

PRESS RELEASE**Briones graces inauguration of *Linangan*, home of Constantino murals**

QUEZON CITY, March 15, 2019 – Education Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones graced the inauguration of *Linangan*, the display home of “Constantino Murals: Hidden in Plain Sight” on Panay Avenue, on the occasion of the 100th birth anniversary of nationalist historian Renato Constantino last March 11.

A project of the Constantino Foundation, *Linangan* seeks to extol—through the murals and future activities—the true stature of Macario Sakay and Lean Alejandro, as well as other Filipinos whose acts helped elevate and establish the meaning of heroism.

“I am deeply honored and grateful to be part of this significant occasion—the blessing of *Linangan* which serves as a timeless testimony to our past struggles and victories in pursuit of freedom and democracy,” Briones shared.

The Foundation shared that instead of showcasing the murals in art galleries, it worked with local governments to install the paintings at the *Ospital ng Makati* in Pembo and the old San Juan City Hall.

“Hidden in plain sight and in working class settings, the choice of government buildings as display sites was significant,” the Foundation added.

Linangan also displayed the quotes of Constantino, one of which was written in 1975, that said, “A real people’s history is still in the future. I believe a real people’s history will be written when the Filipino people actively seize their destiny and courageously shape another exciting period of their history.”

The Foundation likewise shared that the Constantino Murals were created in 2007 in collaboration with *Tutok*, an artists’ group that, before disbanding, explored the language of dissent in the visual realm. Commissioned to commemorate the execution of heroes Sakay and Alejandro, the Foundation requested *Tutok* to paint the heroes not as extraordinary beings towering above their people, but as ordinary Filipinos advancing uncommon deeds in pursuit of national freedom.

The Constantino Foundation, which was originally named Foundation for Nationalist Studies, was established by the late couples Renato (March 10, 1919 - September 15, 1999) and Letizia Constantino (April 9, 1920 - June 27, 2016), whose mission is to promote nationalism and to advance a singular idea: “In order to shape the future, the past must play an active role in the present.”

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