



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

PRESS RELEASE NO. 105-2019

PHILIPPINES JOINS COLUMBUS DAY PARADE IN CHICAGO FOR THE FIRST TIME

Chicago, 16 October 2019 - The Philippine Consulate General in Chicago joined the parade commemorating the 66th Anniversary of Columbus Day held at State Street (from Lake St. to Van Buren) in downtown Chicago on Monday, 14 October 2019.

The parade had over 150 participating units consisting of bands, floats and marchers from different countries. Through the initiative of Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin, the Philippines participated in the event for the first time. The Philippine Consulate and the Filipino Community in Illinois joined the parade as part of the celebration of Filipino American History Month (FAHM), in collaboration with the Philippine American Cultural Foundation (PACF), International Society of Filipinos in Finance and Accounting (ISFFA), Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO), Zamboanga del Norte Association of Illinois (ZAMNAI) and Santacruzian Group. The Columbus Day Parade was sponsored by the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans.

The highlight of the Philippine Parade was the Santacruzian, the traditional cultural festival in honor of Mother Mary. The Santacruzian procession is the final part and the highlight of the festival called Flores de Mayo. The persons in the parade called Sagala's symbolize queens from the past and are dressed beautifully to emulate "real" queens. **END**





Philippine Consulate officials pose with the Filipino community representatives and the Sagala's of Santacruzán during the Columbus Day Parade.



STARS OF THE PARADE (Front, L-R): Ms. Jenna Ecang - Reyna Bandera; Ms. Abigail Turija – Reyna Helena 2019; Ms. Audrey Esquivel – Reyna Helena 2018; and Ms. Isabella Quinon Viejon – Reyna Helena 2020. They are joined by their escorts at the back.



Consul Ryan Francis D. Gener (second from right) with other parade participants



The Philippine flag flies high as the Filipino parade participants march through State Street in downtown Chicago.