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Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines Senate

Pasay City

Fourteenth Congress

First Regular Session

**RESOLUTION NO. 36** 

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST CHORALE AND THE HIMIG SINGERS OF DAVAO FOR WINNING THE BUSAN INTERNATIONAL CHORAL COMPETITION AND THE FIRST ASIAN CHOIR GAMES, RESPECTIVELY

WHEREAS, on 3 November 2007, the 26-member University of the East Chorale won the championship for the second straight year of the Busan International Choral Competition in South Korea, bagging the grand prize, two gold medals and a judges' grade of "internationally excellent" in the international tilt;  $\mathbf{2}$ 

WHEREAS, the Busan Choral Festival and Competition serves as an international meeting venue with choral music as the central theme, and is intended to bring together choirs from all over the world in order to provide them with an opportunity to compare with each other or to work together in workshops, listen to each other and study with international famous conductors and experts;

WHEREAS, the University of the East Chorale beat competitors from the host country, the United States, Russia, Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, India, Japan, China, Taiwan and Indonesia;

WHEREAS, the 15-year-old chorale, composed mostly of University of the East undergraduate students, succeeded in defending their championship in the annual competition and winning an international audience for their unexpected renditions of pop hits and stirring performance of classical pieces;

WHEREAS, they retained the gold medal in the pop category by surprising the crowd with unique a capella arrangements of the bossa nova classic *Mas Que Nada* by Sergio Mendes; *You Raise Me Up* by Josh Groban; the R&B hit *Pon De Replay* by Rihanna; *Rain* by Donna Cruz; and *Conga* by the Miami Sound Machine;

WHEREAS, the University of the East Chorale took the gold in the classical category through their performance of the required piece *Exultate Justi in Domino* and their three chosen songs, Virga Jesse and Filipino compositions Veni Creato Spiritus and Crucifixus;

WHEREAS, they took home \$10,000.00 for the grand prize, which the choir is saving up for their European tour next year to take part in competitions in Spain, Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Hungary;

WHEREAS, at about the same time, the multi-awarded Himig Singers of Davao City swept the First Asian Choir Games held in Jakarta, Indonesia last November 2-10, 2007 winning the top prize in the mixed vocal ensembles category, besting rival groups from China, Malaysia, Russia, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand; WHEREAS, these remarkable performances by our Filipino choral groups deserved to be commended for the honor and recognition they have brought to our country. The exemplary achievements displayed by our Filipino choral groups have inspired more Filipino youth to join various choral groups in the country as it has been proven that this event is an area where Filipinos can excel and dominate;

WHEREAS, these twin triumphs of the University of the East Chorale and the Himig Singers of Davao City earned the Philippines the reputation as a nation of natural-born world class singers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To commend the University of the East Chorale and the Himig Singers of Davao for winning the Busan International Choral Competition in South Korea, and the first Asian Choir Games held in Jakarta, Indonesia, respectively, thereby contributing to the pride and honor of the global Filipino.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR R President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 13 2007.

EMMA LIRIO-RHYES Secretary of the Senate

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