARTS MONTH CELEBRATION**

To: Undersecretaries  
Assistant Secretaries  
Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 683 dated January 28, 1991 entitled *Declaring the Month of February of Every Year as National Arts Month*, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) will lead the **27th National Arts Month Celebration**.

2. The celebration's objective is to harvest the diversity of expressions that can be part of values education for patriotism, cultural identity, and love of country affirming a heritage of defending a freedom legacy. This celebration aims to awaken pride of place, heritage, history, language that will promote social justice and peace with the will to secure freedom from poverty. Specifically, it aims to:

- a. promote and popularize the outstanding creations of Filipino artists in the seven arts for all sectors both local and international;
- b. promote the integration of arts in community life;
- c. underscore the significant role of art, the artist and other stakeholders in uplifting the nation's spirit; and
- d. utilize art as a catalyst for values education.

3. For the year 2018, the National Arts Month theme *Ani ng Sining, Alab ng Sining*, underscores the flame of Filipino creativity and power of the arts and its role as a catalyst for change. It highlights arts as a reflection of the nation's soul, and the pride of being a Filipino. It also highlights the fruits of the creative efforts from the previous celebration and looking forward to a richer, more fertile ground in the coming years for the evolution of artistic mode of expression available to the Filipino creative imagination. An agency, region, province, city and municipality may choose to have its own theme that is most relevant to its local culture, arts and community aspirations depending on the focus and direction of its art activities.

4. Activities may be undertaken by an agency or institution in accordance with its own capabilities. These are the following suggested activities:

- a. Contemporary creative expression of the local artists, through productions, exhibitions, film screenings, book launching, and poetry readings, among other activities;

- b. Cultural exchange or artist interaction with the general public;
  - c. Recognition of local artists;
  - d. Feature works of the national artists;
  - e. Feature the works of a local *Ani ng Dangal* Awardee (also downloadable from [www.ncca.gov.ph](http://www.ncca.gov.ph));
  - f. Exhibition of local creative industries;
  - g. Promotion of local art practices or traditions unique to the region;
  - h. Art workshop or Art appreciation activities;
  - i. Collaborative works of various art forms or art groups;
  - j. Showcase the fruits of creative efforts for the past year (restaging of past production, exhibitions, film screening, among other efforts);
  - k. Promotion of local cultural icons based on NCCA's *Sagisag Kultura ng Filipinas*;
  - l. Cultural awareness seminar-workshop for local artists, art organizations, leaders and local government units; and
  - m. Special art program for the marginalized groups in the community (out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, indigenous peoples, women and children).
5. It is encouraged that the venue of the organized creative activities would be in a public space or would have both external and internal stakeholders as participants.
6. Printing and hanging of National Arts Month official streamer is requested to create awareness to the general public of this year's celebration. Editable file of the official layout design of the National Arts Month can be downloaded at [www.ncca.gov.ph](http://www.ncca.gov.ph).
7. Detailed calendar of events may be downloaded at [www.ncca.gov.ph](http://www.ncca.gov.ph) or can be accessed through NCCA official social media pages.
8. For agencies/offices in Greater Manila Area, participation in the Opening Ceremony to be held at the Rizal Park, Luneta, Manila from February 3 to 4, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with at least 20 delegates per agency/office is requested.
9. The agencies/institutions can submit their calendar of events and documentation to the NCCA for integration in the National Arts Month Calendar of Events. The NCCA can also assist in the promotion of the local National Arts Month celebration, through social media visibility, print media through the Manila Times' Arts Awake page and *Agung*, the official newsletter of the NCCA. Deadline of submission of all project details is on the **fourth week of January**.
10. For more information, contact **Ms. Vanessa M. Marquez-Nicolas**, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), No. 633 General Luna Street, Intramuros Manila at telefax no. (02) 527-2192 local 302 or email at [nam@ncca.gov.ph](mailto:nam@ncca.gov.ph).
11. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

  
**LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**  
 Secretary

References:

DepEd Memorandum Nos. 25, s. 2016 and 6, s. 2015

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

BUREAUS AND OFFICES  
CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS  
CULTURE AND ARTS  
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