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Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEN
(TOYM) 2022 AWARDEES FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE
COUNTRY

1 WHEREAS, it is the duty of the State to recognize and commend exemplary
2 contributions of Filipinos in nation-building;

3 WHEREAS, since 15 October 1959, the Junior Chamber International (JCI)
4 Philippines, with the support of the "The Outstanding Young Men" (TOYM) Foundation,
5 as well as their other partners and stakeholders, has annually been giving the TOYM
6 Awards to young Filipinos between the ages of 18 to 40 years old who exemplified
7 professional excellence through significant contributions in their respective field or
8 community, resulting to positive changes in the nation;

9 WHEREAS, throughout its 63-year history, the TOYM Awards has developed a
10 reputation for its selectiveness in awarding distinctions to outstanding young active
11 citizens upon whom the award is conferred;

12 WHEREAS, with the theme "*Rebuilding the Nation, Stronger Together*", the
13 2022 TOYM Awards chose the best ten (10) Honorees, who, despite the challenges
14 during this uncertain COVID-19 pandemic recovery period, have served as "*catalysts*
15 *of change and have spread positivity and goodwill to all Filipinos*;"

16 WHEREAS, these ordinary Filipinos-turned-heroes – notable individuals from
17 the fields of health and medicine; literature, culture and the arts; education and the
18 academe; and humanitarian, civil society or voluntary leadership; have shown
19 exemplary service to others, exuded excellence, exemplified our culture of *bayanihan*,
20 and displayed outstanding leadership, making significant contributions to the country;

21 WHEREAS, Mr. **Manix Abrera**, who has been telling stories of Pinoy
22 experiences through comics for 25 years, and who is most famous for his creation,
23 Kikomachine Komix, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for Literature, Culture and the
24 Arts. Mr. Abrera is a three-time National Book Awardee, who, in 2019 won the award
25 for Best Book of Graphic Literature for his collection of Kikomachine strips which
26 originally appeared in the Filipino newspaper Inquirer since 2001;

1 WHEREAS, Mr. **Rico Ancog**, an environmentalist, and the appointed Dean of
2 the School of Environmental Science and Management of UP Los Baños (UPLB) in
3 2021, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for Education and the Academe. Dean
4 Ancog specializes in environmental science and environmental economics, and was
5 named Outstanding Young Scientist in 2019 by the National Academy of Science and
6 Technology. Currently, he serves as the managing editor of the Journal of
7 Environmental Science and Management, which is produced at UPLB;

8 WHEREAS, Mr. **Victor Mari Baguilat, Jr.** is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees
9 for Literature, Culture and the Arts. As an homage to his Ifugao lineage, Mr. Baguilat
10 carved his name in the fashion world for his fashion-forward Ifugao-inspired designs.
11 As the founder of the social enterprise “Kandama”, he empowers indigenous
12 communities, especially its women, while preserving their culture and protecting the
13 environment. Last 2018, Kandama was recognized by the National University of
14 Singapore and the Development Bank of Singapore as one of the Top 100 Social
15 Enterprises in Asia;

16 WHEREAS, Dr. **Ronnie Baticulon**, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for
17 Health and Medicine. Dr. Baticulon is a pediatric neurosurgeon who specializes in
18 procedures done on children with congenital and acquired disorders of the brain and
19 the spinal cord. As an associate professor at UP Manila, he has completed research
20 projects in global neurosurgery with the vision of identifying barriers to global
21 neurosurgical care. His “*aspiration to be able to provide essential neurosurgical care*
22 *to all Filipinos who need it, particularly the underserved*” led to his recognition as one
23 of the Outstanding Young Scientists in 2022 by the National Academy of Science and
24 Technology;

25 WHEREAS, Mr. **Kristian Cordero**, a writer, teacher, filmmaker and bookseller,
26 whose books of poetry in three Philippine languages have won the Madrigal-Gonzales
27 Best First Book Award, the Philippine National Book Awards and the Gintong Aklat
28 Awards, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for Literature, Culture and the Arts. Mr.
29 Cordero brought recognition to our country when he served as our representative in
30 the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa in 2017. Aside from his
31 numerous achievements as a writer, he has also produced films, such as his 2013
32 debut project “Angustia” and the 2016 production “Hinulid;”

33 WHEREAS, Dr. **Ramon Lorenzo Luis Guinto**, a physician who is recognized
34 as one of the world’s pioneers in the emerging field of planetary health (a scientific
35 and solutions-oriented approach to addressing health issues arising from global
36 environmental changes brought about by human activities), and who has also been
37 cited as one of the 50 Most Influential Voices in Health Care Globally, is one of the
38 2022 TOYM Honorees for Health and Medicine. Dr. Guinto is the first from Southeast
39 Asia to finish the first-of-its-kind, multidisciplinary degree of Doctor of Public Health
40 (DrPH) program at the Harvard University;

41 WHEREAS, Dr. **Beverly Ho**, a physician who effectively advocates reforms in
42 the health system as an undersecretary of the Department of Health, is one of the
43 2022 TOYM Honorees for Health and Medicine for her service as the focal person for
44 the promotion of healthy practices and safety standards as the country dealt with the
45 pandemic. Dr. Ho cofounded the Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes, a nonprofit
46 organization that seeks to raise awareness for better public health and develop a larger
47 pool of public health professionals in the Philippines;

1 WHEREAS, Dr. **Paul Gideon Lasco**, a physician and medical anthropologist
2 whose research projects have focused on contemporary health issues, including drug
3 use and drug policy, the COVID-19 pandemic, and medical populism, and who has
4 contributed to his field by teaching at UP Diliman and UP Manila, is one of the 2022
5 TOYM Honorees for Education and the Academe. Dr. Lasco has produced more than
6 forty (40) journal articles and two (2) books in the past four years and is currently a
7 columnist for the Inquirer;

8 WHEREAS, Ms. **Shawntel Nicole Nieto**, one of the founders of One Cainta
9 Food Program, a charity aid which provides food packages for Cainteños, including
10 frontliners and people who have lost their jobs ever since the lockdown began due to
11 the pandemic, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for Humanitarian, Civil Society or
12 Voluntary Leadership. Ms. Nieto also the co-founded the volunteer-led organization
13 "SustainablePH" and a public service podcast "SustainaRumble" which explores issues
14 on sustainable development in the Philippines. For her various civic works, she was
15 awarded with the 2021 Diana Award from the Diana Award Charity UK, which is given
16 to outstanding young people for their social action or humanitarian work.

17 WHEREAS, Ms. **Joanne Ascencion Valdez**, a Candon, Ilocos Sur councilor
18 who has received the 2022 Young Leader Award from the Young Southeast Asian
19 Leaders Initiative for recognizing the critical role of local government officials in the
20 lives of Filipinos, is one of the 2022 TOYM Honorees for Humanitarian, Civil Society or
21 Voluntary Leadership;

22 WHEREAS, the Senate, as an expression of its support to the youth and nation-
23 building, joins the JCI Philippines in recognizing and honoring the TOYM Awardees for
24 2022;

25 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the
26 Senate of the Philippines to congratulate and commend The Outstanding Young Men
27 2022 Awardees namely:

- 28 1. **Manix Abrera** – TOYM Honoree for Literature, Culture and the Arts;
- 29 2. **Rico Ancog** – TOYM Honoree for Education and the Academe;
- 30 3. **Victor Mari Baguilat Jr.** – TOYM Honoree for Literature, Culture and the
31 Arts;
- 32 4. **Ronnie Baticulon** – TOYM Honoree for Health and Medicine;
- 33 5. **Kristian Cordero** – TOYM Honoree for Literature, Culture and the Arts;
- 34 6. **Ramon Lorenzo Luis Guinto** – TOYM Honoree for Health and Medicine;
- 35 7. **Beverly Ho** – TOYM Honoree for Health and Medicine;
- 36 8. **Paul Gideon Lasco** – TOYM Honoree for Education and the Academe;
- 37 9. **Shawntel Nicole Nieto** – TOYM Honoree for Humanitarian, Civil Society
38 or Voluntary Leadership; and
- 39 10. **Joanne Ascencion Valdez** – TOYM Honoree for Humanitarian, Civil
40 Society or Voluntary Leadership.

Adopted,



SONNY ANGARA