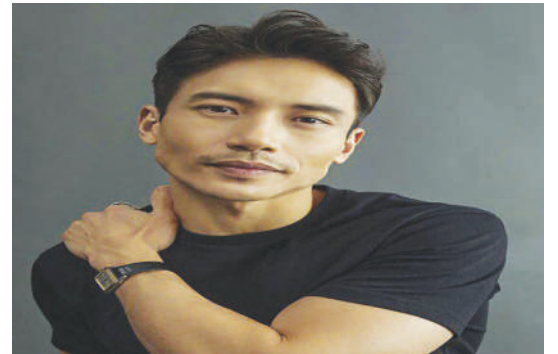




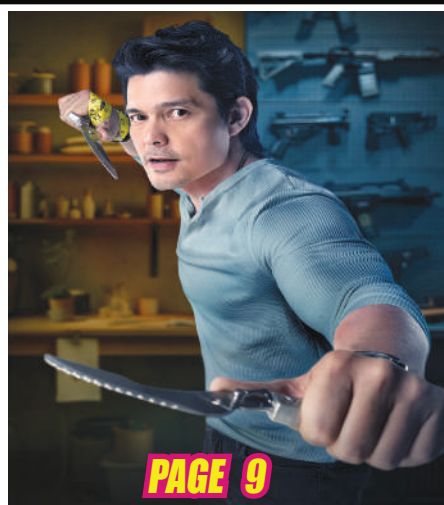
## Asian Heritage Month: B.C. actor Manny Jacinto cited among notable Filipinos in Canada

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# May is Asian Heritage Month

## Attorney general's statement on this celebration



**VICTORIA** - Niki Sharma, Attorney General, has released the following statement in celebration of Asian Heritage Month:

"May is Asian Heritage Month, a time to recognize and celebrate the rich cultures, histories and enduring contributions of diverse Asian communities throughout British Columbia. "People of Asian descent have been part of this province since its earliest days, helping shape economic, social and cultural foundations. Representing many backgrounds, languages and traditions, Asian communities continue to enrich every part of life in B.C., from arts and science to sports, business and community leadership.

Their contributions remain essential to who we are as a province.

"Asian Heritage Month is also a moment to reflect on ongoing challenges. Racism, discrimination and hate continue to affect many Asian communities, sometimes in ways that are unseen or under-reported. These experiences cause real harm and undermine the sense of safety and belonging everyone deserves.

"We are committed to ensuring our justice system plays its role in responding to hate-motivated behaviour and supporting impacted communities. This includes strengthening our response to hate incidents, improving how racism is reported and addressed, and working in partnership with

community organizations to build trust.

"Building a safer and more inclusive British Columbia takes sustained effort. It requires listening to lived experiences, confronting systemic barriers and supporting solutions led by the communities most affected.

"This Asian Heritage Month, I encourage everyone to learn more about the diverse histories and perspectives that shape Asian communities, to reject racism in all its forms, and to stand together in fostering a province grounded in dignity, respect and belonging." (news.bc.gov.ca)

## Surrey Libraries Caring for NICU Families with Early Literacy Support

Surrey, BC – Surrey Libraries is proud to announce a new partnership with Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) to support families with babies in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The Gentle Start Library project provides each of the NICU units at SMH with a collection of board books, giving families access to engaging literacy activities for all ages during their stay at the hospital.

This initiative aims to share the joy of early literacy and foster a sense of belonging for families as they look ahead to life after the NICU.

"Surrey Libraries is committed to supporting our youngest residents and their families," said Lisa Werring, Chair of the Board of Trustees at Surrey Libraries. "By bringing books and library services directly to the NICU, we are helping parents nurture their babies' development from day one. This partnership is a testament to the power of community collaboration and

we are thankful to our donors whose support made this project possible.

In addition to small collections of board books in each NICU room, the Gentle Start Library features a roaming cart to provide many extra books for older siblings and books in other languages, allowing rooms to be customized and updated according to families' specific needs. Library staff will also provide outreach, lead early literacy classes for caregivers, and create baby's first library card.

Surrey has one of the highest birth rates in BC, with an average 6,000 babies born annually and a large population of children and youth. This program responds to the growing need for early literacy support and aims to create a welcoming and caring environment for families facing the stressors of a NICU stay.

Funding for this project was made possible through generous Surrey Libraries donors. (Chloe.Humphreys@surrey.ca)



Left to right – Chloe Humphreys, Manager Youth Services, Surrey Libraries; Priya Nebin from Surrey Memorial Hospital; Yasenia Ricardo, Youth Services Librarian, Surrey Libraries; and Kelly Jackson from Surrey Memorial Hospital standing in front of the Gentle Start Library book cart.

## Spring cleaning made easy with Surrey's free waste drop-off program

**Surrey, B.C.** – To support spring cleaning, the City of Surrey is once again offering its Free Waste Drop-Off program, providing residents with a convenient, no-cost option to dispose of unwanted items. From May 4 to Sept. 30, households can drop off up to 100 kg of waste for free at the Central Surrey and North Surrey recycling and waste centres. Each household is eligible for one free visit during the program period, including disposal of large items such as up to four mattresses.

"The Free Waste Drop-Off program is an important tool in our ongoing efforts to reduce illegal dumping in Surrey," said Mayor Brenda Locke. "By giving residents a simple, no-cost way to dispose of unwanted items properly, we're making it easier to do the right thing and helping keep our neighbourhoods clean and safe."

The Free Waste Drop-Off program is available at the Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre

(6711- 154 St.) and the North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre (9770 -192 St.), with the following conditions:

- Proof of Surrey residency is required
- Limit of one visit per household
- Loads over 100 kg are subject to regular fees
- Commercial and business vehicles are not permitted

All acceptable recyclables such as

electronics, metals, appliances, books, and clothing can be dropped off for free during the five-month period.

The City also offers free curbside pickup for large items, including furniture and mattresses, through the Large Item Pickup Program. [Bookonlineatsurrey.ca/largeitems](http://Bookonlineatsurrey.ca/largeitems) or call 604-590-7289 (Option 3). Visit [surrey.ca/rethinkwaste](http://surrey.ca/rethinkwaste) to learn more about the City's waste and recycling services.



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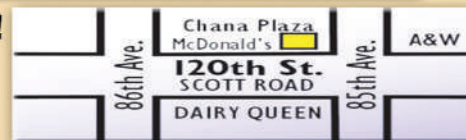
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# Pasig City receives \$1 million grant; Vico not to run for higher office yet



The journey was far from easy.

More than 630 cities from 33 countries joined the challenge, with only 50 making it to the final round.

### PASIG CITY'S WINNING CONCEPT

In the Philippines, three cities reached the final phase—Pasig, Butuan, and Manila.

Only Pasig emerged as one of the 24 winning cities from 20 countries.

Pasig's winning concept focuses on creating more open public spaces by transforming barges into floating parks along the Pasig River.

Meanwhile TV host Vic Sotto believes that running for a high position in government is a calling.

Vic has spoken out about the public's call for his son, Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto, to run for a national position, including the presidency.

The host of the longest-running noontime show "Eat Bulaga" also knows that Vico is not yet qualified to run for president of the Philippines.

Based on the law stated in the 1987 Philippine Constitution, a presidential candidate must be 40 years old on election day. Currently, Vico is only 36 years old.

"The age is not right yet. Kadalasan kapag nababanggit si Vico, it's always praises for him. Siyempre, proud tatay naman ako," Vic told Ogie Diaz Showbiz Updates.

"As far as I'm concerned, 'yung desisyon nasa kanya 'yon, e. Siguro baka magpahinga lang sandali. And I'm sure he's back. 'Yung serbisyo publiko nasa dugo na niya 'yun, e," he added.

Vico previously mentioned that after his term as mayor of Pasig

City, he plans to teach first.

"Ang plano ko, balikan 'yung mga hindi ko nagawa dahil tumakbo akong mayor. I'd like to teach if I have an opportunity. That's one thing," the young politician said in an interview.

Before he served as Pasig mayor, Vico taught Social Science at Arellano University for one semester. ((J.M. Severo/ Philstar; R. Siason/ pep : photo credits: Wikipedia and theglobalfilipinomagazine.com

Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto has been named one of the 24 global winners of Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge 2025-2026, a competition that aims to develop bold and innovative solutions to improve residents' lives in different cities around the world.

The competition pushed participating cities to go beyond the usual, encouraging leaders to rethink how core public services can be delivered more effectively with real, people-centered impact.

As part of the win, each city, including Pasig, will receive a \$1 million grant, along with operational support and additional funding for dedicated teams tasked with scaling their innovations and turning ideas into lasting solutions.



Mayor Vico with parents: mom Connie and dad Vic

## 'Why not?' Bam Aquino backs push to make BINI tourism ambassadors

MANILA -- Senator Bam Aquino supports the push to make the Nation's Girl Group, BINI, ambassadors of tourism for the Philippines.

The clamor has grown after BINI made history as the first Filipino P-Pop group to perform at Coachella, one of the biggest music festivals in the world.

"Why not? Let's do it. Gawin natin. BINI and so many other artists... sila yung ilabas natin. Ipakita natin sa buong mundo, they are the best foot forward for the rest of the world," Aquino told ABS-CBN News on Wednesday.

The Senate had welcomed BINI on Wednesday, congratulating them for their recent milestones. Aquino sponsored Senate Resolution 370, which acknowledged their achievement and highlighted how proudly they showcased Filipino music to the world.

BINI personally received copies of the Senate resolution.

"It's our way of congratulating them and wishing them the best," said Aquino. "Yung performance ng BINI sa Coachella, really created waves in the entertainment industry and really brought out the



PH Senator Bam Aquino

Filipino pride."

"Nakakatuwa na nandun sila, in a global setting, at halatang-halata sa kanilang performance na proud na proud sila sa pagiging Pilipino," he added.

The lawmaker has high hopes that more doors will be opened for Filipino acts on the global stage: "I hope our local artists can take the same path. Magaling dito, magaling sa ibang bansa, maging global ang sining natin."

Aquino also agrees that it is time for the country to invest in



"soft power," noting that it was in 2008 that he first heard a Korean official tout K-Pop and K-Drama.

"Etong ating creative industry ay isa yan sa mga strengths natin. Kailangan talagang bigyan ng tamang suporta, tamang pondo, tamang plano," he said.

Aside from Aquino, a number of Senators also delivered co-sponsorship speeches, where they incorporated some of the group's song titles.

"Silarinang most-viewed female act on Coachella's Instagram during the whole festival. In fact, pagdating sa total online engagement, pumangalawa sila kay Justin Bieber — isang tunay na 'Cherry on Top' sa makasaysayang pag-angat ng OPM at talentong Pilipino sa pandaigdigang entablado," said Sen. Joel Villanueva.

"Mr. President, hindi na po ito simpleng 'Na Na Na.' This is the nation's pride na." (MJ Felipe/abs-cbn news)

## 'Britain's Got Talent' star Matty Juniosa joins 'Jesus Christ Superstar' on West End



Matty Juniosa on "Britain's Got Talent".

MANILA, Philippines — Singer Matty Juniosa, a double Golden Buzzer recipient on "Britain's Got Talent," is living out his musical theater dreams after being cast in the West End revival of "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The sung-through rock opera by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice is based on the events of the Passion of Christ in the Bible, told through the perspective of Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrays Jesus.

The production also explores the relationships between Jesus, Judas, Mary Magdalene, Christ's other disciples and followers and the Roman Empire.

Last November, it was announced that the Regent's Park Open Air Theatre production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" would be staged at the London Palladium for a limited engagement, with singer Sam Ryder playing Jesus in his West End debut.

That reimagining of "Jesus Christ Superstar" is the same version that will be staged in Manila this May at The Theatre at Solaire, with Gab Pangilinan portraying Mary Magdalene.

Earlier this year, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Boy George, Layton Williams, Simon Russell Beale, Richard Armitage and Julian Clary were announced to alternate in the role of King Herod.

Tyrone Huntley, Desmonda

Cathabel and David Thaxton were later tapped to play Judas, Mary Magdalene and Pilate, respectively.

The full cast for the upcoming West End run was later unveiled, with Juniosa set to portray Annas, a priest persuaded by Caiaphas (to be played by Bob Harms) into seeing Jesus as a threat.

Among the musical numbers Annas takes part in are "Damned for All Time/Blood Money," "The Arrest" and "Judas' Death."

Matty previously shared in an exclusive interview with Philstar.com that he planned to pursue musical theatre after completing a degree at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

During the ongoing 19th season of "Britain's Got Talent," Matty earned his first Golden Buzzer from judge Simon Cowell after a powerful audition performance of Prince's "Purple Rain," securing

him a spot in the live semifinals.

There, Matty wowed audiences again with his rendition of Aerosmith's "Dream On," earning a second Golden Buzzer from judge Amanda Holden and a place in the finals.

The finals will take place on May 30 (May 31 in the Philippines), giving Matty some time before "Jesus Christ Superstar" begins its run at the London Palladium on June 20. (K. Purnell/Philstar)



# 'Encantadia Chronicles: Sang'gre' finale teased as 'epic,' 'full of heart'

Cast members of "Encantadia Chronicles: Sang'gre" are teasing an "epic" and "full of heart" finale, as the hit fantasy series wraps up on May 8 after nearly a year on air.

Lead star Bianca Umali said the finale captures the emotional core of the story following the many trials faced by the Sang'gres.

"Maybe the best word to describe it is 'full of heart.' After everything the Sang'gres have gone through... the best thing to hold on to is our hearts and to unite. Despite all the pain, sorrow, sacrifices and war, we remain one in heart," she said during the show's finale press conference.

Umali also shared how her role as Terra shaped her personally over the years.

"The Bianca who started to give life to Terra in 2023 is not the same Bianca now that the story is ending in 2026. One of the biggest lessons I will carry with me is to continue believing in yourself," she shared.

"Even if you are surrounded by trials, doubt and uncertainty, the best way to move forward is to listen to yourself, to your heart, and believe in yourself. You will reach where you are meant to be," Umali added.

Co-star Angel Guardian said the end of the series brings a mix of emotions for the cast, making it difficult to describe in just one word.

"It's hard to pinpoint just one emotion. We're happy because it was such a successful run and a magical adventure for all of us, but at the same time it's sad because we'll lose the routine we've had for almost three years," she said.

Guardian said being part of the series was a meaningful experience for the entire cast.

"To be part of the world of Encantadia is already a blessing in itself. I don't think we want to say goodbye. It's not really goodbye, it's more like 'until we meet again,'" Guardian added.

She expressed hope that the franchise could return in the future.

"We don't know — maybe after another decade, the world of Encantadia will open again. Hopefully we're still part of it," she said.

Reflecting on her character Deia, Guardian emphasized a message

of courage and conviction.

"We need to stand up for what we believe is right, even if it's scary. Don't be afraid — that's what I learned from Deia, and that's what I hope viewers take with them," she pointed out.

Guardian also thanked fans who supported the series throughout its run.

"We reached this point because of our fans. Thank you so much for your support. As the finale approaches, we hope you stay with us until the end," she enthused.

For Kelvin Miranda, who plays Adamus, the series offered lessons about awareness and balance amid challenges.

"There are many trials, not just on set but in personal life, and you have to learn how to balance them. I learned to keep my eyes open — to observe, study and understand what's around me so I can move forward with more certainty," he said.

Asked to describe a standout character for the finale without spoilers, Miranda said, "Maangas — that's the word."

Meanwhile, Rhian Ramos, who portrays antagonist Mitena, said her character's journey reflects how people respond to pain and adversity.

"Not everything that happens in your life is a good experience, but you can't let pain define you. The strength of a person is how they move past those experiences," she said.

She described the final stretch of the series as "era-defining and epic."

The finale week begins with the realm collapses at the hands of Gargan using the Black Gem in forcing Sang'gre Pirena (Glaiza de Castro), Sang'gre Danaya (Sanya Lopez), Sang'gre Alena (Gabbi Garcia) and Sang'gre Amihan (Kylie Padilla), into a battle against their successors, creating the most heartbreaking conflict yet. More than just an ending, this finale continues a legacy—one built on love, magic and power. It is a testament that Encantadia is far from over, as the new generation of Sang'gres will carry on the fight to protect the realm beloved by fans.

With its remarkable journey that resonated with audiences both on-air and online, "Encantadia Chronicles: Sanggre" continues to stand as a legendary milestone.



Rhian Ramos, Bianca Umali, Angel Guardian and Kelvin Miranda  
PHOTOS FROM GMA NETWORK

The finale features a star-studded cast including Faith da Silva, Tom Rodriguez, Manilyn Reynes, Solenn Heussaff, Rocco Nacino, Mikee Quintos, Kate Valdez, Ysabel Ortega, Michelle Dee, Gabby Eigenmann, Bianca Manalo, Jon Lucas, Luis Hontiveros, Gab

Gueco, Kiel Gueco.

The final episodes of "Encantadia Chronicles: Sang'gre" air nightly at 8 p.m. on GMA Prime and Kapuso Stream leading up to May 8. (I. Iglesias/Manila Times)

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# TEARFUL GOODBYE: 'Tayo Sa Wakas' marks end of DonBelle tandem

Donny Pangilinan and Belle Mariano, collectively known as DonBelle, turned emotional as they bid goodbye to their onscreen partnership during the media launch of their latest film, "Tayo Sa Wakas."

The Cathy Garcia-Sampana-helmed romance drama marks their last project together as a loveteam at least "for now," making the moment extra meaningful for both stars and their fans.

At the May 2 grand mediacon, the two exchanged heartfelt messages, visibly holding back tears as they reflected on their journey.

"I am so grateful and so blessed I got to spend these last years with you. I would not have it any other way. Thank you," Donny told Belle.

He added, "I have seen you grow since we met. I will always look up to you."

Belle responded with equal sincerity: "I just want to say, thank you so much. I just want to say thank you so much for the journey. For just being there, for the support."

"I respect you so much. Ngayon pa lang malayo ka na, pero malayo ka pa. I am so proud of the man you are now," she added.

Despite their upcoming separation as a tandem, Donny reassured her: "We may not be working with each other in the near future, but I'll always be here and sobrang proud ako sa'yo."

## Their most "mature" film yet

"Tayo Sa Wakas" is being described as DonBelle's most mature project to date.

Director Cathy Garcia-Sampana admitted that the film demanded a deeper, more complex performance from both actors.

"Simply put it is a journey of two people who loved, got hurt, and eventually found themselves, and found love again.

"Just like how I envisioned all my films, you will come out of

cinemas wanting to love and love life again. No matter how panget the journey was, we will always choose love," she said.

She added, "This film will give you kilig, falling in love, but it includes the pain, mga mali. They are flawed characters just like we are.

"But at the end of the day what is important is they realize the flaws and bring change so they become better. This is a story for everybody, not just the young or old, para sa lahat ng gusto magmahal at nagmamahal."

Screenwriter Vanessa Valdez also emphasized the depth of the roles, saying, "It shows something more complex, and mas mature yung roles nila dito pero at the same time also very grounded."

## Story of love and letting go

The film follows longtime couple Cheska (Mariano) and Cisco (Pangilinan), who go on a "breakup trip" as they question whether their relationship is still worth fighting for.

Cathy described it as: "It's a trip of two people para alamin kung talaga bang sila ay dapat matapos na o magpatuloy pa. I can say it's about someone who wants to reach a dream, pero ano ang gagawin mo kung ang kalaban mo sa pag-abot ng pangarap na yun ay yung taong mahal mo."

Donny also shared that the film explores different phases of a relationship.

"You'll start with the kilig, the honeymoon phase, then you go to the realization that you become familiar with each other and doon na yung problems na mag-aarise. So I think it's a combination of all our characters in different stages of their lives."

## A fitting farewell

For Belle, the film perfectly captures their growth as artists beyond their love team.

"Donny and I have been vocal about it na we just don't wanna be DonBelle, we also wanna be Donny and Belle. I feel like this is the perfect project for it



Donny Pangilinan and Belle Mariano during the "Tayo Sa Wakas" media launch. Image: Star Magic



since it shows so much growth and maturity and it requires so much authenticity from the both of us."

Produced by Star Cinema and ABS-CBN Studios, "Tayo Sa Wakas" also stars Epy Quizon, Joross Gamboa, River Joseph, Jaime Fabregas, Yayo Aguila, Allan Paule, Matthew Mendoza, Emilio Daez, June Hinundum,

and Miah Canton.

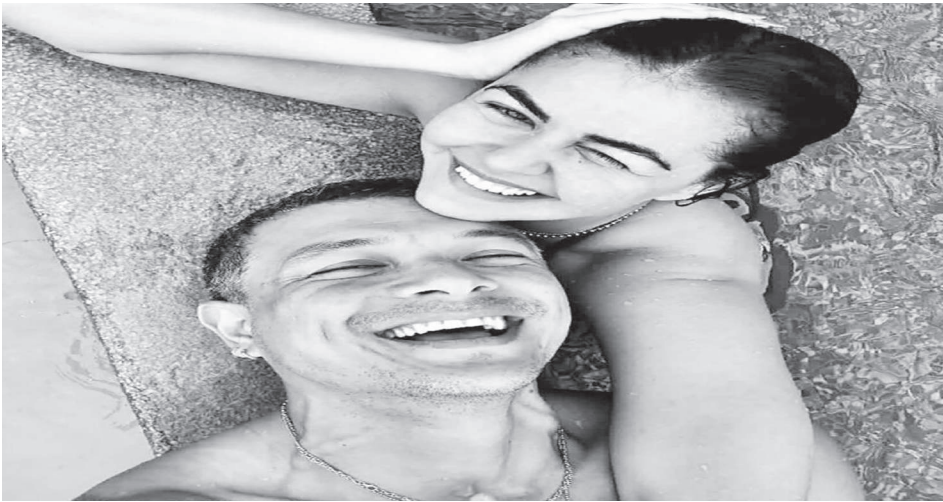
The film opens in Philippine cinemas on May 27, with international screenings beginning June 11 in Australia and New Zealand, June 12 in the US, Canada, and Guam, and June 20 in Hong Kong and Macau. It will also be shown in the Middle East, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan. (N. Ramos/mb.com.ph)

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# Janine, Jericho reunite for 'The Loyalty Game'



ERICHO ROSALES and JANINE GUTIERREZ  
(PHOTO FROM JERICHO ROSALES ON INSTAGRAM)

After first being paired in the 2024 drama series "Lavender Fields," Janine Gutierrez and Jericho Rosales are set to reunite on screen in the upcoming Prime Video psychological thriller "The Loyalty Game," scheduled to premiere in July.

The Star Creatives-produced series, directed by Mae Cruz-Alviar, marks another collaboration between the two actors, with Janine describing the project as a distinctly different experience from their previous pairing.

"It's exciting kase sobrang ibang-iba siya na kwento sa 'Lavender Fields' and I'm so happy to be given another opportunity to work with him sa iba naman kwento and iba namang team," Janine said. "It's also my first time working with Star Creatives and patuloy lang talaga akong nagpapasalamat sa mga opportunities na dumadating.

"Parang even if ilang years na rin ako dito sa ABS-CBN, parang palaging may something new and something better and something bigger and part na rin 'yung pagsali ko sa Star Magic."

Janine first joined ABS-CBN in 2021 where she took on a wide range of roles including "Marry Me, Marry You" and the iWantTFC queer series "Sleep with Me." Her performances in "Dirty Linen" and "Lavender Fields" further established her as a leading dramatic actress.

In April, she officially joined the Star Magic roster, marking another milestone in her career. She previously worked under LVD Management led by the late talent manager Leo Dominguez.

"I'm so happy and I'm super excited to be part of the Star Magic family. Alam ko kung gaano sila ka-tight at kung

gaano sila kagaling and I'm excited na mapabilang sa kanila sa Star Magic family," Janine expressed.

With more than a decade in the industry, Janine said her decision to sign with Star Magic was driven by her desire to continue growing as an artist.

"I want to continue to keep on growing to learn more and to get more opportunities na alam ko talagang 'yun 'yung forte ng Star Magic through years of experience," she said.

She also shared that the timing felt right following her renewed network contract.

"With this new network contract, I think perfect time and perfect opportunity na sumali na rin sa Star Magic family para talagang ma-guide ako sa next steps sa aking career and sa mga upcoming projects," she added.

Janine said she even sought advice from her younger brother Diego Gutierrez who joined Star Magic in 2025.

"Actually siya nga 'yung hiningan ko ng advice kasi matagal na siyang Star Magic artist. Sabi ko, 'Kuya kumusta? Kumusta kayo ni Direk Lauren?' ... 'Anong experience mo with all those mga Christmas Ball?' Kasi pinapanood ko talaga 'yun sa YouTube kasi inaabangan ko siya maglakad sa red carpet. So in this case siya 'yung hiningan ko ng advice. Niloloko niya ako na ginaya ko raw siya at sinusundan ko," Janine candidly said.

Now under Star Magic, Janine looks ahead with renewed excitement for upcoming projects.

On her reunion with Jericho Rosales, Janine said their on-

screen dynamic has become more natural.

"We know each other better now so parang walang awkwardness pagdating sa mga eksena," she said. "'Yung team niya at 'yung team ko sa set parang isang buong pamilya na rin. He's worked with Star Creatives din mula sa 'Pangako Sa 'Yo' days pa lang so excited ako to be part of a family na matagal na niya talagang kakilala and ka work.

"Sobrang nakakatuwa na ma-experience ko din silang makatrabaho especially now after all those years and sobrang galing nila and dami nilang experience so so much for me to learn from them," she added.

Off camera, Janine shared that they constantly exchange insights about their work. She highlighted how Jericho, who will be celebrating three decades in the industry this year, has become a source of guidance and inspiration for her.

"Magce-celebrate siya ng 30th year this year so ang dami niyang knowledge pagdating sa set, pagdating sa collaborating with

the team. Sobrang professional niya, sobrang down-to-earth, sobrang friendly sa lahat ng tao. As in super.

"So parang dahil sa kanya, pakiramdam ko mas naging open din ako at komportable na maging myself sa kahit saan man."

Janine admitted that despite her years in the industry, she still sometimes feels like a newcomer but said Jericho has helped boost her confidence.

"Sobrang nakatulong din siya sa confidence ko kasi minsan feeling ko pa rin kasi na baguhan ako... Ewan ko parang in my head lang... Pero he always reminds me na maganda 'yung work at kung ano 'yung kaya kong gawin. He also reminds me to not be afraid to be seen.

"I'm super excited to be in 'The Loyalty Game.' The series is mysterious for thrill-seekers and for people who love plot twists."

Also starring Sofia Andres, "The Loyalty Game" is set to stream on Prime Video this July. (J.C. Salterio/ Malaya)

## PRIMELINE

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# Toh-muh-tow Soup! 6 times Anne Curtis' 'sosyal' charm brought good vibes on "It's Showtime"

*Reasons we love Anne Curtis? Oh, let us count the ways—face card that never declines, chic fashion sense, and a big heart. Of course, we're also never not charmed by her sense of humor that gets even better whenever her 'sosyal' side accidentally jumps out on conversations on "It's Showtime."*

Well, she's that 'It Girl' of the group! Given Anne's status as one of the Philippines' top-tier celebrities, traces of her affluent lifestyle (and Filipino-Australian upbringing) occasionally show in the way she reacts and speaks, which turn into comedy gold when mixed with her co-hosts' 'bardagulan' mode. And instead of getting criticized for it, viewers adore this side of her because nothing about it feels fake or out of touch. It's just part of her charm!

*Here are some of Anne's most iconic 'sosyal' moments on "It's Showtime" that will never get old.*

It doesn't take much for Anne to spark hilarity. Just her fancy twang is enough to send the crowd into laughter, just like during a 'Laro Laro Pick' episode when the hosts talked about player Eva's small halo-halo business.

Vice Ganda started to enumerate the usual ingredients of a typical Pinoy halo-halo, leading Anne to admit she wasn't familiar with "kaong" but was more acquainted with "nata de coco"—except she pronounced it as "nata de kow-kow," drawing playful reactions from Vice.

Anne's expensive accent struck again after Vice asked her what dish her husband, Erwan Heussaff, cooks for her that she loves the most. Anne said she'd go for Erwan's very simple soup recipe.

But the conversation wasn't that simple and easy for Vice, who couldn't immediately comprehend what Anne meant by "toh-muh-tow." It took Vice a few seconds to realize her 'sisteret' actually meant just "tomato soup," leading to a rib-tickling back-and-forth.

It's really her sophisticated way

of speaking that sends good vibes our way. One time, the hosts were talking about the Pinoy street food kwek-kwek, and then Anne enthusiastically shared how much she loves it, explaining, "Kakainin mo 'yung orange, and then you have the egg and you make it sawsaw sa suka."

Her co-hosts paused and exchanged looks before Vice blurted out, "Wow! parang P1,500 ang kwek-kwek sa inyo, ah!"

In another round of kwek-kwek conversations, Anne proudly flexed her street food knowledge by explaining that there are regular-sized kwek-kwek (made with quail eggs) and bigger ones (made with chicken or duck eggs), prompting Jhong Hilario to clarify that the larger version is actually called tokneneng. Anne, fascinated, asked,

"Ahh! But it has the same orange batter?" Not to be outdone, Vice also shared her own experience about a "brown thingy" she had eaten, which she pronounced as "k-eye-kah-yum." No need to overthink; she was just talking about kikiyam.

During the "MASAsagot Mo Ba" segment, the hosts reminisced about their favorite childhood street games, including "piko," which initially left Anne a little clueless. She mistook it for the game with slippers, which is actually "timbang preso." Vhong Navarro and Jhong had to demonstrate "piko" just for her, and only then that she pieced it together and realized it's what she knows as "hopscotch"—giving imported vibes!

Of course, who could ever forget Anne's iconic "bangus" moment with Vice during the "Tumpakners" segment? In the game, paired hosts have to give the same answer based on a category. In one round, the 'sisterets' were asked to name a type of fish—both answering "bangus."

When asked why, Anne explained, in her signature rich-girl tone, "Ang dalawang choice ko, tilapia or bangus, but I just had bangus nu'ng other day."



Vice was so 'gigil' she had to cut her off and mimic her accent, joking,

"Talaguhhh? Ang sarap ng fish sa inyo, 'no? Sana makain ka ng shark."

Whether it's a fancy twang here or an unexpectedly sosyal reference there, Anne doesn't really have to try too hard to be funny—she just has to be herself.

*Manifesting more 'AnneSosyal' moments on "It's Showtime!" Catch the beloved noontime program Mondays to Saturdays, 12 NN, on ABS-CBN sa ALLTV2, GMA 7, A2Z, Kapamilya Online Live (KOL) and iWant. (L/ Dela Cruz/abs-cbn)*

*Anne's another funny bulol moment in it's Showtime 😄😄*



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# Dingdong Dantes makes Grand Primetime Comeback with The Master Cutter

*Redemption is never easy, but it is always worth fighting for...*

GMA Network is set to redefine primetime action with the highly anticipated action-drama series "The Master Cutter," marking the grand return of award-winning actor Dingdong Dantes to a leading primetime role.

Beginning May 11, Dingdong steps into a gripping and complex role that showcases his remarkable range as an actor, honed over almost three decades in the industry.

"The Master Cutter" follows the story of Anthony "Atoy" Padua (Dingdong), a highly skilled Scout Ranger who decided to have a quiet life as a tailor while secretly working as a man-hunter and tracker-for-hire. Behind the closed doors of his tailoring shop, Atoy becomes the go-to person for people seeking justice, hunting down criminals, or even recovering stolen prized game cocks.

Haunted by the tragic passing of his girlfriend, Elaine (Max Collins), Atoy attempts to rebuild his life and rekindle his relationship with his father by taking over the family business. But just as he begins to find his footing, he encounters a case that could change his life forever.

Blending family-centered, lighthearted drama with pulse-pounding action, The Master Cutter will prove that every cut tells a story—every week brings a new experience worth watching.

The series brings together a formidable cast, including Shuvee Etrata as Tonet, Sienna Stevens as Ibyang, Jo Berry as Ame, and Paolo Contis as Red.

Joining them are Tonton Gutierrez as Dmitri, Joey Marquez as Delfin, Polo Ravales as Paldo, Ketchup Eusebio as Emerson, Max Eigenmann as Martina, and Rio Locsin as Cita.

Also featured in the series are Sparkle stars Charlie Fleming, Prince Carlos, and Anthony Constantino.

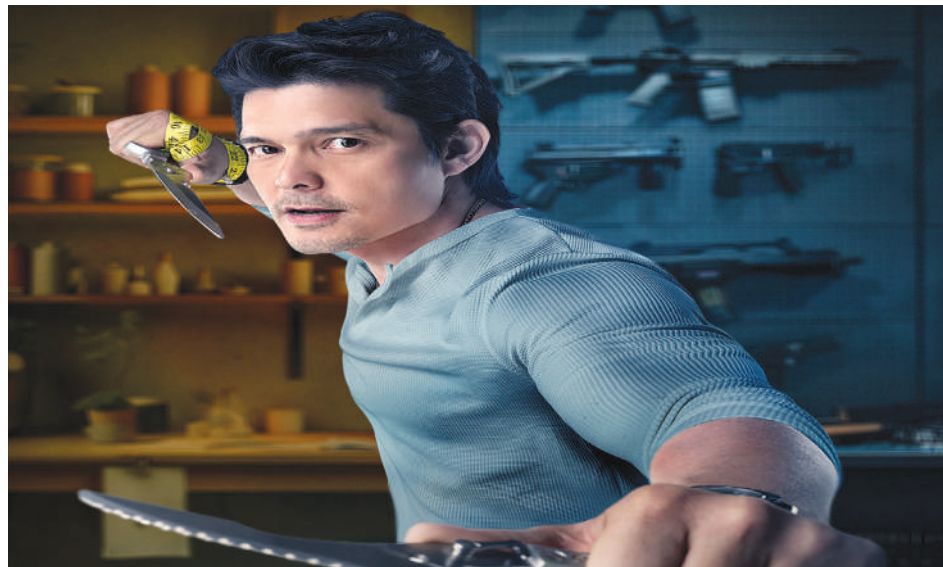
The series is produced by the GMA Entertainment Group, headed by Officer-In-Charge and Vice President for Drama Cheryl Ching-Sy, Assistant Vice President for Drama Ali Nokom-Dedicatoria, Program Manager Dennis Bentulan, and Executive Producer Nieva Magpayo.

The show's creative team consists of Creative Director Aloy Adlawan, Creative Head Des Garbes - Severino, Creative Consultant Glaiza Ramirez, Head Writer Angeli Delos Reyes - Delgado, Writers Lobert De Jesus Villela, John Anthony Medilo Rodulfo, Rona Lean Sales, Brainstormers Aldrin Garcia and Emerson Jake Lazaro Somera.

Directed by Dominic Zapata, "The Master Cutter" is set to deliver a cinematic blend of intense action and emotionally charged storytelling.

Catch The Master Cutter beginning May 11, from Monday to Friday at 8:15 p.m. on GMA Prime and online via Kapuso Stream and GMA Play. Global Pinoys can also watch the program via GMA Pinoy TV.

For more stories about the Kapuso Network, visit [www.GMANetwork.com](http://www.GMANetwork.com).



Tonton Gutierrez



Rio Locsin



Polo Ravales



Paolo Contis



Jo Berry



Max Collins



Shuvee Etrata

# Ryan Agoncillo's 'subukan mo' remark to Judy Ann Santos draws concern online

*"Sounds like a threat."*

This was what some Filipinos thought after watching a portion of *Ryan Agoncillo* and *Judy Ann Santos*' guesting in the pilot episode of *Matteo Guidicelli's* new talk show.

The celebrity couple was the first guest of "*Matteo G Primetime*," an evening talk show on Bilyonaryo News Channel featuring casual conversations with celebrity guests.

Judy Ann and Ryan opened up about love, growth, partnership, business and staying grounded in their 16 years of marriage.

At some point, they were asked who among them gets jealous more easily.

Matteo followed up by asking if Judy Ann would allow Ryan to have another woman as a leading lady in a movie. The actress immediately answered in the affirmative.

Ryan, however, replied, "Subukan niya."

This prompted Judy Ann to laugh, while Ryan repeated his answer, saying that it was his response "to all."

"Ang lagi kong sagot sa kanya, 'Gawin mo. Tsaka na natin pag-awayan,'" the "Eat Bulaga" co-host said.

He also told his wife he would make similar comments in other matters, such as "Yeah,



*Screengrab from "Matteo G Primetime's" first episode featuring Judy Ann Santos and Ryan Agoncillo as posted on Matteo Guidicelli's YouTube (MatteoGuidicelli via YouTube)*

go ahead," but Judy Ann said he never said, "Subukan mo."

Ryan then explained that his "subukan mo" comment was part of his "inner monologue."

"Kasi kung sinabi mo namang, 'subukan mo,' eh hindi mo naman na gagawin!" Judy Ann said to him, seemingly referring to how she would respond if her husband made such a remark.

Ryan further explained, but Matteo asked him to clarify what he meant by "subukan mo," asking if it meant "yes" or "no."

"Meaning, let the woman decide. Pag-awayan niyo na lang after," Ryan said.

He later clarified himself, saying, "These decisions, syempre, if it works for me, hindi na ako aangal o makikipag-away."

"But [if it doesn't work], she will consult me, and I will be, 'Sige, gawin mo, saka na natin pag-awayan,'" Ryan added.

Part of the clip was posted on X (formerly Twitter) and in a Reddit community, where some users expressed concern over Ryan's response, "subukan mo."

"Kunwari hinahayaan niya si Juday mag-decide, pero, ang totoo, he's guilt-tripping her. Kaloka! Ba't need 'saka na pag-awayan'? Why not trust your wife and give full support in her career!" an X user

commented. "Guilt tripping??" a different Pinoy asked.

"Ang tawag diyan... 'Guilt tripping,'" an X user wrote with an eyeroll emoji.

"I watched that. Akala ko ako lang nakapansin. Lalo na 'yung 'gawin mo, tsaka na natin pag-awayan.' So para walang away, si Juday na lang ang mag-adjust," another commented.

"Subukan mo' sounds like a threat, wtf," a different Pinoy wrote.

"Bakit naman nagbabanta. So f\*\*\*\*\* weird," another reacted.

Judy Ann and Ryan met on the set of the 2004 television series "Krystala" and eventually began dating.

They tied the knot in 2009 and are now parents to three children: Johanna "Yohan" Louise, Juan "Lucho" Luis and Juana "Luna" Luisa.

(J. Malasig/Interakyon with reports from Philstar.com/Kristofer Purnell)

commented.

"Making her own decisions, basta 'yung decision niya in favor sa gusto ng guy, but if the decision is not in favor, away agad... so ganito bala gaslighter in real life. Hahahaaha," another reacted.

"It's like gaslighting?"



# Action, Adventure, and More: GMA Pinoy TV's Entertainment Showcase for May 2026

GMA Pinoy TV, the Heart of Global Pinoys, offers viewers another exciting line-up of must-watch programs in May 2026. From a new series headlined by the award-winning Mr. Dingdong Dantes, a new original Kapuso feature, classic and contemporary Filipino movies, GMA Pinoy TV brings more entertainment options to choose from — and enjoy!

Dingdong Dantes makes his grand return to television in the highly-anticipated action-drama series "The Master Cutter." He takes on the role of Anthony "Atoy" Padua, a highly-skilled Scout Ranger who, following the tragic passing of his girlfriend Elaine, decides to live the quiet life of a tailor while still secretly working as a man-hunter or tracker-for-hire.

The latest action series from GMA Network brings together a formidable cast that includes Max Collins, Shuvee Etrata, Sienna Stevens, Jo Berry, Paolo Contis, Tonton Gutierrez, Al Tantay, Joey Marquez, Polo

Ravales, Ketchup Eusebio, Max Eigenmann, and Rio Locsin, plus Sparkle stars Charlie Fleming, Prince Carlos, and Anthony Constantino. Get ready for intense action and emotionally-charged storytelling starting on May 11.

Adventure-seekers, meanwhile, can join Kapuso Ultimate Heartthrob Miguel Tanfelix as he embarks on his first solo hosting venture in "Planet XP." The five-part magazine infotainment series, produced through GMA Network's partnership with the National Council for Children's Television (NCCT), takes viewers on immersive adventures and real-life encounters with nature while showcasing the wonder and beauty of the Philippines. Explore with Miguel the Philippine islands, its culture, and so much more on "Planet XP" beginning on May 9.

GMA Pinoy TV also unveils more cinematic offerings in May. On "FPJ sa GMA," Fernando Poe, Jr. gives powerful performances in beloved, classic

movies: the fantasy film "Ang Panday: Ikatlong Yugto" with Max Alvarado (May 3); the drama "Bato sa Buhangin" co-starring Vilma Santos (May 10); and the action extravaganza "Hindi Ka Na Sisikitan ng Araw" with Eddie Garcia (May 17).

And in celebration of mothers, GMA Pinoy TV presents two movies with powerhouse performances from award-winning screen legends: Nora Aunor and Hilda Koronel.

"Hustisya," a thriller with Nora Aunor, explores power, loyalty, innocence, and justice in the dark world of human trafficking. When loyalties are tested and the price of betrayal is too high, how far will one go to exact revenge? Find out on May 24.

"Sakada," a classic movie that stars Hilda Koronel, explores the lives of sakadas or sugarcane farmers. When one of them is shot to death by the sugar plantation security guards, unrest ensues in the community. Watch the story

unfold on May 31.

From original, engaging stories bannered by beloved Kapuso stars, programs that explore the richness and diversity of Philippine culture, to movies that entertain while also examining the human condition and social issues, GMA Pinoy TV offers engaging and must-watch content month after month.

To subscribe and keep updated on the latest programs and movies with favorite Kapuso artists and personalities, visit [www.gmanetwork.com/international](http://www.gmanetwork.com/international).



MAY 24



MAY 11



GMA MAY 17



MAY 9



SAKADA

MAY 31

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**Asian Heritage Month: B.C. actor Manny Jacinto cited among notable Filipinos in Canada**

By Carlito Pablo

May is Asian Heritage Month in Canada.

For 2026, the theme for Asian Heritage Month is "Honouring Asian Canadians: Stories that Built Canada".

"This theme recognizes the essential contributions Asian Canadians have made to Canada's social, cultural, and economic life across generations," states the Canadian government's official online site for this year's celebration.

As part of the celebration, the government has cited several "noteworthy Canadians of Asian heritage".

The list includes several Filipinos, including **Manny Jacinto**, a Philippine-born and Richmond, B.C.-raised actor.



Here's what the government's site says about Jacinto:

"Manny Jacinto is a Canadian actor of Filipino Heritage who has been active in the entertainment

industry since 2012. Following several minor television roles, he made his big breakthrough playing Jason Mendoza in the NBC sitcom *The Good Place*.

"Jacinto was born in Manila, Philippines on August 19, 1987. His family emigrated to Canada when he was about three years old. He was raised in Richmond, British Columbia and attended the University of British Columbia where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

"He began his professional career as a dancer before turning to acting. However, it wasn't long until he started starring in well-known TV series like, *Supernatural*, *Once*

Upon a Time and *iZombie*. In 2015, he landed the role of Wing Lei in *The Romeo Section* where he was nominated for the "Best Supporting Performance by a Male in a Dramatic Series".

Below are the other notable Canadians of Filipino heritage cited by the government, with abridged biographies:

Justice Steve A. Coroza

"Justice Steve A. Coroza was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal in April 2020. His position is the highest attained by a Canadian of Filipino Heritage in the Canadian judiciary system so far.

"In 1995, he received his LL.B. from the University of Windsor Law School. Two years later, he was called to the Bar in Ontario and in 2003, Justice Coroza received his LL.M. from University of Windsor, Osgoode Hall Law School."



Catherine Hernandez

"Catherine Hernandez is an award-winning author and screenwriter of Filipino, Spanish, Chinese, and Indian descent, married into the

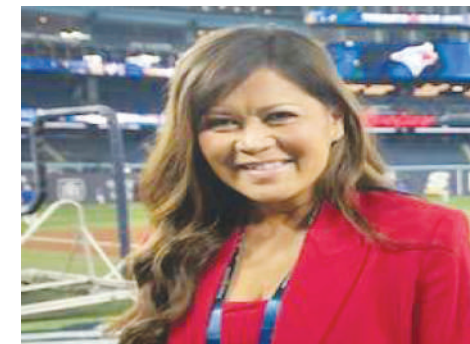
Navajo Nation. She identifies as queer and has made significant contributions to literature and film.

"Her debut novel, *Scarborough*, won the Jim Wong-Chu Award for the unpublished manuscript and was shortlisted for several awards, including the Toronto Book Awards and Canada Reads 2022. Hernandez adapted *Scarborough* into a film, which won multiple Canadian Screen Awards."

Gilmore Junio

"Gilmore Junio was born in 1990 in Calgary, Alberta; he is a Canadian of Filipino heritage. He is a long-track speed skater and a World Cup gold medalist. He be-

gan short-track speed skating at the age of 13, thanks to his father's encouragement. Junio found international recognition for his incredible display of sportsmanship at the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, when he gave his spot in the 1000m race to Denny Morrison, who had not qualified for the event after falling during the Canadian qualifiers. As a result of his kindness, Junio was given a commemorative crowd-funded award."



Hazel Mae

"Hazel Mae was born on April 7, 1990, in Tagbilaran City, Philippines; she is a Canadian of Filipino heritage. She is well-known as a sportscaster on a number of different sports networks.

"She began her career in 2001 on Rogers Sportsnet, where she hosted various shows, including *Sportsnetnews* and *JZone*. Later on, she became the lead anchor for the New England Sports Network's *SportsDesk*, *The Ultimate Red Sox Show*, and *The Buzz*, from 2004 to 2008. In August 2009, she was a reporter on the Major Base-

ball League Network, appearing on the shows *Hot Stove*, *MLB Tonight*, *30 Clubs in 30 Days*, and *Quick Pitch*. In 2011, she became the host for a new program, *The Rundown*, alongside Matt Yaloff. Since September 2011, Mae has been back as a reporter with Sportsnet."

Senator Flordeliz (Gigi) Osler

"Senator Flordeliz (Gigi) Osler is an eminent surgeon. Born in Winnipeg to immigrant parents from the Philippines and India, she is celebrated for her work in diversity, equity, inclusion, health and health care advocacy.



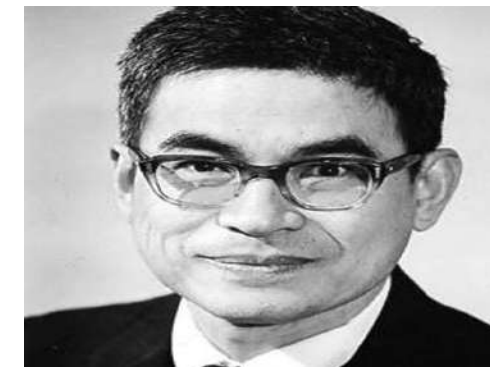
"Appointed to the Senate of Canada in September 2022, **Senator Osler** is the first woman of Filipino heritage to sit in the Senate. She is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Professional Achievement Award from the University of Manitoba (2020) and the May Cohen Equity, Diversity and Gender Award from the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (2021)."

Retired MP Rey Pagtakhan

"Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, born in Manila, Philippines in 1935, achieved historical significance as the first Canadian of Filipino origin to serve in Parliament and Cabinet. He held several Cabinet positions under Prime Ministers Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin, leaving an indelible mark on Canadian politics. Before embarking on his political career, Dr. Pagtakhan – a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and widely lectured and published in medical journals and book chapters – distinguished himself as a physician and professor, specializing in pediatric chest diseases. "His legacy continues to resonate

through his insightful column, *Medisina at Politika*, in *Pilipino Express* and *Canadian Filipino Net* news magazines, enriching public discourse and inspiring generations to come."

Conrad Santos (1934–2016)



"Conrad Santos was a Canadian

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politician born in the Philippines on November 26, 1934. On November 17, 1981, Conrad Santos became the first Canadian of Filipino heritage to be elected to office in Canada. At the time, he represented the New Democratic Party (NDP) in the Manitoba Assembly. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly in 1981–1988 and 1990–2007. Santos was born in the Philippines, and was educated at Harvard University and the University of Michigan, obtaining a Ph.D. in Political Science.



Joseph Torres

"Joseph Torres, better known as J. Torres, is an award-winning Canadian author of Filipino Heritage who has written graphic novels and other comics for young readers. He was raised in Montreal and graduated from McGill University before moving to Toronto, Ontario.

"Torres is best known for writing the fan-favourite DC Comics' original *Teen Titans Go!* series. Following his success with *Teen Titans Go!* he began to carve out a niche for himself as a popular writer of kids comics. His noteworthy works include his contribution to a handful of Johnny DC titles including *Cartoon Network Block Party*, *Batman Strikes* and *Legion of Super Heroes* in the 31st century."

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## A Night of Music and Meaning : Disco Queen Goldie Concert



dynamic presence kept the audience engaged throughout the evening.

The program was well-organized, with each performance adding excitement and warmth to the celebration. Guests enjoyed a night of nostalgia and connection, made even more special by the passion of the performers and the support of the community.

The event was made possible through the efforts of B Socorro, Tosca Newland, and team.

### 2026, New Westminster BC: Fundraiser for AJ Sico

Big congratulations to Goldie Gold for another successful concert.

On May 3, 2026, the Red Bar Lounge at Starlight Casino in New Westminster came alive with music, energy, and purpose. **Goldie Castro, known as Goldie Gold**, delivered a memorable birthday concert filled with retro hits, lively performances, and heartfelt moments.

She was joined by Ogie Ramos, Papa Bear Canada and the N-TWINE Band, whose

Amid the celebration, a meaningful moment stood out. **AJ Sico**, the evening's beneficiary, was honored with a touching rendition of "Heal the World." His presence brought a sense of unity and compassion to the event, reminding everyone of its deeper purpose.

Proceeds from the concert will support AJ Sico's therapy and rehabilitation, reflecting Goldie Gold's commitment to making a difference through music and community support.



# Thank you, Bishop Alex Wandag!

The congregation of St. Mary the Virgin South Hill Church thanked Bishop (ret.) Alex Wandag for serving as the church's priest while Rev. Expedito Farinas and his wife Felly are in the Philippines.

Bishop Alex celebrated the Sunday worship services at St. Mary's from April 12 to May 3.

At the first anniversary of the Lapu-Lapu tragedy on Sunday, April 26, he led the congregation in the prayers for the Babáng Luksà, the lighting of the candles, offering of flowers and in remembering the lives lost, those injured, and the many whose lives were impacted by the tragedy. In his homily, he said, "we

too shall overcome as we draw comfort and strength from the Easter messages through Christ who overwhelmed death by his resurrection. We Filipinos are hardy people known for our resiliency. We can overcome whatever challenges that come our way."

Bishop Wandag is the first Bishop of the Diocese of Santiago (2001). He is the parish's Honorary Minister at St Michael's Multicultural Anglican church since 2022. He came to Canada after his retirement in the Philippines.

*Photo credits: St. Mary the Virgin South Hill Church, Eva Rose Callangan, Tessie Camangeg.*



## The first CapEath team-up is here!

# Caprice Cayetano, Heath Jornales to headline romantic drama series "You're My Favorite Song"

Good news, CapEath fans!

Sparkle artists **Caprice Cayetano** and **Heath Jornales** are set to headline GMA Public Affairs' upcoming romantic drama series "You're My Favorite Song" – marking their first-ever starring role in a TV series.

The announcement was made by GMA Public Affairs on Saturday, April 25.

Joining the "CapEath" duo are fellow PBB housemates and co-

Sparkle artists Marco Masa and Clifford forming a powerhouse young cast that promises to bring kilig and excitement to viewers.

"You're My Favorite Song" is set to be directed by JP Habac, who is known for the film "I'm Drunk, I Love You."

The series is an original concept by Mark Ivan Caro. It will be written by Erwin Caesar Bravo, who is behind the hit primetime series "Black Rider" and "My Ilonggo Girl."

"You're My Favorite Song" will air on GMA Network this year.



# This is Pope Leo's prayer intention for the month of May

**VATICAN—** Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for the month of May is that everyone might have food.

In a video released on X, the Holy Father asked the faithful: "What do you feel about 318 million people experiencing acute hunger every day?"

"We need to act, but without prayer we will remain powerless," he said. "This May, I invite you to join me in prayer that we may seriously commit to avoiding food waste and to ensuring that everyone has access to quality food every day."

In the full video shared on the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network website, Pope Leo recites an original prayer written specifically for this month's prayer intention.

*Here is the pope's full prayer:*

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Lord of creation, You gave us the fertile earth and, with it, our daily bread, as a sign of your love and providence. Today we recognize with sorrow that millions of brothers and sisters continue to suffer from hunger, while so many goods are*

*wasted at our tables. Awaken in us a new awareness: that we learn to thank for every food, to consume simply, to share with joy, and to care for the fruits of the earth as a gift from you, destined for all, not just a few.*

*Good Father, make us capable of transforming the logic of selfish consumption into a culture of solidarity. May our communities promote concrete gestures: awareness campaigns, food banks, and a sober and responsible lifestyle.*

*You who sent us your beloved Son Jesus, broken bread for the life of the world, give us a new heart, hungry for justice and thirsty for fraternity.*

*May no one be excluded from the common table, and may your Spirit teach us to see bread not as an object of consumption, but as a sign of communion and care. Amen.*

"Pray with the Pope" is accessible on the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network website and its digital platforms. (CBCP News/Interaksyon)



Pope Leo XIV arrives to meet with Catholic religious education teachers attending a national meeting organised by the Italian Bishops' Conference (CEI), in the Paul VI Hall at the Vatican, April 25, 2026. (Reuters/Yara Nardi)

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## Cosme family returns in 'Home Along Da Riles: Da Reunion'

The iconic Cosme family is making their comeback to the big screens as *Home Along Da Riles: Da Reunion* will premiere on June 17 in cinemas nationwide. On their official social media accounts, the official teaser for the highly anticipated reunion film was released on May 6, 2026.

The teaser shows the life of the Cosme family after the death of their patriarch, Kevin Cosme (portrayed by the late Comedy King Dolphy).

Veteran actress Nova Villa who will be reprising her role as Azon, opened the teaser with her longing for Kevin. The iconic house of the Cosme family along the railroad was seen shaking as

a train approached.

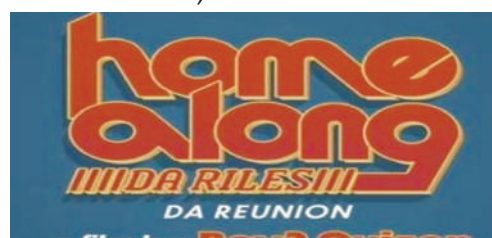
"Kevin, ikaw lang naman ang buhay ko eh. Kailan mo ba ako susunduin?" she shared.

The teaser continued showing the lives of their children after all these years. Joining Nova in the cast are Claudine Barretto, Gio Alvarez, Vandolph, Smokey Manaloto, Boy2 Quizon, Maybelyn Dela Cruz, and Dang Cruz, among others.

"DA COMEBACK is real! Mula sa riles hanggang sa inyong mga puso, the legacy continues sa mas malaki at mas pinasayang comedy-drama reunion movie na kukumpleto sa 2026 niyo!" the official account stated in the caption.

Fans of the hit sitcom expressed their excitement as the official teaser was released. Other netizens shared how they missed the chemistry of the Cosme family.

*Home Along Da Riles* was a sitcom aired on ABS-CBN from 1992 to 2003. The series tells the lives of the Cosme family and their neighbors who live beside the railroad tracks. It became one of the most-loved series on Philippine television, airing for more than a decade. (D. Acierto/abs-cbn news)



# Sarah Geronimo pulls out of Aurora Music Festival hours before performance

Fans expecting to see Sarah Geronimo at the Aurora Music Festival were met with disappointing news after the singer backed out of the event at the last minute due to health concerns.

On May 2, G Productions PH released an official statement confirming that the Popstar Royalty would no longer be able to perform after consulting her physician following rehearsals earlier that day.

“With her health as our foremost priority, she will unfortunately not be able to perform at the festival,” the management team said.

According to the statement, Sarah was advised to take “full rest” immediately, prompting the sudden withdrawal just hours before the show.

G Productions PH also apologized to organizers and concertgoers affected by the unexpected development.

“Weknowthisnewsisdisappointing, especially given how close we are to the show. This was not an easy decision, but it was necessary to ensure she can recover properly,” the statement read.

The management team also thanked the Aurora Music Festival organizers for their professionalism and understanding amid the abrupt change.

News of Sarah’s absence quickly spread online, with many fans expressing concern and sending “get well soon” messages to the singer.

Sarah sparks pregnancy rumors after last-minute festival exit. Rumors don’t wait. And in showbiz, they spread even faster when something unexpected happens.

Sarah recently made headlines after publicly congratulating BINI for winning the Global Force Award at Billboard Women in Music 2026. (J. Valdez/ Manila Standard)



## ‘Future best actress’: Michael de Mesa, Dina Bonnevie praise Fyang Smith

MANILA, Philippines — Veteran actors Michael de Mesa and Dina Bonnevie were all praises for the acting skills of former “Pinoy Big Brother” housemate Fyang Smith.

Michael and Dina portray Divino and Katarina Verona, the parents of Fyang’s character, Raya, in the upcoming Prime Video series “Love Is Never Gone.”

Michael and Dina said that they were surprised by Fyang’s talent at the show’s press conference last week held in Gateway Mall, Quezon City.

“I also want to give a special mention to [Fyang]. I told her this eh na for a newcomer, she really has something to offer and I believe that she will be one of our future best actresses, si Fyang,” Michael said.

“Magaling siya. She knows her job, she knows her character, basta. Magaling siya in general. Like I said, she has the potential to be a really really great actor,” he added.

Dina echoed Michael’s sentiments, saying she now considers Fyang as her “baby girl.”

“I would say just like Michael said, Fyang has a lot to offer. I mean she has a lot to promise her audience. She is a multi-faceted performer,” Dina said.

Michael, Dina and Fyang join Joshua Garcia and Ivana Alawi in the romance thriller “Love is Never Gone,” the first Filipino series shot in Morocco that will stream on Prime Video beginning this May 8. (j.M. Severo/ Philstar)



Veteran stars Michael de Mesa (left) and Dina Bonnevie (right) praise their “Love is Never Gone” co-star Fyang Smith (center). They play parents of Fyang’s character in the show starring Joshua Garcia and Ivana Alawi. GMA-7 / Released, Fyang Smith, Michael de Mesa via Instagram

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# Entertainment Without Borders: GMA Network Charts Partnership for Global Maritime Distribution of International Channels

GMA Network continues to expand the reach of Filipino stories beyond borders through technological innovation and strategic partnerships, bringing world-class entertainment closer to *Global Pinoys* wherever they may be.

Through a strategic maritime collaboration with Home2US Communications and FrontM Limited, the network marks a significant expansion of its global footprint by bringing its international channels, GMA Pinoy TV and GMA Life TV, on board commercial vessels worldwide.

Under the distribution agreement, Home2US serves as the contracting content partner, supported by an integrated delivery ecosystem that combines its advanced global broadcast and streaming capabilities with FrontM's onboard technology infrastructure. This ensures seamless access to licensed GMA programming at sea, strengthening the network's connection with Global Pinoys throughout their journeys.

"In line with our 2026 theme, The Heart of Global Pinoys, this partnership honors Filipino seafarers who continue to make extraordinary contributions to global shipping despite the many challenges they face, including long periods away from home and their families," said GMA Network First Vice President and Head of International Operations Joseph T. Francia. "By bringing GMA Pinoy TV and GMA Life TV on board vessels, we help them stay connected to home through stories that are proudly Filipino, as well as the latest news and entertainment wherever they sail."

"In partnership with GMA Network and FrontM, we are proud to bring GMA Pinoy TV and GMA Life TV to Filipino seafarers worldwide," said Home2US Communications, Inc. Founder, CEO, and

President Emrah Ozkhan. "By combining our global broadcast and streaming capabilities with onboard technology, we are able to deliver licensed Filipino programming seamlessly, helping crews stay informed, entertained, and connected to home while at sea."

"Our focus is on creating an onboard viewing experience that is live, shared, and meaningful for crews," said FrontM Lead Product Manager Venkatesh Ramakrishnan. "Through this partnership, FrontM's onboard technology platform helps bring trusted GMA content to vessels worldwide in a way that supports connection, routine, and everyday life at sea."

Beginning May 1, 2026, this collaboration extends GMA's international channels and *Kapuso* programs directly to Filipino seafarers worldwide, reinforcing the Network's commitment to serving Global Pinoys across land and sea.

At the heart of this viewing experience is *GMA Pinoy TV*, the Network's flagship international channel and home of The Heart of Global Pinoys.

GMA Pinoy TV delivers a dynamic lineup of drama, variety, comedy, and public affairs programs curated for Global Pinoys, which includes the Network's award-winning flagship newscast "24 Oras;" the well-loved game show "Family Feud Philippines;" interviews and meaningful conversations with Kapuso stars and more on "Fast Talk With Boy Abunda;" the long-running gag show "Bubble Gang;" stories of hope and resilience in "Tadhana;" the hit magazine show "Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho" — and many more.

Meanwhile, *GMA Life TV* reflects various facets of the Filipino lifestyle through features and storytelling that remind viewers there is always more to enjoy in life. The channel features a vibrant mix of lifestyle, travel, food,



and culture programs: from travel adventures on "Biyahen ni Drew," flavorful journeys on "Pinas Sarap" to daily Filipino movies on "Reel Life," the engaging infotainment program "Dami Mong Alam, Kuya Kim!" alongside practical wellness insights from "Pinoy M.D."

GMA Network's collaboration with Home2US Communications and FrontM Limited reinforces its mission to share heartfelt Filipino stories worldwide—bringing GMA Pinoy TV, The Heart of Global Pinoys, closer to Filipino seafarers and deepening their connection to culture, heritage, and community across oceans.

For more news and updates, visit [www.GMANetwork.com](http://www.GMANetwork.com).

#### About GMA Network

GMA Network, Inc. is the Philippines' leading broadcasting company, which produces the most innovative, most trusted, and top-rating TV programs.

Also known as the Kapuso Network, GMA brings superior entertainment and responsible, unbiased, and timely delivery of comprehensive and accurate news and information to Filipinos anywhere in the world—through its TV, radio, and online platforms and wide array of other media-related ventures: program syndication, film production, music publishing and distribution, set design, audiovisual production, and new media.

Officially listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange in 2007, GMA Network, Inc. is regarded as one of the most notable organizations that promote sustainability in the country, being the first media and broadcasting company in the Philippines to sign with the United Nations (UN) Global Compact.

Headquartered in Quezon City, GMA operates a network of 115 TV stations and 21 radio stations throughout the country.

#### About Home2US Communications, Inc.

Home2US Communications, Inc., is a Herndon, Virginia-based media company that specializes in the aggregation, transport, and distribution of highly sought-out international content.

#### About FrontM

FrontM is a maritime digital operating platform company providing crew engagement, communication, and onboard services for commercial shipping fleets. Through its platform and applications such as Loft Multiplex and Loft Kiosk, FrontM helps ship operators improve crew well-being, communications, and operational ship-shore collaboration across vessels worldwide.

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# KITCHIE NADAL WITH MAGNUS HAVEN VANCOUVER

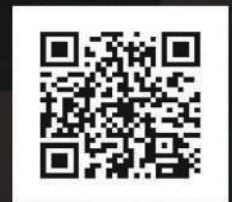


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**AT THE MOVIES**  
By Robert Waldman

*Buzz Off!*

Computers can be a blessing - or a curse. See sparks fly when an elderly woman gets taken big time in the engaging *The Beekeeper*.

Back In Action and not a moment too soon is fan Favourite Jason Statham in a tailor made role sure to appeal to his legion of fans. Sit back and enjoy vengeance taken to a new level in This high octane thriller is now heating things up on Netflix and also out on DVD and Blu-ray and well worth checking out, Everyone needs a time out. Even old assassins. Exgunforhire Adam

**The Beekeeper (PG) \*\*\***

Clay has carved out an exceptional career doing clandestine work for an ultra secret government agency charged with carrying out various deadly operations.

Above the law is their modus operandi and few have the killing/blowing up skills that Clay once possessed. Jason Statham smokes them out as Clay in one of his best roles yet. All those deadly reflexes come back into play when a friend gets taken for the ultimate ride.

These days all Clay wants is to retire peacefully on a remote farm run by a gem of a woman who wouldn't hurt a fly. So it's not hard to fathom the reaction of Clay when this living angel is ripped off big time by the scam to end all scams.

So many elderly fall victim to fraud especially via on line threats and intimidation that this film is both

timely and ultra important . And rest assured if you have Adam Clay in your corner good is on your side. So bad guys had better watch out.

Statham is excellent as a lone world operator out to find the baddies and mete out his own brand of Justice for those responsible for his friend's unceremonious downfall. Watch the bodies fall in a tidal wave as our man infiltrates a corporate behemoth whose evil tentacles seem to be spread everywhere without fear or regret. Well, not any more.

Director David Ayer gives what fans want: wall to wall action. Despite being far-fetched there is more than a tinge of truth to *The Beekeeper*. Sometimes you just need someone to kick a little \_ \_ \_ .I had a blast watching *The*

*Beekeeper*. So will you!

For more reviews please visit my website [moviereviewssite.com](http://moviereviewssite.com).



**At The Place of Ghosts (14A)\*\***

Running time: 1h 21m

Grisly!

Bad blood emerges in the breakout *At The Place of Ghosts*. A unique bond and between two disjointed brothers with a common history explodes In this chilling tale from VVS films and Touchwood PR now intriguing audiences at select cinemas across B.C.

taxpayers money this Halifax shot thriller has legs. Director Bretten Hannam wrote this chiller which involves a trip down memory lane and into the past for two reluctant siblings. It's a haunting expedition and quite the reunion for Mise'l and Antle as they journey back to their childhood haunts deep inside the forested woods. By foot and canoe Actors Blake Alec Miranda and Forrest Goodluck journey

and they do need a lot of luck and good fortune as they blemd their way through treacherous territory and an assortment of ghosts to try to remedy a past wrong,

Tension builds as fear of the unknown and an evil spirit or two touches raw nerves In the now grown men. Made In Both English with Micmc with subtitles *At The Place if Ghosts* is different and well-intentioned. Some surprises along the way keep you intrigued and on high alert.

For more reviews please visit my website [moviereviewssite.com](http://moviereviewssite.com)



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**SPORTS**

# Surrey unveils first-ever Sports Hall of Fame inductees

Surrey, B.C. – The City of Surrey is proud to announce the inaugural class of inductees into the recently created Surrey Sports Hall of Fame. The inductees will be sworn in at a special ceremony on Tuesday, June 2 at City Hall.

These individuals and teams, Class of 2026, are recognized for their outstanding contributions as athletes, high performance athletes, builders, coaches, teams, and game changers who have made a lasting impact in Surrey and beyond.

“Sport has always been a unifying force in Surrey, and these inductees reflect the very best of what it means to contribute, compete, and lead in our city,” Mayor Brenda Locke said. “Surrey’s sporting story has been built over many years, and it continues to be shaped by people like this.”



Mayor Brenda Locke of Surrey

This first class reflects the depth and diversity of Surrey’s sporting community, celebrating individuals and teams whose dedication, talent and leadership have helped shape local sport and inspire future generations.

**For more information, visit: <https://www.surrey.ca/arts-culture/surrey-sports-hall-of-fame>**

Here are the 2026 Surrey Sports Hall of Fame inductees:

Name	Category	Sport
Prabdeep Sanghera	Athlete	Weightlifting
Terry Bailey	Athlete	Football
Harold Morioka	High Performance Athlete	Master's Track & Field
John Tenta	High Performance Athlete	Wrestling
Sarah Hunter	High Performance Athlete	Wheelchair Tennis
Surrey Marlins 90 - 93	Team	Soccer
Cyril William Greenwell	Builder	Baseball & Basketball
Orest Springenatic	Builder	Baseball
Adam Roberts	Coach	Rugby
BC Tigers Hurricanes 2018	Game Changer	Soccer



## Eala ousts Polish foe in 3 sets

ACHIEVING a mini milestone, Filipina ace Alex Eala subdued Poland’s Magdalena Frech 6-0, 3-6, 6-4 in her opening-round singles match in the Internazionali BNL D’Italia, also known as the Italian Open, at the Foro Italico in Rome, Italy last night (Wednesday afternoon in Europe).

Playing at the Pietrangeli open court, Eala breezed through the first set in 41 minutes then found herself in a 0-3 hole in the second as the Pole picked up her game.

Mixing her shots, Frech took the second set in convincing fashion, levelling the match at 1-

all and sending it to a deciding third set.

Showing grit, the Pinay southpaw fell behind early at 2-3 but finally took the lead for the first time in the ninth game at 5-4 after holding serve and battling through four deuces.

Frech finally crumbled in her effort to extend the match in the next game, succumbing to three straight forehand errors to eventually lose after two hours and seven minutes of a riveting match.

Eala advanced to the second round for the first time of the WTA 1000 meet after losing 0-6, 1-6 to newly-crowned Madrid Open



champion Marta Kostyuk of last year. (B. Pedralvez/Malaya) the Ukraine in the first round

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