



Sara may survive impeachment but 2028 win not certain: analyst



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Prime Minister Carney says the world is facing an 'energy crisis' and Canada must do its part to solve it



Prime Minister Mark Carney with his cabinet (left) and BC Premier David Eby and his group (right) on talks about 'energy crisis.' (Photos from Premier Eby's office)

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Paul Jake's tribute for Kaye Abad after cancer recovery

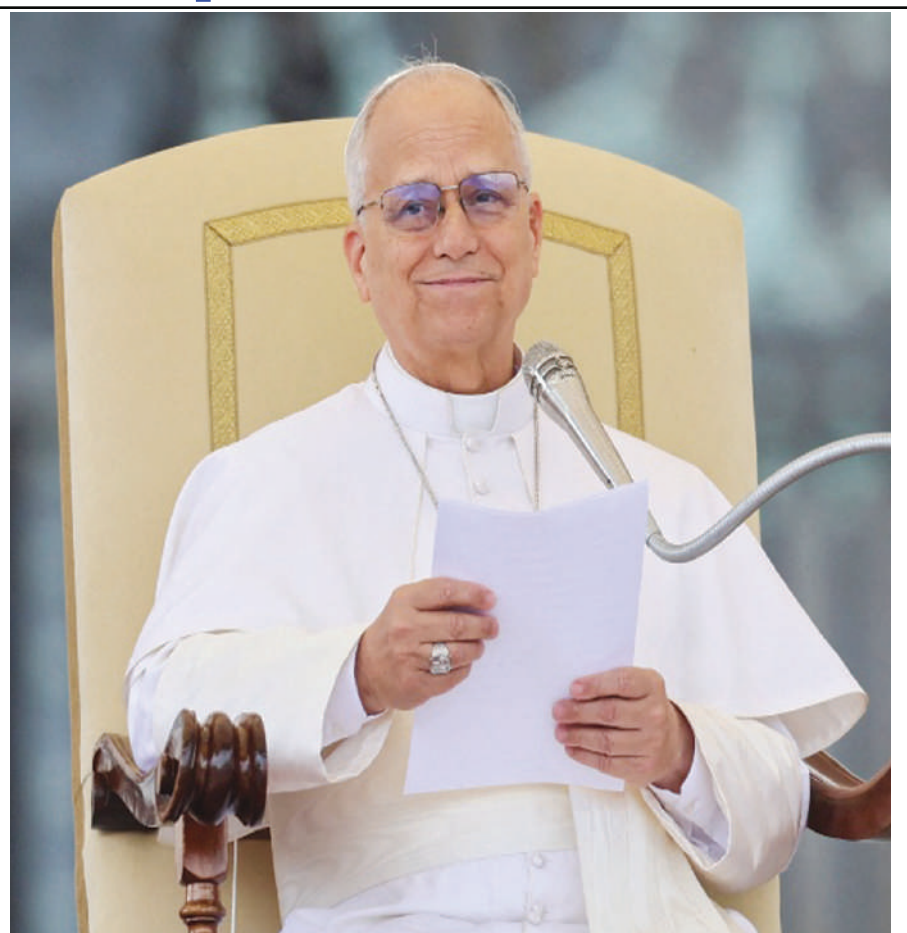


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Prime Minister Carney says the world is facing an 'energy crisis' and Canada must do its part to solve it

May 20, 2026- In B.C. to meet with the province's premier who is skeptical of another oil pipeline, Prime Minister Mark Carney said the world is in the throes of an "energy crisis" and Canada must do its part to supply it with the natural resources it needs.

Speaking to a largely business audience at the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade before sitting down with Premier David Eby on Wednesday, Carney said recent global shocks have threatened the availability of some forms of energy, putting other countries in a bind.

He said Ottawa wants to move quickly to supply those resources, and if B.C. stands opposed to more development, his government will "be spending more time elsewhere in the country."

Carney framed his plan — to fast-track project approvals, rework clean energy policies and back a new oil pipeline to the Pacific — as a way Canada can help fill the global energy void, and in turn grow the economy here at home at a time when the U.S. trade war has torpedoed some sectors.

"Unlike many countries, Canada can be part of the solution, for the world, for ourselves," he said. "Canada is a stable, reliable partner in a world that is anything but."

While mindful of what he called the "existential challenge of climate change," Carney said abundance and affordability are also top of mind for his and other governments as the conflict in Iran dramatically drives up fuel prices and takes some supply, including a significant portion of Qatar's gas, offline.

He branded those issues a "three-dimensional energy crisis."

"In a rapidly changing world, Canada must become the source of our own affordable, clean, reliable power because when we master energy, we master our destiny," Carney said.

Eby has been critical of the



Nice weather in Vancouver, BC. Prime Minister Mark Carney meets Premier David Eby of BC to talk about "energy crisis." (Photos from Premier Eby's office)



memorandum of understanding Carney cut with Alberta Premier Danielle Smith.

Before visiting with Carney, Eby said Tuesday that the prime minister was rewarding Smith, who he called a "separatist premier," and her "bad behaviour" by tweaking the industrial carbon tax regime and backing her push for a pipeline to the West Coast. Eby is diametrically opposed to oil infrastructure through northern B.C.

Mindful of that opposition and pushback from some First Nations and climate activists, Carney told the Vancouver audience that a pipeline will only

proceed if the Pathways carbon capture and storage system is built to lessen emissions.

While he previously said "the government of British Columbia has to agree" to a pipeline before it goes ahead, Carney said Wednesday that another prerequisite is that the province "share substantial economic and financial benefits" from the project, without explicitly mentioning their agreement. He said Indigenous peoples must be consulted and that economic benefits should flow to them, too, if this new oil artery goes ahead.

In a fireside chat after his speech, Carney said this pipeline

and the myriad of other natural resource projects now being studied are designed to make Canada "more independent" as the U.S. trade war drags on. Eby has criticized the federal government for devoting so much time to the Alberta pipeline proposal.

Carney countered that today by saying nearly one-third of the major projects his government has fast-tracked for approval come from B.C.

Carney warned that if sustained opposition to more development in the province continues, Ottawa will have to focus on projects in other provinces.

"If things get stalled here, we're going to be spending more time elsewhere in the country," Carney said.

"We need to move forward. We need to invest at scale in the country. For all the reasons I mentioned, affordability, sustainability, independence and prosperity," he said, repeating what has become something of a mantra.

While Eby remains a northwest coast oil pipeline foe, he has promoted natural gas development, notably LNG Canada's Phase 2 expansion, which Ottawa also supports and has put on the major projects list, as well as some mining in the province.

Later, as the two sat down for a meeting, Eby told Carney before the cameras that he wants B.C. to have its "fair share of federal investment" and "B.C. priorities" addressed.

He said Canada's renewed focus on energy development "has to go hand-in-hand with environmental protection," and added that any move to lift the oil tanker ban that applies to the north coast of the province is a non-starter.

While there's tension over a pipeline he really doesn't want, Eby ended on a friendly note.

"There's no doubt in my mind that the prime minister is a *friend to B.C.*," he said. (new.gov.bc.ca)



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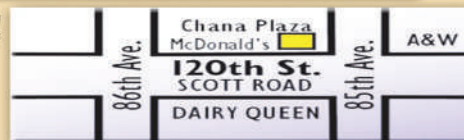
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Paul Jake Castillo's tribute for Kaye Abad catches attention online after cancer recovery



Actress Kaye Abad in this photo posted by Paul Jake Castillo on Facebook on May 18, 2026 (pauljakeofficial via Facebook)

Actor Paul Jake Castillo's post dedicated to his wife, actress Kaye Abad, drew attention online.

Kaye was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2025 and underwent treatments in Singapore, explaining they had heard of many cancer patients being cured there.

In a vlog released on May 17, her birthday, the actress revealed that she has survived her cancer and is now cancer-free.

The following day, Paul Jake dedicated a post to Kaye, sharing a black-and-white photo of her with the caption:

"To the person who keeps this family tight, we love you sooo much!!! We love you so much!!!"

The post has garnered 120,000 likes and reactions and 3,900 comments, with some users saying they were initially alarmed by it, especially because the photo was in black and white.

"Kinabahan ako, Paul Jake," a Facebook user commented.

"[Ba't] black [and] white, gulat bigla eh," another wrote.

"Sir Paul Jake naman. Pinakaba mo aketch [ako]," a different Pinoy commented.



Paul Jake and Kaye with children

"Kakagulat naman, bakit black and white? akala ko naman namaalam na siya," another wrote.

Black-and-white photos are often associated with announcements of death,

to convey a more serious or somber tone.

The monochrome aesthetic is also commonly used to convey dignity, respect and nostalgia, helping viewers to focus on the memories. (J. Malasig/Interaksyon)

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Mayor Brenda Locke Unveils Transformational Vision for Surrey's Future During State of the City Address

By: Janice Lozano



in the city's future.

"Surrey is not waiting for permission to grow into its future — we are building it," Mayor Locke said. "We're becoming the economic engine of British Columbia. With that comes responsibility to invest in infrastructure, enhance public safety, and ensure our communities take shape in a way that is sustainable, inclusive, and resilient."

The address closed with a strong call for unity, momentum, and continued confidence in Surrey's direction.

"Big things are happening in Surrey, and they reflect the scale of what we're becoming," Mayor Locke added. "Surrey has everything it needs to succeed as a leading urban centre in Canada. Our responsibility now is to stay focused, stay united, and keep delivering for the people who call this place home." (Photos from City of Surrey and Janice Lozano)

SURREY, BC — Brenda Locke delivered a bold and wide-ranging State of the City Address on Thursday, laying out a decisive vision for the future of Surrey centered on public safety, economic growth, infrastructure expansion, and long-term city-building.

As Surrey rapidly emerges as one of Canada's most influential urban centres and prepares to become the largest city in British Columbia, Mayor Locke emphasized the importance of acting now to meet the demands of a fast-growing population while protecting the quality of life of residents and businesses.

A major focus of the address was public safety.

Mayor Locke announced the creation of a new 15-acre Public Safety Training Campus in Anniedale-Tynehead, designed to strengthen the training and readiness of police, fire, and emergency personnel serving Surrey's expanding communities.

The City also introduced a sweeping five-year public safety strategy that will add 560 new frontline personnel, including police officers, firefighters, bylaw officers, and other emergency response staff. The plan aims to improve response times, strengthen neighbourhood safety, and ensure Surrey has the capacity to meet growing service demands.

"The State of the City commitments are about keeping residents and business owners safe and providing the capacity needed to serve an evolving city," Mayor Locke

stated. "We are focused on creating a future that allows people to build better lives here in Surrey."

Another landmark announcement was the proposed development of a convention centre in Cloverdale spanning up to 200,000 square feet — a major investment expected to elevate Surrey's profile as a destination for conferences, trade shows, tourism, entertainment, and large-scale events.

The mayor also outlined additional strategic priorities that will shape Surrey's next phase of growth, including:

- Expansion and modernization of police, fire, and bylaw facilities across City Centre, South Surrey, and Cloverdale.
- Increased use of drone technology to support emergency response and public safety operations.
- Establishment of a new health advisory panel focused on improving coordination and addressing local healthcare priorities.
- Consideration of a new three-sheet ice arena in South Surrey to support recreation and community growth.
- Maintaining a 2.6 per cent property tax increase — among the lowest in the region — while continuing to invest in critical infrastructure and services.

Throughout the address, Mayor Locke reinforced Surrey's emergence as a major economic force within British Columbia and underscored the importance of investing boldly



(L-R) Scott Ackles, the emcee and Surrey Sports Hall of Fame Advisory Committee member, Harvest for Hope Executive Director Noemi Victorino and candidate for Surrey Council, Mayor Brenda Locke and Rey Fortaleza, Acting President, Fil-Can Cultural Heritage Society

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'The man that you are': Erwan Heussaff praised for stance on Anne Curtis' onscreen pairings



Screengrab of Erwan Heussaff's appearance in the May 16, 2026 episode of Bilyonaryo News Channel's "Matteo G Primetime" as posted on YouTube (bncphl via YouTube)

"The man that you are."

Food content creator and restaurateur Erwan Heussaff drew praise for his take on wife Anne Curtis' onscreen pairings with other leading men.

The FEATR founder appeared on the May 16 episode of the talk show "Matteo G Primetime," where he was asked by host Matteo Guidicelli about his feelings when Anne is paired with another leading man.

"Oh, I'm fine," Erwan replied immediately.

"Really?" Matteo asked.

"I met Anne, she was already doing all these movies," Erwan said.

"So up to today, you're fine with it... no jealousy, no heartache, no pinch in the bottom of the heart, nothing," Matteo said, to which Erwan replied he was "totally fine with it."

Erwan admitted that it "gets awkward" when people ask for his reaction whenever he watches her films with an intimate scene.

"I'm completely fine with it," he said, referring to his reaction.

"Never hurt?" Matteo asked.

"No... never hurt," Erwan responded.

"Really? Where do you get this sense of confidence?" Matteo asked.

"She was already doing it when we weren't even dating yet. So who am I to kind of tell her

what to do or change who she is or anything like that, right?" Erwan said.

"It's like, her asking me to stop cooking. I know it's very different but, if you look at it as part of a job, it is a job, right? That's fine," he added.

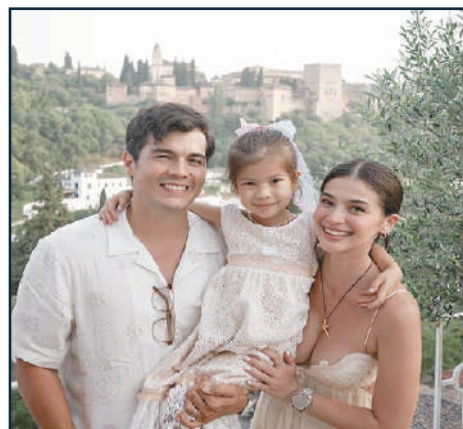
Anne's recent movie is a romantic drama with Jericho Rosales titled "The Loved One."

Apart from that, she has also been paired with other actors like Joshua Garcia, Marco Gumabao and Dingdong Dantes.

Meanwhile, clips of Erwan's interview went viral, with some Filipinos praising him for his stance on his wife's professional work.

"A secure relationship doesn't require someone to change who they are," a Facebook page wrote, sharing a screengrab of Erwan's interview.

The post has garnered 4,000 likes and reactions and over 70 comments.



Erwan, Anne and daughter Dahlia (gma network)

"Big check! This is true, unconditional love! But lots of love [and] support! Uplifting [your] partner while staying secured with each other is the right blend of relationship!" a Facebook user wrote.

"This is how a real man should be," another commented.

"ERWAN HEUSSAFF, THE MAN THAT YOU ARE," a different Pinoy wrote with clapping emojis.

"This is the mindset of a confident, intelligent, emotionally mature husband who respects his wife's work and creative space," another commented.

"I love how secured he is. He is confident in the most positive way," a different Threads user wrote.

"Erwan is a very open-minded, supportive, and secure husband to his wife. Ganyan naman dapat. Don't change your partner just to stroke your

own ego, or demand the other person [to] change to suit your pride," another Pinoy said.

Erwan also shared in the interview that their marriage is rooted in mutual respect for each other as individuals.

"I think for us, it's really respect. It's not trying to change who we are, who you were. Obviously, as people, you wanna challenge each other and kinda grow together and evolve. [But] it doesn't mean someone can't change," he said.

"If you decide to marry a person, you're marrying that person in that moment — and whatever comes with that person, right?" Erwan added.

Erwan married Anne in November 2017. The couple has a daughter named Dahlia.

Before that, they dated for seven years. (J. Malasig/ Inteaksyon)



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Kim Chiu hits back at bashers over comments on PH issues: 'May karapatan akong magsalita'

Actress Kim Chiu was quick to fire back at bashers who criticized her for speaking out on issues concerning the country recently.

In a post on X, the actress admitted feeling saddened by the reactions she received after voicing her opinions on social issues.

"Nakakalungkot. That's what happens when concern and opinion don't align with them—gusto agad patahimikin," Kim wrote.

She added that while she has become used to criticism, she also has every right to express her views.

"Oo, Bisaya ko, pero Pilipino rin akong may karapatang magsalita at magpahayag ng saloobin," she said.

Kim also expressed frustration over paying taxes while seeing controversies and conflict in the government.

"Masakit magbayad ng buwis tapos ganito ang nakikita natin. Hindi po tayo ang magkakalaban. Pare-pareho lang tayong mamamayan," she added.

The actress then appealed to the public to stop fighting with each other online.

"Wala tayong kapangyarihang tulad nila, kaya sana dili mu mangaway oi. Murag mga bata naman ning uban ba. Kung unsa imong ganahan edi okay. Ako mao man ni ako ganahan. Pasagdi," she said.

Kim earlier spoke about the shooting incident at the Senate



and also commented on the supposed surrender of a person linked to Sen. Ronald dela Rosa. (N. Ramos/mb.com.ph)

Did Cristine Reyes just announce her engagement to Gio Tingson?



Actress Cristine Reyes may have just announced her engagement to her partner, Gio Tingson. In her latest Instagram post, it appeared that she was proudly showing off what seemed to be an engagement ring in some of the photos.

Friends of Cristine also sent their congratulatory messages in the comment section.

"Every timeline led here. endgame unlocked," she wrote in the caption, while including a ring emoji.

Based on the photos, Cristine and Gio took some time off their

busy schedules as they explored Hong Kong. The actress and the former commissioner of the National Youth Commission were seen smiling beside each other in some of the photos, while some were focused on her hands where she could be seen wearing a ring.

"Congratulations, Aa," Karel Marquez expressed.

"So happy for u! Congrats," Carmen Soo added.

"OMG!!! Prayed for this really @cristinereyes & @giotingson !!! Love you both my friends!" talent manager Noel Ferrer expressed.

In her Instagram Stories, Cristine reposted the story of Raffy Magno— Gio's friend and the executive director of Angat Buhay— congratulating them.

"Finally, some good news, and it's finally out. Congratulations @giotingson and @cristinereyes! Love you both," Raffy wrote.

Cristine's surprise announcement was met with delight from her fans as they also commented on her post.



This isn't the first time that the couple have gone on a trip out of the country together. Back in 2025, the two shared some photos from Vietnam.

In a recent interview with Isabelle Daza, Cristine briefly shared a story about her unnamed partner and how they met in the past at a school fair. She recalled how she was in a marriage booth with her partner's batchmate and he was the priest "officiating" the

ceremony,

"Hanggang ngayon, may bubog siya sa akin. Tapos sabi ko sa kanya, hindi talaga tayo magiging tayo noon kasi we're meant to be now," she shared.

Cristine's last public relationship was with actor Marco Gumabao. She was previously married to Ali Khatibi, with whom she shares a daughter, Amarah. (A. Acierto/abs-cbn)

Dingdong Dantes on 'power couple' blind item: 'Confident kami na hindi kami 'yun'

Kapuso actor Dingdong Dantes finally addressed rumors about him and his wife, Marian Rivera, supposedly being the infamous "power couple" whose marriage is allegedly on the rocks, as mentioned in a blind item.

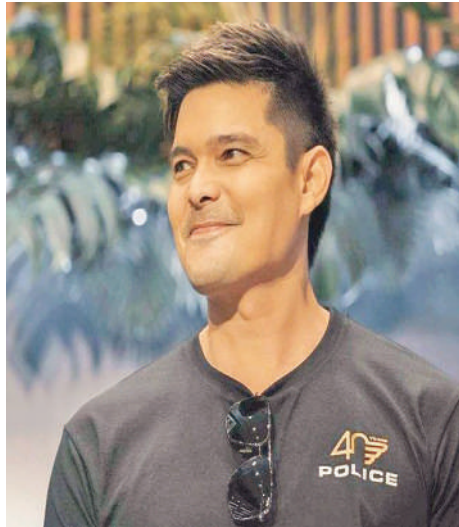
During his interview with Jessica Soho last Sunday, Dingdong was asked about the rumor after some netizens speculated that it referred to him and Marian.

"Parang every year meron ho talagang mga gano'ng nakukuha. Una, sanay naman po. Pangalawa, e, confident naman po kami na hindi kami 'yun. Basta ako, malinis tayo diyari," Dingdong said.

Earlier this year, rumors about Marian and Dingdong supposedly having marital problems also surfaced.

The Kapuso actor laughed off the rumors, going on to open up on how he and Marian keep their relationship strong.

"I think, malaking bagay po na



nagkakilala kami at the time when halos natapos na 'yung mga kailangan naming gawin as single people. Pero higit sa lahat, malaking bagay that nung umpisa pa lang, pareho ang gusto namin—and that is to just simply build the family. Everything revolves around there," he said.

Dingdong and Marian celebrated their 11th wedding anniversary in December. They celebrated with their kids, Zia and Sixto,

at a beach resort in El Nido, Palawan.

Dingdong also clarified talks about his alleged plan to enter politics.

"Malinaw sa'kin na ang focus ko ay nasa industriyang ito sa pagiging aktor," he said.

As to Aktor PH, a group which he leads as chairman, Dingdong

explained, "It's a collective effort of a group of actors. Nag-umpisa siya sa panahon ng pandemic noong marami pa tayong uncertainties. Mas marami tayong tanong sa sarili natin, sa kalusugan, maraming fears, pero higit sa lahat, ang conversations na 'yun, nangibabaw ang hopes sa isang community [bilang] nagmamalasakit."

(C. Alcantara/ mb.com.ph)



Marian Rivera & husband Dingdong Dantes

Marian Rivera 'humbled' to be Bulgari's 'friend of the house': 'Thank you for the trust'



figure-hugging dress with a plunging neckline, paired with pieces of jewelry from Bulgari.

"So grateful and truly humbled to be welcomed as a Friend of the House of Bvlgari," she wrote.

"Thank you for the trust, the warmth, and for allowing me to be part of something so timeless and beautiful," she added. "My heart is full."

Marian has become the second Filipina celebrity to be named a Bulgari "friend of the house," following Pia Wurtzbach.

A "friend of the house" title is a non-exclusive partnership given by a luxury brand to a celebrity or personality who regularly wears its pieces, according to Vanity Fair.

Marian currently serves as the Dance Authority on "Stars on the Floor" Season 2. It airs on Sundays at 7:15 p.m. on GMA Network. (Hermes Joy Tunac/ CDC, GMA News)

Marian Rivera is still on cloud nine following her appointment as the newest "friend of the house" of high jewelry brand Bulgari.

On Instagram, the Kapuso Primetime Queen shared a reel featuring some of the highlights from the event held at Penthouse No. 66 of Grand Hyatt Manila in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

Marian donned a baby pink

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"MADALI PONG KAUSAP"

Ruru Madrid says he went on immersion in Tondo for 'Hari ng Tondo' role

Ruru Madrid shared that he had an immersion in Tondo, Manila, for his role in the upcoming GMA Prime series, "Hari ng Tondo."

According to Aubrey Carampel's report on "24 Oras" on Wednesday, the Kapuso Primetime Action Hero went on an immersion in Tondo to better understand and portray the character of somebody who was raised in and lives in the district.

"Nung natutunan ko pong kilalanin sila at aralin po papaano ba ang pamumuhay sa Tondo, na-realize ko na ganun lang pala talaga sila kalalim na tao," Ruru said.

In April, Ruru posted on Instagram some moments from his time in Tondo, including meeting the residents.

"Maligayang pagdating sa lugar ng mga Pating at Leon. Mahal na kita agad, Tondo," he wrote in his caption.

Ruru is starring in the series alongside Dennis Trillo.

"Minsan lang kami magkatrabaho ni Ruru pero pagka binibigyan kami ng pagkakataon magkatrabaho, talagang siguradong maganda at isang malaking proyekto talaga," Dennis said in Carampel's report.

Ruru added that he is "very excited" to work with Dennis again after "Green Bones" and on a longer project where they get to spend time together.

"Feeling ko, dito mas makakarelate 'yung mga makakanood sa mga characters namin. Hindi lang sa akin, pati sa mga characters ni Ruru at sa ibang artista dito," Dennis added.

The series also teased fight and action scenes, which the cast is already preparing for.

Ruru and Dennis hope to shine a light on the Filipino martial arts



Dennis Trillo and Ruru Madrid for 'Hari ng Tondo'

panuntukan or dirty boxing.

"Sabi ko, parang swak na swak 'to sa Tondo," Ruru said. "Ever since din, talagang todo ensayo. Kahit nasa Spain ako, takbo ako nang takbo."

Other cast members of "Hari ng Tondo" include Rocco Nacino, Ryza Cenon, Ysabel Ortega, Elle

Villanueva, Arra San Agustin, and Heath Jornales.

It also stars Gary Estrada, Victor Neri, and Nonie Buencamino, with the special participation of Isko Moreno.

The series is directed by Enzo Williams. (Nika Roque/CDC, GMA News)

Kelvin Miranda seeks justice for dad's death

Kapuso actor Kelvin Miranda admitted that he still has not moved on from the sudden death of his father.

Kelvin posted on his social media account about the vehicular accident that claimed the life of his father, Patricio Miranda.

The actor opened up during the story conference for his new film, "Crawlers After Dark," the first venture of Z Studios Productions, written and directed by Ralston Jover.

Kelvin said he is thankful that after the TV series "Sang'gre," which coincided with his father's demise, this new film project came along.

He said he has to work and move on.

At the same time, he wants justice for the vehicular accident that caused his father's death.

He and his family are pursuing the case against the driver who allegedly bumped his father's motorcycle.

"We're pursuing the case

because that's the only justice – the last one – we can do for our father," the actor said.

"My father wasn't there anymore in the scene of the accident when I got there... but in the morgue already.

"Not even in the hospital.

"This fight has been so stressful for us," Kelvin admitted.

"I hardly felt that driver's remorse.

"It was as though it didn't happen... and nobody died.

"They said 'sorry'.. and asked for a settlement... they had the money, being the owner of the catering.

"We didn't expect the accident to happen. All we expected was sympathy from them.

"Not even wreaths of condolences from them...

"We weren't rude to send them away... We're not," he continued.

Kelvin and his family are still grieving. Keeping himself busy



with a new project somehow serves as a consolation.

He said he likes his role in "Crawlers After Dark" as a member of the Termite Gang.

"This is quite new, different from roles I've done... its storyline is edgy," he added.

"It's not an inconsequential issue.

"It's about a real person who's going through hard times and making unconventional choices in life."

Kelvin is joined in the film by Cherry Pie Picache, RK Bagatsing, Zaijian Jaranilla, Teri Malvar, Ruby Ruiz, Marnie Lapuz and new actor Adrian Araneta. (G. Rula/Malaya)

ABS-CBN strengthens digital push with 'Together Forever' campaign



ABS-CBN has launched a new global campaign encouraging overseas Filipinos to stay connected with their families in the Philippines through its streaming platforms Kapamilya Online Live and iWant, as the media company continues to expand its digital reach worldwide.

The campaign, "Together

Forever," highlights how overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) are using online streaming to bond with loved ones despite the distance by watching ABS-CBN programs together in real time.

In a campaign video released recently, the company featured stories of Filipinos abroad who turn to Kapamilya Online Live

on YouTube and the iWant app to watch their favorite television shows with family members back home, whether while commuting, at work breaks or from their homes overseas.

ABS-CBN said the initiative reflects the growing role of digital platforms in helping Filipinos abroad remain connected to home through entertainment and news content.

Kapamilya Online Live, the company's livestreaming platform, streams ABS-CBN's current programs and classic titles through the ABS-CBN Entertainment YouTube channel, which has 54.8 million subscribers. The platform offers free streaming on mobile devices and connected TVs, along with video-on-demand

access for replay viewing.

Among the programs available on the service are primetime dramas "Blood vs Duty" and "The Alibi," noontime variety show "It's Showtime," flagship newscast "TV Patrol," and weekend game shows "Kapamilya Deal or No Deal" and "Everybody, Sing!"

ABS-CBN said viewers will also soon be able to watch the upcoming action-drama series "Coco Martin's Sigabo," starring Coco Martin and Julia Montes, through the platform.

The livestreaming service also features a live chat function that allows viewers from different countries to interact while watching programs simultaneously. (Malaya Entertainment)

LOVE RULES: Bea Alonzo and Vincent Co reportedly still together amid wedding cancellation rumors

Despite rumors surrounding the alleged cancellation of their planned wedding in Spain, actress Bea Alonzo and businessman Vincent Co are reportedly still together and trying to work through their issues as a couple.

Questions about the status of their relationship began circulating after reports claimed that the engaged pair's supposed May 14 wedding in Spain did not push through. This immediately sparked speculation online about whether the couple had already called off their engagement for good.

However, according to sources close to the couple, Bea and Vincent remain in contact and continue to work on their relationship behind the scenes.

One insider claimed that Vincent remains deeply in love with Bea and is still "fighting for their relationship" despite the controversy surrounding their postponed wedding plans.

The source added that Vincent is determined to "keep" Bea in his life, describing the actress as the "most important" person to him.



But what exactly is causing the tension between the two? Is it really the rumored prenuptial agreement?

The same source denied the circulating claims, including allegations that Bea was

supposedly asked to live with Vincent's family after marriage and comply with several strict conditions.

According to the insider, the couple already owns a condominium unit that they

have allegedly been preparing as their future home after marriage.

The source also dismissed speculation that Vincent's family disapproves of Bea, saying their relationship would never have reached the engagement stage if that were true.

The insider went on to claim that the ongoing tension is allegedly being caused by a "certain individual" who is intent on playing the role of a "disruptor."

According to the source, the alleged concern stems from fears that Bea may eventually step away from her still highly lucrative showbiz career.

Despite lingering doubts about whether the wedding will eventually push through, the insider insisted that Bea and Vincent remain "very much together" even after the reported cancellation of their Spain wedding.

As of writing, neither Bea nor Vincent has released an official statement addressing the rumors.

(N. Ramos/mb.com.ph / Photo credit Newsjr.com)

Cine Europa returns to Philippines with the 'best of the best' European films

The Cine Europa returns for its 29th edition, continuing its mission of using cinema as a bridge for cultures, ideas and shared human experiences.

The long-running European film festival once again brings a diverse lineup of films from different European Union Member States to audiences across the Philippines through free screenings nationwide.

This year's festival will feature 17 full-length feature films and three documentaries, ranging from historical dramas and fiction to adventure and comedy.

"Over the years, this partnership has grown into more than a collaboration," said Agata Nowicka, deputy head of mission to the Philippines, during the May 14 launch. "It has become a platform of culture, dialogue and storytelling."

The 2026 lineup presents a wide range of themes exploring identity, memory, history and human connection.

Poland gives us the selection with "Lampo the Travelling Dog," inspired by a true story of a train-riding dog forming unexpected bonds, alongside "Lost of Balance," a psychological drama about a young acting student confronting self-doubt and emotional pressure.

Belgium's "Head or Fails" presents a raw exploration of instability and consequence, following individuals trapped in cycles of risky decisions.

The Czech Republic has the film "The Waves," which revisits the Prague Spring of 1968, when journalists at Czechoslovak Radio risk their lives to broadcast uncensored information under Soviet occupation.

The Slovenian film "Hidden People" explores the unexpected connection between two strangers forced into an unusual situation, while Germany's "Roter Himmel (Afire)" dives into themes of love, ego and creative struggle.

France's "Un Ours Dans La Jura" introduces a suspense thriller about a struggling



Whether through comedy, tragedy, history or documentary, Cine Europa presents stories of love, loss, identity, resilience and transformation. As the festival continues across the Philippines, it reinforces cinema's role not only as entertainment but also as a shared space where audiences can encounter lives different from their own.

couple whose lives spiral into chaos after discovering a large sum of money following a car accident in the snowy Jura mountains.

"Four Mothers" from Ireland features a humorous yet emotional story about caregiving and family responsibility, while Sweden's "The Dance Club" follows a group of misfit patients at a psychiatric clinic who form an unlikely alliance through a dance group.

The festival will also present Italy's "Gloria," which highlights music and artistic expression in a historical setting, while Austria presents "Sleeping with a Tiger and Peacock," both examining identity, performance and self-discovery.

Spain's "Campamento Garra de Oso (Bear Claw Camp)" follows a family adventure film about Maia, an imaginative and spirited girl, and Jan, a fearful city boy, who race to save a summer camp threatened by an eccentric builder.

"How Can I Live Without You" from Hungary is about a young woman named Lili, who discovers her mother's diary revealing a 1990s summer romance at Lake Balaton that leads to emotional awakening across generations.

"Nasty," a Romanian documentary, details the life and career of tennis legend Ilie N?stase, while Slovakia's docu "Andy Warhol: American Dream from Slovakia" explores the artist's immigrant roots and cultural identity.

Ukraine's "Simple Soldier" is said to deliver a stark portrayal of an ordinary man navigating the realities of war in eastern Ukraine, reflecting the emotional and psychological toll of conflict.

Other featured films include "Summer is Crazy" from Finland, set in the Finnish archipelago during midsummer, where the Eerola family grapples with disappointments after their fine dining restaurant goes bankrupt.

From Cyprus, the film "Maricel" follows a Filipina domestic worker caring for an elderly couple in a remote mountain village, where what begins as a simple caregiving job gradually unveils questions of personal boundaries within the household.

Also featured is "Sentimental Value," selected by the European Union Delegation, which tells the story of an aging filmmaker who casts his estranged

daughter in his next film in an attempt to reconnect.

When asked by The Philippine STAR during an open forum on why cinema continues to matter in today's world, particularly in relation to the diverse themes explored in Cine Europa films, Katarzyna Wilkowiecka of Poland said, "It's sometimes nice to go into the dark room where everybody is sitting, enjoying the big screen with great sound, which is also very important. Even if everything is in front of your eyes, you still use your imagination. And then you go home, you discuss it with friends, with family, or even think about what you've seen."

Ireland's deputy head of mission, Erica Duffy, also noted that cinema becomes a powerful tool for connection, especially when stories like their film "Four Mothers" reflect universal experiences such as caregiving and family responsibility.

"There are ways that we can connect with one another that me standing giving a speech, or my colleagues discussing what our governments are doing to advance our interests and values, cannot achieve in the same way that storytelling does," she said.

Germany's First Secretary, Pia Friedrich, also shared how storytelling strengthens memory.

SEE NEXT PAGE

GMA Network Executives Share Industry Insights at the Asian Academy Creative Awards National Winners Event

GMA Network Senior Vice President for Programming, Talent Management, Worldwide, and Support Group, and President and CEO of GMA Films Atty. Annette Gozon-Valdes, together with award-winning screenwriter and **GMA Public Affairs Senior Assistant Vice President Anj Atienza,** shared their creative expertise and industry insights at the Asian Academy Creative Awards (AACA) National Winners 2026 event held on May 14.

Gozon-Valdes and Atienza were among the featured speakers at the roundtable discussion titled "Spotlight Philippines: Local

Stories, Global Opportunities." A respected media executive, Gozon-Valdes has always championed creative excellence across the Asia-Pacific region. Through GMA Films, she brought visionary storytelling to the big screen through various titles including the widely-acclaimed "Firefly," "Green Bones," and "Balota."

Atienza, on the other hand, has won various awards for screenwriting. She wrote "Firefly" and was the 2025 AACA National Winner for "Green Bones."

"Spotlight Philippines: Local

Stories, Global Opportunities" was moderated by AACA President and Emmy Award winner Michael McKay. Joining Gozon-Valdes and Atienza in the panel were Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) Chairman and CEO Jose Javier Reyes, Regal Entertainment Executive Producer and COO Keith Monteverde, and Rein Entertainment Co-Founder, President, and CEO Lino Cayetano.

Welcoming invited speakers and other guests at the AACA National Winners 2026 was **GMA Network Entertainment Group's Vice President for Musical, Variety, Specials,**

and Alternative Productions Gigi Santiago-Lara, who was appointed as Philippine Ambassador to the AACA.

The AACA is a prestigious award-giving body in the Asia-Pacific that recognizes excellence in film, television, digital media, and storytelling. Through year-round industry events, it brings together talents, creators, producers, broadcasters, streamers, and partners through curated conferences such as the AACA National Winners Conference 2026. **For more news and updates, visit www.GMANetwork.com.**



CINE EUROPA FROM PAGE 10

"You can tell a fact, and you will forget it," she explained. "But when it is told through a story, it provokes emotion, helps us remember and gets us attached to a topic. This is really how storytelling works, and I truly believe storytelling is everything."

Slovenia's Ambassador Smiljana Knez added that audiences engage with films for different reasons — whether to learn about history, discover similarities across cultures or simply enjoy meaningful cinema.

"People may want to learn about history, or feel good, or relate to something they see on screen," she said, underscoring the varied ways audiences connect with film.

The festival screenings are all free on a first-come, first-served basis. The Manila screenings will be held at Shangri-La Plaza from May 28 to June 3, followed by free public screenings at Rizal Park from June 15 to 20, on specific screening dates, and the lineup of films to be shown each day.

Expanding its reach beyond Metro Manila, the festival will also bring screenings to Tacloban from June 11 to 15 and Cagayan de Oro from June 29 to July 4.

The detailed screening schedules for venues beyond Manila, including the daily film lineup, are still being finalized and will be announced through the festival's official website in the coming weeks. (L. C. Lagorra/ Philstar)

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Sara may survive impeachment but 2028 win not certain: analyst

By Carlito Pablo

The impeachment trial of Philippine Vice President Sara Duterte opened on May 18 in what could be her biggest political test yet.

Depending on the outcome, Duterte may either find herself removed from office and perpetually banned from government or emerge stronger as the likely successor of erstwhile ally and now arch nemesis, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

With her allies in control over the Senate, which has convened as an impeachment court, the vice president will likely prevail in the trial, but at what price?

"Surviving the impeachment is not victory. If anything, an acquittal may prove pyrrhic or one that comes at an enormous cost," wrote Andrew J. Masigan, a political columnist with the Philippine Star.

As a side note, Masigan's piece titled "Why Sara Duterte is not a shoo-in for 2028" was published on April 29, days before Duterte's allies took over the Senate leadership on May 11.

Conviction requires a two-thirds vote or 16 out of the 24 senators. Duterte needs nine to survive; her supporters number 13.

While Duterte continues to lead the field among potential presidential contenders for 2028, her fortunes appear to be on a decline.

"Trials do not merely determine guilt – they define narratives. And narrative is where Duterte is most vulnerable," Masigan wrote.

In particular, the Philippine Star columnist noted a "narrative flip" arising from recent revelations of unexplained wealth by Duterte and her spouse Manases Carpio.

"Bank records showing P6.77 billion passing through the accounts linked to Sara Duterte and Manases Carpio were enough to turn off millions of Filipinos. It revealed true colors, shook public confidence and reinforced festering allegations of corruption."

Masigan also noted that Duterte's



Philippine Vice President Sara Duterte turns 48 years old on May 31, 2026 and her supporters in Vancouver are planning a celebration.

approval ratings have "not held up".

"From highs approaching 70 percent in 2023-2024, they have settled into the low-50s range. While still high, it is a diminishing. Historical data show that once approval ratings fall below the mid-50s, they rarely recover without a major reset. The presidency is never won from a position of decline.

"This is precisely what makes the 2028 presidential race competitive rather than decisive," Masigan stated.

Masigan also looked at Duterte's "stable base of supporters". "In her case, that floor sits around 25-35 percent, anchored by Mindanao. Voters

issue.

"As of today, a plausible distribution looks like this: Duterte wins Mindanao overwhelmingly but loses Luzon and splits the Visayas. In a two-way race, that arithmetic favors her opponent," Masigan explained.

And then there's the Marcos factor.

With the Marcoses facing an "existential threat" should Duterte win 2928, the Marcos machinery will "not align with Duterte".

"No doubt, government will deploy its considerable resources – organizational, financial and logistical – in favor of Sara's opponent," Masigan wrote.

Duterte is facing four articles of impeachment, one of which stemmed from her threat to assassinate President Marcos, his wife Liza Araneta, and his cousin and then House Speaker Martin Romualdez.

The three other articles of impeachment involve alleged misuse of P612.5 million in confidential government funds, failure to properly disclose assets and bank transactions in her Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth, and bribery during her term as Cabinet secretary of education.

In his Philippine Star column, Masigan noted that the electoral math in the Philippines has changed.

there remain deeply invested in the Duterte brand. This

base is unlikely to erode, even amid scandals.

"But will 25-35 percent be enough?" Masigan asked.

"Duterte will dominate Mindanao, likely securing 75+ percent of the vote. But Mindanao accounts for only a quarter of the national electorate. To win nationally, she must dominate elsewhere. In Luzon – home to over half of all voters – is where the good governance candidate will secure the majority, particularly in urban centers and among younger voters. The Visayas, historically fluid, is likely to tilt toward reform if corruption remains a salient

"The Philippines is no longer driven by personalities alone. Issues now matter. Corruption is currently the second biggest concern of the electorate, only after cost of living. A decade of corrupt, incompetent and weak leaders have raised demands for reform. This is especially true among the youth, middle class and voters in Luzon and the Visayas. They comprise the decisive blocs," Masigan wrote.

According to Masigan, a "good governance" candidate can give Duterte a tough fight in 2028.

"In terms of positioning, we can expect a striking contrast between Duterte and the good governance

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candidate. While Duterte will have no choice but to maintain a defensive stance and play the victim, her opponent will focus on the future and what could be – transparency, accountability and competent leadership. With corruption as a top voter concern, this contrast will shape the election outcome," Masigan wrote.

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COMMUNITY CORNER

BY CHRISTIAN CUNANAN & APPLE PLATA



Laughter, friendship, and entertainment filled the night as Beks Battalion Canada Tour – “*The Laff Control Project*” successfully brought the Vancouver leg of the show to Metro Vancouver. Held at Massey Theatre on May 16, 2023, the event gave audiences an unforgettable evening of comedy and fun.

Fans were thrilled to witness

Chad Kinis, MC Muah, and Lassy performing together for the first time Live in Vancouver.

The successful event was made possible by like minded group of friends dedicated to bringing quality Filipino entertainment and comedy to the community. The main producers were KC Romero, Annalene Lasaleta Doromal

and Marytes R. Flores, whose teamwork and dedication helped make the show a memorable experience.

Supporting them were co-producers and staff members Aimee Palomares Manuel, Alejandro John Hipolito, Amy Gutierrez, Angelie Billena, Arfloyd Roxas, Boycene Gabbac Rocutan, Catia Santos, Chatsky Breguera Bonilla,

Cirjak Joy, Des Salidaga-Yeo, Edmay Nino, Fern Yeo, Jennifer M. MacDonald, Jilian Joyce Batanga, Josica Roxas, Karla Guerrero, Maricel-Roel Bernardino, Naomi LG, Richard-Sherrie Salidaga, and Vincent Benjamin.

Together, they created a night full of joy, laughter, and community spirit for Metro Vancouver.

Photo credit: Soulmate



Vatican to publish Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical May 25

The Vatican announced Monday that Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical will be published on May 25 with the title *Magnifica Humanitas*.

Pope Leo will speak at a presentation for the release of the social encyclical — a papal letter to the Church — at 11:30 a.m. Rome time on May 25 in the Vatican's Synod Hall.

The Vatican also confirmed that the full title of the encyclical is *Magnifica Humanitas: "On the Protection of Human Dignity in the Age of Artificial Intelligence."* *Magnifica Humanitas* is Latin for "magnificent humanity."

Leo signed the letter, which is expected to provide moral guidance on the digital revolution and emerging technologies such as AI, on May 15.

The speakers at the encyclical's presentation will be: Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, prefect of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith; Cardinal Michael Czerny, SJ, prefect of the Dicastery for Integral



Pope Leo XIV holds the weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, May 13, 2026. (Reuters/Vincenzo Livieri/File Photo)

Human Development; Anna Rowlands, professor of ethics and political theology at the University of Durham in the United Kingdom; Christopher Olah, co-founder of Anthropic USA; and Léocadie Lushombo, it, professor of theological ethics at the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University in Berkeley,

California.

Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin will offer concluding remarks.

May 15 marked the 135th anniversary of the publication of Pope Leo XIII's 1891 encyclical on capital and labor, *Rerum Novarum*, "Of

New Things" — the first in a long line of social encyclicals produced in the modern era of the Catholic Church.

Pope Leo XIV indicated at the beginning of his pontificate that he intended to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor Leo XIII by responding to today's industrial revolution: "developments in the field of artificial intelligence."

Addressing the College of Cardinals on May 10, 2025, the new pope said he chose to take the name Leo XIV for various reasons, "but mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical *Rerum Novarum* addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution."

"In our own day," he continued, "the Church offers to everyone the treasury of her social teaching in response to another industrial revolution and to developments in the field of artificial intelligence that pose new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor." (*Hannah Brockhaus, Catholic News Agency via CBCP News*)

Peasant Leader Danilo Ramos Welcomed at St. Mary the Virgin Church

By ICHRP-Canada International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines

Vancouver, BC - Rev. Harold Munn and the congregation of St. Mary the Virgin - South Hill Anglican Church welcomed their special guest and speaker Danilo "Ka Daning" Ramos at the Migrants' Mass last May 17th, a monthly joint service of the St. Mary's with Migrante BC, a grassroots organization working to protect and promote the rights and welfare of Filipino migrants, immigrants and refugees.

Ka Daning is a veteran peasant leader and the National Chairperson of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (National Peasant Movement of the Philippines), the largest farmers' association in the Philippines.

Ka Daning is on a Canada-wide speaking tour organized by the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines - Canada to share the situation of peasant farmers and farm workers in the Philippines and their calls for "land, food, and justice". Since April 12, Ka Daning has met many Filipino community groups, solidarity organizations, different migrants' organizations, and churches in Edmonton and Calgary, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, and Winnipeg.

Ka Daning comes from a third generation of Filipino farmers in Malolos, Bulacan. He lost his father at an early age, learned how to help make a living making bamboo tools and traps until he became a full-time farmer in his teens.

Ka Daning said that it was in church that he was first exposed to the social realities. He was a catechist in the Christian Brotherhood in his parish in Malolos, Bulacan and was an officer of the Parish Pastoral Council. His first rally was when their parish was invited to join the protest against the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant project. From his grassroots leadership in Bulacan and Central Luzon for over four decades, he rose to national leadership as KMP's chairperson representing millions of peasants, farmworkers, women and youth.

In his sharing during the mass, he raised the issue of land

ownership in the Philippines that leaves 50-70 million in moderate to high levels of food insecurity according to the UN and World Food Programme. He outlined the issue of 20-30,000 hectares of arable land owned by single families and agricultural corporations such as Dole and Del Monte. And, that much of this land is oriented towards export and not for local food production.

Ka Daning voiced his concerns on the recent attacks on peasant communities in the island of Negros. The deaths of 19 individuals in Negros, contrary to the claim of the military as the result of an encounter, is the result of a massacre – based on reports including the fact-finding mission reports and that of the forensic pathologist. Ka Daning made special mention of Maureen Keil Santuyo, youth peasant organizer and Erro Wendel, community researcher of sugar cane workers. Ka Daning asked for support for the Negros 19.

Mable Elmore, MLA for Vancouver Kensington and Deputy Speaker of the BC Legislative Assembly, expressed her "Warmest Solidarity with KMP" on the visit of Ka Daning to Vancouver with a certificate that read: "For planting the seeds of hope in the resistance against a semi-feudal and semi-colonial system that breeds oppression and misery. May your struggle for land and liberation grow deeper roots from the plains to the mountains and coasts. Long live the Filipino people!"

On behalf of the KMP, Ka Daning presented MLA Elmore and Rev. Harold Munn with the little red KMP banner and a souvenir booklet from the KMP's 40th anniversary last year.

At the fellowship after the service, Ka Daning continued the sharing and conversations, made new friends and supporters for the peasant movement in the Philippines.

St. Mary the Virgin South Hill church is located at 808 East 50th Avenue, Vancouver.



Ka Daning and wife Ka Ining with Rev. Heather Anderson



Top: L-R: Ka Daning giving his message; receiving communion; Ka Daning's call for food security
Bottom: Ka Daning presents the mini KMP banner and souvenir of KMP's 40th anniversary to Rev. Harold Munn



Top: Rev. Harold Munn, Ka Daning, MLA Mable Elmore and Ka Daning's wife Ka Ining with the banner Land, Food and Justice!
Bottom: Ka Daning receives the Certificate of Solidarity Greetings from MLA Mable Elmore and Deputy Speaker of the BC Legislative Assembly (Reference: Jeff Solis; ICHRP BC/Canada for article/ photos



One of the group photo of a successful visit of Ka Daning to St. Mary the Virgin, the little church with a big heart!

In Langley, Danilo "Ka Daning" Ramos at the Migrants had an international solidarity dialogue on migrant labour, land struggles, workers' rights, and the shared realities of agricultural communities across borders. Organized by the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines (ICHRP) BC/Canada, Fuerza Migrante, International Migrants Alliance (IMA), Anakbayan BC, and Migrante BC, in partnership with the Justice and Peace Unit of the Diocese of New Westminster of the Anglican Church, the event brought together migrant farmworkers from Mexico, Filipino peasant leader, and community organizers.



Ka Daning with the migrant farmworkers and Fuerza Migrante organizers

Rico Blanco on starring in his first rom-com film Project Baby: 'Hindi ako makapaniwala'

Last seen on the big screen as part of the 2025 Metro Manila Film Festival action thriller entry Manila's Finest where he played the role of a police man, Rico Blanco admitted he did not expect his next project to be that of a totally different genre from what he usually plays. This year, Rico makes his debut as a leading man in director Eric Quizon's latest romantic comedy, Project Baby, opposite actress Sue Ramirez.

"First ko ito, ever (na rom-com). Hindi ko alam kung magiging last. Sana hindi. Minsan nga nagkaka-impostor syndrome ako. Hindi ako makapaniwala. Totoo ba 'yan? Kinakabahan ako dito eh. Mas kabado pa ako dito kaysa pag merong major concert or malaking music event. Kasi po, as you all know, bihira kong gawin ito and I feel na minsan kung totoo bang nangyayari eh," he admitted.

After hearing he was cast through the personal suggestion of Regal Entertainment's head honchos Roselle and Keith Monteverde, Rico admitted that he never expected to be given this kind of opportunity at 53 years old.

"You know, at this point in my life, ngayon pa ako magkakaroon ng lead role and Regal movie. It's like, parang ginaganun (sampal) ko 'yung sarili ko. I can't believe all of this is happening. It's unbelievable to me. I've done so many things in my career that I'm so grateful for. Nalagpas-lagpasan ko na maraming dreams ko eh. Ito po, I'll be honest, hindi ko po ito dream at all. Tapos

nangyari. So I'm just filled with so much gratitude," he said.

Although he is more popularly known in the country as a multi-talented singer, songwriter, and producer, Rico was quick to remind the members of the press present during the May 16 media conference that he has actually been acting for a decade and a half already in showbiz, starting with his role in the Angel Locsin-John Lloyd Cruz fantasy-horror-drama series *Imortal* where he played the main villain.

"I've been given very strong roles, pero hindi 'yung ganito na parang leading man. I didn't expect this. I had always been given parang actor's roles, 'yung characters na (nagawa ko na). 'Yung medyo edgy. Sobrang thankful ako sa tiwala ni Direk Eric (Quizon) and Sir Keith (Monteverde) and everyone."

Addressing the members of the press who noted that he looked a bit shy during the event, Rico clarified that it was not because he was afraid of answering questions from the showbiz media, but that he actually appreciated their presence and interest in him and how he wanted to represent his project well.

"Kabado ako kasi hindi ako ganun ka-familiar (dito). And I know that you are also wanting to do your jobs right the best way and I have such high respect sa inyo because the industry, actually, we work together para mag-stay afloat 'yung industry. I know these are the best of times for the industry so I have such high respect. Kaya ako natatakot magkamali," he revealed.



Watch Project Baby under Regal Film and directed by Eric Quizon. Starring Sue Ramirez, Rico Blanco, Matt Lozano, Arra San Agustin, Yasser Marta, Alex Calleja, Kimson Tan,

Christian Ty, Charuth, Drei Arias, Jonathan Perez, Jazzil Sarinas, and Alice Dixson. The film opens in cinemas nationwide starting June 10, Wednesday. (R.M. Santos/ Push Team)

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Andre Yllana dreams of sharing the screen with mom Aiko, dad Jomari

Now four years in the business, Andre Yllana is lucky to have found a career-nurturing home studio in Viva Artists Agency (VAA).

In this relatively short time, the only child of Quezon City Councilor Aiko Melendez and Jomari Yllana has been enjoying his fair share of roles in outings of various genres. This, Andre says, is aligned with what he expects of his career trajectory, anchored on showcasing his versatility.

“It’s my dream to explore what I can offer my audience,” the young actor gushes.

His dream role, however, has yet to land on his lap.

Given the chance, Andre can’t wait to see himself working with his celebrity parents — an idea he broached himself with Aiko, herself one of the country’s accomplished actors.

“My mom says it’s a welcome

thought,” he shares.

Still, Andre can’t help but entertain anxious reservations if ever a project with all three of them comes along. He’s admittedly wary of his mom being a strict acting coach right on the set.

“Feeling kokasi, tatalakan niya ako, ‘Dapat ganito, hindi ganyan!’” he says. (I can imagine her scolding me, “That’s not the proper way to do it!”)

But knowing Aiko, it’s her subtle way of bringing out the best in her son — lest she be criticized for Andre’s mediocre acting.

With years of brilliant thespic experience, for sure, Aiko must have already “home-workshopped” her son before he sets out to the actual battle.

Meanwhile, Andre doesn’t hide his fondness for his mom’s current flame, ‘90s heartthrob Onemig Bondoc. In fact, he’s simply and eagerly awaiting their announcement of taking their



Andre Yllana PHOTO FROM INSTAGRAM/ANDREYLLANA

romance to the ultimate level — getting hitched, that is. “Pa-out of town-out of town nga lang sila, eh! But seriously, seeing my mom happy with Tito Onemig makes me happy.

I can feel that they love each other so dearly,” Andre shares. “If they end up married? It’s definitely a yes for me... go! I can’t wait to see that day!” You heard it, Konsi! (R. Carrasco 3rd / MT)

Bela Padilla distances herself from Robin Padilla’s political views

Bela Padilla clarified that she has no involvement in her uncle Robin Padilla’s political affiliations and had no role in his casting in the television series “Blood vs Duty.”

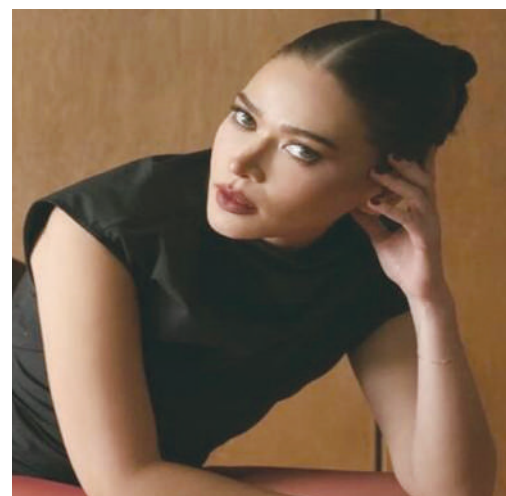
On Thursday, May 14, Bela took to her X account to address the issue X after receiving questions from followers following Robin’s addition to the cast of the ongoing primetime series.

“Because of recent events, and since I’m being asked daily, I wish to express my thoughts,” she wrote.

The actress shared that while Robin had been kind to her family growing up, their relationship changed as their careers took different paths.

“Our ideologies also differed,” she wrote, adding that she had not seen her uncle for three years before they recently worked together on set.

Bela also clarified that she had



no authority in casting decisions for the project and explained that producers made the decision independently.

She emphasized that being related does not mean they share the same beliefs.

“We are related, but we manage to agree to disagree,” she said. Bela has previously spoken publicly about political and social issues and has used her platform to comment on current events and public concerns. (A. Villanueva/Manila Standard)

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AJ cries 'Foul' on fake news

AJ Raval appeals for positivity among her social media haters following a made-up story involving her father, action star Jeric Raval.

Socmed is abuzz with reports that Jeric had advised Kylie Padilla to fix the annulment of her marriage to Aljur Abrenica, AJ's partner and father of their three kids.

By doing so, Jeric had supposedly pointed out the advantage of allowing all parties involved to live their desired lives, minus the legal consequences.

AJ, however, was the first to cry foul over what she describes as "100 percent fake news," stressing, "My dad is too old to be involved in something like this... spare him!"

It will be remembered that Jeric — in his guesting on "Fast Talk with Boy Abunda" years back — admitted to having issued an ultimatum to Aljur.

"Bilin ko sa kanya, ayusin muna niya ang dapat ayusin kung seryoso siya sa anak ko," Jeric confided in the TV interview. (I told Aljur point-blank to fix what needed to be fixed if he was damn serious with my daughter.)

A matter of common sense: why would Jeric channel his stern request to Kylie when he could engage Aljur in a man-to-man talk? Does Jeric honestly believe that Senator Robin Padilla cannot wield his power over his daughter? Who is Jeric in Kylie's supposedly private life, in the first place?

It certainly is a piece of news story that needs no checking. (R. Carrasco 3rd / Manila times)



AJ Raval PHOTO FROM INSTAGRAM/AJRAVSSS

'That's how life is': Anthony Jennings moves on from cheating controversy

MANILA, Philippines — Anthony Jennings has moved on after the cheating controversy involving him, his ex-girlfriend and ex-love team partner Maris Racal.

The actor got candid in his interview with online showbiz host Ogie Diaz, with whom he talked about moving forward from the scandal out of practicality because he has to "pay the bills."

"Siyempre ako, okay naman na ako. Naka-move on na ako sa nangyari na 'yun. And I think yeah, 'yung buhay tuloy-tuloy lang. You gotta live because you have bills to pay," he said. "So you just gotta accept kung ano 'yung mga nasa harap mo and go through with it. That's how life is," he added.

When asked if he feared losing his career because of the issue, Anthony said: "Siyempre papasok sa utak mo 'yun."

"Andun ka sa sitwasyon na nandon ka na eh [sa peak ng career]. Then suddenly, daming nawala sa'yo. But it's okay. Alam ko naman kung ano 'yung ginawa ko," he added.

Even so, he said he is happier than ever now that he gets to come to work every day.

"I'm slowly picking up right now. Ngayon naman okay naman eh. I have tapings, I have work. I'm still doing my best. And kailangan kong maging magaling din," he said.

"Kasi it's not about me, it's about the audience — ano 'yung gusto nilang makita.

"Proud lang ako na nagagawa ko 'to every day in my life — na natataguyod ko 'yung every day ko. I'm just happy. Madali naman akong makuntento na tao eh." (J.M. Severo/ Philstar)



File photo shows Anthony Jennings meeting the press back in February 2024. Philstar.com / Kathleen A. Llemit

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Kylie Padilla, Miguel Tanfelix recall intense rappelling experience for 'Taskforce Firewall'



Kylie Padilla and Miguel Tanfelix opened up about taking on a high-risk challenge for their upcoming series, "Taskforce Firewall," after rappelling from the 17th floor of the GMA Network building as part of the show's preparation and opening scenes.

At Tuesday's media conference for the series, Miguel admitted that the stunt was a first for him and came with plenty of nerves.

"Yung rappelling, first time ko 'yun, sobrang nakakakaba," he said.

Despite the fear, the actor said the production team's support and safety measures gave them confidence to push through with the stunt.

"Tapos 'yun nga, sinasabi ko

ngang grateful ako sa prod dahil sobrang supportive nila. Talagang sinisiguro nila 'yung safety namin at 'yung suporta nila nando'n. So, kami, bilang artista, gusto rin naming suportahan 'yung prod na, oh, gustoniyong pagawasaamin ito, since gusto nating pagandahin 'yung show, gagawin namin. 'Di kami nagdalawang-isip ni Kylie," Miguel said.

Kylie, however, jokingly corrected her co-star and said she definitely had second thoughts before taking the leap.

"Ikaw, 'di ka nagdalawang-isip. Ako, nagdalawang-isip ako. May dalawa akong anak na naghihintay sa bahay," she said.

Kylie said becoming a mother changed how she approaches risky activities.

"On my part naman, 'yan 'yung pinakagusto ko sa trabaho ko na bilang artista, nakapapasok ako sa buhay na hindi ko buhay tapos nagagawa ko hindi ko talaga gagawain. Kasi nabawasan na 'yung pagiging daredevil ko dati nung bata ako. Nung wala pa akong anak, gusto ko 'yan. Pero, nung nagka-anak na ako, binawasan ko na," she said.

In the end, Kylie said the fear

Ahead of the media conference, "Taskforce Firewall" released its trailer, giving viewers a glimpse into the high-stakes world of cybercrime investigations mixed with intense field operations and fight scenes.

Aside from Kylie and Miguel, the upcoming Kapuso action series also stars Kyline Alcantara, Jak Roberto, Lexi Gonzales, Buboy Villar, and Cheska Fausto, among others.



(L-R) Buboy Villar, Jak Roberto, Kyline Alcantara, Kylie Padilla and Miguel Tanfelix are the main cast of the new show

was worth overcoming after experiencing the thrill of the stunt firsthand.

"Nung na-experience ko na 'yung parang lumilipad na feeling, it was worth it. It was worth all the fear and the kaba. Worth it talaga. Tsaka worth it talaga para mapaganda 'yung show namin," she said.

The cast had also undergone gun handling training in Clark, Pampanga, with the Philippine Air Force in preparation for their roles.

"Taskforce Firewall" is set to premiere on GMA Network on May 25. (C.R. Basina /MGP, GMA News)

Sue Ramirez reveals desire to have children, calls BF Dominic Roque 'perfect father material'

Actress Sue Ramirez has openly expressed her desire to become a mother, revealing in a recent interview that she is very much open to the idea of having a baby with her boyfriend, actor Dominic Roque.

During the grand media conference for her upcoming film under Regal Entertainment, ironically titled, "Project Baby," Sue was asked whether she is open to having a child at this point in her life, similar to her character in the movie.

Her answer was direct and candid.

"Why not? Sana. Kung maibigay, di ba?" she said. "I think Dominic will be a very, very good father in the future, if he does want to have kids."

Sue went on to express deep admiration for Dominic, Bea Alonzo's ex, describing him as kind,

family-oriented, and someone she feels extremely blessed to have in her life.

"Grabe kung kilala niyo lang talaga si Dom, napakabuti, napakabait, napaka-family-oriented, god-fearing," she shared. "Sobrang swerte ko talaga. Nag-thank you ako kay Lord."

The actress admitted that she often feels grateful whenever she thinks about her relationship, especially as she approaches a new chapter in her life.

"Minsan pag tinitingnan ko siya, napapa-thank you Lord ako," she said. "Hindi ko in-expect na almost 30, makakahanap pa ako ng sobrang bait."

Sue, who is set to turn 30, also revealed that she has long dreamed of becoming a mother and feels emotionally and mentally ready for it.



Sue Ramirez and Boyfriend Dominic Toques

"Matagal ko na siyang gustong mangyari for me. Gusto kong maging nanay. Gusto kong maging nanay na katulad ng nanay ko," she said.

She also acknowledged the pressure that comes with age and family planning, but said she remains open and willing if the opportunity comes.

"Kung ibigay sa akin, why not?" she added.

When asked whether she is open to having a child even without marriage, Sue responded, "Oo naman," but clarified that her perspective has evolved over time.

She explained that while she once considered the idea of raising a child independently, she now believes it depends on having the right partner, someone she can trust as a father even if circumstances change along the way.

For Sue, what matters most is choosing someone with a good heart and strong values, especially when it comes to family.

She also praised Dominic's way with his family and loved ones, saying she sees how caring he is toward his nieces, nephews, and even her pets. (N. Ramos/mb.com.ph)

AT THE MOVIES
By Robert Waldman

Running Time: 1h 46m

Friendly Skies?

Danger. Suspense. Survival. Three words that have considerable meaning in the just released Deep Water from Route 504 PR. Refine the classic slogan Fly The Friendly Skies of United and you'll learn rather quickly that there's just not a thing friendly for passengers on a routine flight that turns out to be anything but. Get in on the bumpy ride at select Cineplex Cinemas and Landmark Theatres across B.C. Fear of flying and reluctance to tip your toes in the water are

Deep Water (14A) ***

smartly intertwined in this savvy thriller. Brought back to helm this action-packed ordeal is master director Renny Harlin (Die Hard 2/ Cliffhanger). Thankfully this visionary hasn't lost a step and is in fine form as tension mounts in this well-paced actioner. Oh, and having a competent cast also helps.

To set the stage Deep Water is just about some people wanting to take a break and go somewhere. Little do they know that a problem or two while airborne puts their lives on the line and in jeopardy.

No one stepping on a plane expects there to be a problem. At least that point is made crystal clear with likable aviators Ben and Rich are at the controls. In times of trouble

you want calm, cool and collected people in charge and Aaron Eckhart (Erin Brockovich) and Sir Ben Kingsley (Gandhi) rise to the challenge. It's all steady as she goes for these two masters of the universe as their competence and considerable talents are put to the ultimate test.

Apart from needing to gently (?) make a landing at sea the unlucky passengers and crew need to navigate their way through some very troubled waters. Think of it all as a blend between Airport and Jaws and you get the picture.

Tense and fun Deep Water needs to be taken with a big grain of salt. Believable - maybe not 100%. Fun?

Definitely yes. For a somewhat schlocky B-grade thriller Deep Water is definitely worth checking out. It's a rather restrained blast. Buckle up!

For more reviews please visit my website moviereviewssite.com



The Devil Wears Prada Two (PG) ***

Running time: 1h 59m

Vogue!

Let's dance! Well, maybe not so fast. Get caught up and swept away by the delicious eye candy that's fun and centre in The Devil Wears Prada 2. Let's all go back to the familiar territory made famous by the first juggernaut only now with an updated story. Made by 20th Century Fox and now showing at all Cineplex Cinemas and Landmark Theatres across BC this well grounded fantasy hits all the marks.



Let's just assume that most of us know the characters from the original version Prada No. 2 is

updated and just not as fresh as the original as could be expected. But still it's a lot of fun and a visual delight. Oscar winner Meryl Streep (Out of Africa) is catty as ever though someone muted in her performance here as Miranda Priestly. Faced with turmoil at her fashion house former assistant Andy Sachs returns to the fray. Again Anne Hathaway is sweet as punch and a great counterpoint to Streep.

Together these two must contend with a takeover of the firm. So there is a strong dose of reality that runs through the entire storyline. Lush

locations in Europe add to the whole aura of luxury that permeates the whole film. You'll be swept away!

Clearly made for the large female audience both sexes will enjoy this real time romp which has at its heart that theme of the importance of having a job, retaining it and fighting for it. People will appreciate this not so subtle message during these trying times which we all are living through these days.

For more reviews please visit my website moviereviewssite.com

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Eala fades unexpectedly, inexplicably, in Strasbourg



ALEX gave it her all, including almost throwing the proverbial kitchen sink. Still, it was not enough.

Oleksandra Oliynykova was simply a nut too tough to crack, so to speak, in this first round for both on Monday, May 18 PH time, in the Strasbourg Open in France.

And to think that Oliynykova was ranked a lowly 66th to the 29th seed Eala. And a mere qualifier at that while Alex advanced in place of the withdrawing Hailey Baptiste of the United States.

But as in many cases, rankings do not matter much when action begins.

It is the reality of the moment that usually defines the direction, outcome, of almost every contest.

Thus, after so much tenacity surrounding the almost three-hour match, Oliynykova would prevail with unbridled gallantry, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.

There was so much drama and there was no certainty as to who would advance to the next round. The first set alone foretold of things to come.

After Oliynykova forged a 3-3 tie on her serve, Eala snatched a 4-3 lead after saving five break points. Fired up a bit, Eala would break Oliynykova next and then held serve on her third set point for the 6-3 win in the first set lasting 57 minutes.

And then, while it seemed like Eala

was out to go for the kill in the second set, Oliynykova recoiled like a cobra, racing to a 4-0 lead against the suddenly bewildered Eala.

Again, Eala showed her poise and improving maturity by winning five of the next six games for a 5-all tie—in the process breaking Oliynykova three times.

But just when Eala was set to deliver the coup d grace, Oliynykova would hold serve for a 6-5 lead as Eala succumbed to four ghastly unforced errors.

The 25-year-old Oliynykova, from Kiev, Ukraine, would next break the obviously disappointed Eala for a 7-5 win to extend the match to a deciding third set.

Eala would collar a 3-2 lead, winning game four after nine taxing deuces and saving six unbelievable break points.

And then what followed next was a scene more bizarre than the 9/11 downing of New York's Twin Towers.

While Oliynykova rose to the occasion on a quick break-back for a 3-3 deadlock, Eala unbelievably collapsed like a condemned edifice.

Seemingly getting her second wind, Oliynykova bamboozled the fast-fading Eala, winning the last three games with improbable shots—from lobs to drop shots and a variety of winners—for a 6-3 win en route to clinching the match.



theglobalfilipinomagazine.com

Oliynykova said the win was an answered prayer.

“My father is arriving tomorrow from Ukraine where he is a soldier on the frontline for two years now in our war against Russia,” said Oliynykova. “He requested for a break as he wants to see me play here.”

That should ease some pain on Eala's heart?

THAT'S IT Alex Eala will next play in the French Open, the year's second major, at Roland Garros in Paris set from May 24 to June 7. She turns 21 on May 23

San Antonio survived Oklahoma City yesterday, 122-115, after two overtimes in Game 1 of the

NBA's Western Conference Finals. Wembanyama sent the game into second overtime with a three, finishing with 41 points and 24 rebounds, while teammate Dylan Harper had 24 points, 11 rebounds and 7 steals. Rookie Dylan is the son of the great Ron Harper of the Los Angeles Lakers. Game 2 is in Oklahoma on May 21 before the best-of-seven series goes to San Antonio, Texas, for Games 3 & 4 on Saturday and Monday, respectively

After Alex won the first set with a lot of spunk, 6-3, the 20-year-old Filipina sensation, who turns 21 on May 23, appeared set to wrap up the match in two sets. (Articlereprinted as authorized by the author)

Koinonia Evangelical Church Continues to Help Shepherd Health and Hope for Families in Richmond

RICHMOND, BC – In line with their mission to spread goodness and love, Koinonia Evangelical Church has donated over \$25,000 to support the health care needs of families and newborns in Richmond by funding the purchase of a new fetal monitor.

Koinonia Evangelical Church was founded in 2006 and began with five families gathering in a living room. Guided by their belief in families uplifting families through mutual care and community outreach, Koinonia Evangelical Church has now grown into a congregation of more than 800 people.

For years, they have been supporters for Richmond health care advancement, contributing to multiple areas of need including the Yurkovich Family Pavilion, new acute care tower at Richmond Hospital.

Their latest donation, made possible by the collective generosity of their community through the Reaching Out Campaign, continues to demonstrate their spirit of service and compassion.

“At Koinonia, we strongly believe in caring for the people through love and service,” shares Haines Lee, Deacon at Koinonia Evangelical Church. “Supporting health care enriches the lives of everyone in the community and helps provide essential care, especially to those facing challenging situations. It also brings joy to those celebrating milestones such as bringing new life into the world. By directing this donation towards families, new parents, and their precious newborns, we can help them ensure a healthy start.”

“We are so grateful for Koinonia



From left to right: Haines Lee, Deacon, Koinonia Evangelical Church; Atwood Fung, Philanthropy Officer, Richmond Hospital Foundation

Evangelical Church's longstanding philanthropic support and devotion towards community care,” says Spencer Gall, Chief Philanthropy Officer at Richmond Hospital Foundation. “Their donation will strengthen care for families and newborns in Richmond, including funding a new fetal monitor crucial for ensuring safe, supported births. Providing new parents with the reassurance that they are receiving the most advanced and attentive care possible from the very start, will

contribute to a comforting care experience during a time filled with anticipation, anxiety, and emotion.”

Richmond Hospital Foundation works with donors to enhance health care access and improve the experiences of patients and their families within Richmond's Community of Care. To learn more and lend your support, please visit: <https://www.richmondhospitalfoundation.com>

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Judy Ann Santos to star in Brillante Mendoza's new political film — report



Judy Ann Santos. MJ Felipe, ABS-CBN News/File

and the Philippines, trade outlet Variety reported Monday.

The feature reportedly tells the story of a non-governmental organization (NGO) worker who works to protect Aeta children but finds herself entangled in the broader machinery of international humanitarian aid. The film's principal cast also includes French actresses Stacy Martin and Jeanne Balibar.

Judy Ann Santos is teaming up once again with acclaimed director Brillante Mendoza for a political drama film, according to a report.

The film titled "Aid" was introduced at the Cannes Film Market, and is expected to be produced as a bilateral co-production between France

The film will be shot in an Aeta village in Pampanga, the director's home province, with production scheduled to begin in October.

Santos and Mendoza previously worked together in the 2019 war drama film "Mindanao." (abs-cbn new)

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