



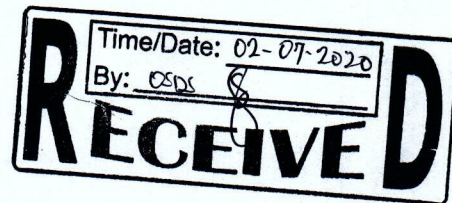
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



BAGUIO
CITY OF CRAFTS
AND FOLK ART

Designated
UNESCO Creative City
in 2017

COUNCIL FOR BAGUIO CREATIVE CITY



February 7, 2020

MARIE CAROLYN B. VERANO, CESO VI
School Division Superintendent
Deped
Baguio City

Dear Ms. Verano :

Coinciding with the month long Panagbenga Flower Festival celebrations in Baguio City held every February is the Ipitik Festival which will have its soft opening on February 27,2020 at the Burnham Park, Rose Garden and will continue to run until March 08,2020.

Imbued with cultural significance, the Honorable Mayor Benjamin Magalong has personally made this festival a project of his good office.

As organizer for the IPITIK Festival, I would like to invite you to be part of our events as we celebrate Cordilleran culture and tradition. Included in the Ipitik Festival are the 108 Gongs performance, Pinikpikan Cook-Off, Search for the Master Tapuy Brewer and On-the-Spot Wood Carving Open Demonstration. Elders of the Cordillera will also grace the festival with their chants and dances. The convergence of both young and old ensures that Cordilleran culture will be passed on from one generation to another.

The undersigned is requesting your honorable office for assistance by endorsing the said activity to the different public and private elementary and high schools to lend their support and participation for the said activity – and to the entire festival as well. It is a celebration of Cordilleran Culture and the (7) arts, making it very educational and informative for students.

We trust that you shall support us in this endeavor. The abovementioned details shall be discussed further by the Baguio Tourism Council Secretariat through Ado Nai Rizalde (09493068072) at your most convenient time.

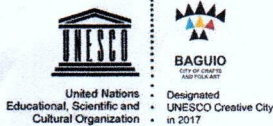
Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

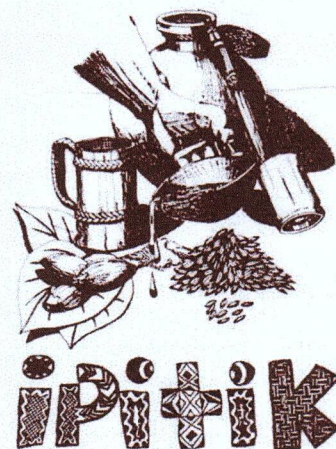
FERDINAND JOHN BALANAG
CBC Action Officer/ Ipitik Festival Director
Council for Baguio Creative City

To: All School Administrators, Principals & Teachers In-Charge
(Elementary & Secondary)
FOR YOUR INFORMATION & APPROPRIATE ACTION

MARIE CAROLYN B. VERANO, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent



Baguio Flower Festival Foundation, Inc.
Since 1998

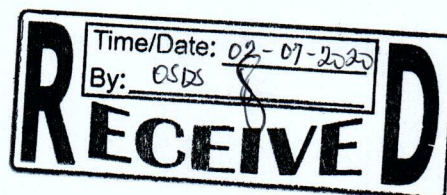


IPITIK FESTIVAL 2020

A Celebration of Culture and Community Art

March 2 to 8, 2020

Rose Garden, Burnham Park



“WE believe access to art and culture should go beyond those already active in the arts and cultural community. Therefore, WE intend to produce a cultural and arts festival that will inspire community involvement that is total and not exclusive. The artists, as vehicles for the perpetuation of culture, will come to collaborate in all the forms of art such as visual, dance, film, theater, music, literature, installation... to name a few. Both young and old will participate in this event, in the spirit of passing down traditional knowledge and cultural values to the young.”

**- Ferdinand Balanag and Kawayan de Guia
Artists**

“Community art is a people centered, interactive creative effort that offers audiences an opportunity to participate and share in the making of an artwork. It is open to the public, children, communities, fellow artists and so on.

Community art is a transient phenomenon. The work is not so much about the end product but instead, it places emphasis on the creative, often collaborative process.

Community art breaks away from the isolating confinement of the art institution. It is an art form that can take place and shape anywhere. Most importantly, it creates a spiritual arena for those who engage in it, a sacred space where deep experiences can be attained by everybody. it is an expression of kapwa- the indigenous Filipino sense of self.”

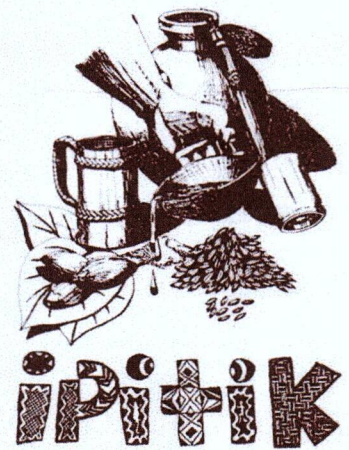
**- Katrin de Guia, PHD
Founder, Heritage and Arts Academies of the Philippines**

“The Ipitik Festival is an event of cultural re-vitalization that magically celebrates ritual and old ways even as it breaks the rules of tradition and nonchalantly shrugs off all worries about invention. What is culture if not the continuing re-invention of ways of life that will continue to hold meaning to us as the world around us changes? In this, Ipitik truly succeeds: it bridges a gap between generations of Cordillerans and epochs of Cordilleran history, and between the solemnity of a sacred offering and the light-heartedness of a good drink shared among life-time friends.”

**- Padmapani Lim Perez, PhD.
Anthropologist**

“The Ipitik Festival recognizes the wine making skills of the Cordilleran. Each village in the Cordillera has an ingenious way of preparing the tapuy. This event is not only a tribute to the wine-makers but to all the people of the Cordilleras.”

**- Isikias Picpican, PhD.
Anthropologist and Local Historian**



PREVIEW OF MAJOR EVENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL. In cooperation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines, this Jazz festival takes place at various select venues and takes center stage at the Rose Garden for a culmination on the last festival day, bringing together local and international jazz bands to entertain and provide music workshops and trainings.

TUKTUKAR TI PANAGBENGA. In harmony with the International Jazz Festival, Tuktukar ti Panagbenga, which aptly translates to *The Songs of Blossoming*, belts out the celebration of Baguio Blooms with a complementing mix of music genres staged on all weekends of February at the Baguio Convention Center.

THE SEARCH FOR THE MASTER TAPUEY BREWER. As the carrier activity of the IPITIK FESTIVAL, rice wine brewers from the different provinces of the Cordilleras join together to give our valued judges a taste of the different brews of tapuey, choosing the winner among the entries. The winning brewer shall be given the city's stamp of quality and his brew will be provided with assistance for business mentorship and production, bottling, branding, marketing and sustaining.

THE THIRD PINIKPIKAN COOKFEST. Being a delicacy native to the Cordilleras, this activity was conceived to showcase a local favorite - *pinikpikan*. This non-competitive event complements the Ipitik Tapuey Brewing event by providing free meals for the Ipitik Festival revelers, hopefully outdoing the 2,500 people fed in the last cookfest. Like in the previous staging of Ipitik, the dish will be served in banana trunks and coconut shells primarily to keep in line with the desire to reduce non-biodegradable waste and plastic materials, subliminally changing mindsets of our city folk and city guests. As with previous celebrations, students of hospitality and culinary arts from various schools and universities in Baguio City will make part of our massive kitchen team, keeping with a truly community-centered theme.

THE SEVENTH ONSITE WOODCARVING OPEN COMPETITION. As with the past competitions, 15 or more participating wood carvers join and vie for prizes and honors. For Ipitik 2020, the carvers will create totem poles depicting festivals and rituals of the Cordilleras. The winning totem poles will be permanently installed as additional fixture to the Melvin Jones Dap-ay (traditional gathering place) in Burnham Park which was built long ago by the Baguio Arts Guild and has been constantly used for art and cultural activities such as Ipitik 2005, 2011 and the 6th Baguio Arts Festival.

THE 108 GONGS PERFORMANCE. Performed by elementary and high school students from the different public and private schools in Baguio City, this presentation will showcase the different cultural dances of Cordilleran origin accompanied by the sound of 108 gongs. The children will undergo six (6) weekend workshops on Cordilleran dance and playing of gongs and other native musical instruments. Again, like in past festivals, the performance of the children is expected to draw good reviews and admiration from spectators- both local and visitors. Their 108 Gongs performance will be complemented by other school based cultural presentations in dance and chant.

THE GRAND BONFIRE, DRUM CIRCLE & CORDILLERA THEATER. This activity aims to bring together as many percussion groups and drummers as possible from all over. They will come together for an evening of drumming and percussion played around the blazing warmth of a grand bonfire. In between breaks of this energetic performance will be theatrical performances, each one depicting a myth or legend of Cordillera origin.

The ARTS & CRAFTS SHACK DESIGN & PAINTING COMPETITION. The creative challenge for participating groups of local artists entails repurposing the An Enchanting Baguio Christmas Chalets into themed Arts & Crafts Shacks to be used for the exhibition of curated local crafts in line with the Baguio Creative City's objective to ensure the growth of a creative economy for crafts and folk art, with sustainability in mind.

CORDILLERA ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR. An exhibition of selected outstanding products of the Cordilleras- a showcase of exquisite native craftsmanship and ingenuity. Exhibition booths will be provided for each Cordillera province to display their unique crafts, ware, food, costumes, textile and products.

THE ART CAMP. As part of the fair, Cordilleran artists of different crafts are also set up in tents during the week-long festival to conduct onsite workshops within the Rose Garden premises for revelers to enjoy and experience. Part of the artists' tasks is to help fence the open portions of the Rose Garden for long-term use.

THE BAGUIO PINE FILM FESTIVAL. In cooperation with NCAA's Cinema Rehiyon and the Film Development Council of the Philippines, and with support sought from the likes of Goethe Institut and Alliance Francais, local and international film screenings, master classes and workshops will be programmed and conducted at the Rose Garden and various venues within Baguio City.



**Baguio Flower Festival
Foundation, Inc.**
Since 1998



THE aBCD SHORT FILM FESTIVAL. aBCD stands for a Baguio City Diary. Invited to participate in this competition are university and Baguio based filmmakers and videographers. aBCD aims to engage the younger generation of Baguio to create short films regarding their city as a dynamic space of art and social change while simultaneously questioning the essence of identity that could easily be taken for granted. The activity will cover film screenings and appreciation, followed by a forum after each screening. As an end result, there will be an aBCD Film Festival video compilation, each to be not more than 15 minutes in length, documenting the city's changes in a critical and artistic way done by the youth of Baguio City. The works will be premiered during the Ipitik Festival 2020 open to the public.

HIGHLAND FOOD VILLAGE. Alongside the one-day pinikpikan cookfest, a week-long highland food art experience awaits the public where a number of art shacks are clustered together at the Rose Garden simulating a Cordilleran community kitchen, offering creatively designed Cordillera menus of indigenous ingredients. Food demonstrations by local culinary figures will also be staged to the delight of both locals and city guests.

BUSINESS MENTORSHIP & START-UP DESK. With the pure intention attempting to position creativity as a core driver of the city's economy, successful artists in business and established business coaches organized by DTI, give back by offering mentorship or advice for micro-scale artists who need assistance in learning how to manage their art and scaling their craft, not only to a global scale of art enthusiasts, but growing in terms of value toward a sustainable Baguio city. A start-up desk with DTI's steering, will be set-up to help facilitate onsite processing of business papers.

THE ABEL CONFERENCE. Set for the closing weekend of the Ipitik Festival, the conference aims to showcase and celebrate the significance of indigenous textile in contemporary Philippine Culture and Arts. In a symposium, TOWNS Awardee for Pina Revival Patis Tesoro, will reveal the progress of her current livelihood project: Kapok as Philippine Cotton, in Namarabar, Abra with the Aguids of the Tingguian Tribe. To augment the symposium, the Aguids will set up a weaving, natural dye and embroidery demonstration and exhibit. The proposed venue for this event is the Museo Cordillera, University of the Philippines, Baguio.

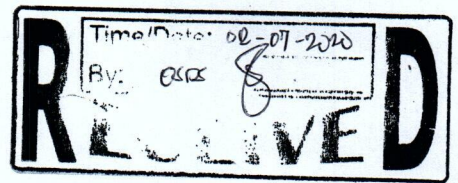
RANGTAY ITI KABILIGAN. The bridge has been kept as the identifying symbol of the Ipitik Festival. It serves as an interactive portal to the festival venue. The inspiration of this piece of community art (installation) by Baguio artist Rene Aquitania is taken from an ancient popular rite from the Central Cordillera Mountain Range. Since time immemorial, people there have pooled their efforts every year to build a bridge over a wild mountain river that separates two communities. The passage was created by anchoring large tree trunks in the rocky ground on the two opposite river banks, then slowly bending the wood until they could be roped together in the middle over the stream. It was a perilous procedure which to be successful, required great collaborative skills-- physically (nimbleness) and emotionally (mutual trust). Symbolically and practically, this rite tied together the traditions, livelihood and fate of two neighboring tribes. The artist says- "*Manumbalik nawa ang tulay na nag-ugnay sa kultura at pagkatao. ito ay isang mungkahing palabas para sa tulay.- we should revive the bridge connecting culture and humanity.*"

TRIBUTE TO OUR CORDILLERA ELDERS. Senior citizens from the different parts of the Cordilleras through the invitation of the BARP Foundation, Inc. shall participate in the festivities. Elders representing Baguio, La Trinidad, Mt. Province, Kabayan, Ifugao, Kalinga, Abra, etc. will gather at the venue to co-celebrate the "Ipitik." The elders will come garbed in traditional costumes representing their localities and will grace the event with dances and chants.

REFINING THE ROSE GARDEN. As part of the efforts towards responsible festival staging, and with the help of flower farmers from the region, the Rose Garden will be planted with more to lush roses of variants, before the Festival, and after, to make sure the Rose Garden is rehabilitated well afterwards.



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
City Government of Baguio



TO : CONCERNED OFFICES AND AGENCIES

ATTN : CBO, City Admi, CEPMO, CBAO, CTO, CEO, GSO

BCPO, DTI, DOT, DOTr, DEP-ED, CHR, DENR, CHED, BFP, BTC, CBCC

SP Committee on Tourism, Parks and

Special Events, Committee on Education and Culture

and Committee on Laws

RE : IPITIK FESTIVAL 2020

DATE : JANUARY 21, 2020

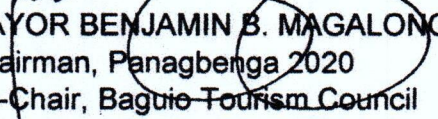
Your good offices are hereby enjoined with much pleasure and pride to extend as much technical, logistical, and communication support for the successful staging of a uniquely crafted event, IPITIK FESTIVAL that the Council for Baguio Creative City, the Baguio Tourism Council, and the City Government are collectively staging on March 2-8, 2020 as part of the 35-day celebration of Panagbenga 2020.

To reiterate, this Festival is being planned, conceptualized, coordinated, and to be executed at the Rose Garden in Burnham Park. Every government office, agency, and institution is encouraged to support this highly creative effort that strives to celebrate life in the Cordilleras, as freely expressed in various art forms by artists, artisans, and advocates of Baguio as a creative city.

It is the city's goal to provide a creative platform for the leading lights in the local art community and the various sectors that comprise it to be actively engaged in entrepreneurial undertakings that are niche-bound even as each artistic instrument is advanced for their social and economic wellbeing. From collectively strived efforts of this scale, Baguio's creative environment should hopefully further flourish, with special focus on the crafts and folk arts sector, befitting the city's stellar status as member of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network worldwide.

Mr. Ferdinand Balanag, a noted filmmaker who has been designated Action Officer of these two tourism-promoting institutions, has been entrusted with the specific task of interacting with you in this regard, hopeful of eliciting your worthy support to this community-driven endeavor.

Utmost compliance is earnestly sought.


MAYOR BENJAMIN B. MAGALONG
Chairman, Panagbenga 2020
Co-Chair, Baguio Tourism Council
Co-Chair, Council for Baguio Creative City

CC: All Departments/Divisions, City Government
All Attached Agencies, City Government
All National Line Agencies