I. ABOUT THE SEARCH

The Search for Outstanding Volunteers (SOV) is the centerpiece activity of the National Volunteer Month (NVM) which is observed every December pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 55, s. 1998. This is the strategy of the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) to undertake advocacy for the promotion of volunteerism as a tool for development as mandated by Republic Act No. 9418 or the Volunteer Act of 2001.

The SOV aims to identify and recognize outstanding Filipino volunteers and their exemplary performances and achievements in empowering communities and promoting volunteerism as a way of life, contributor to nation-building.

II. CATEGORIES OF AWARDS

A. National Outstanding Volunteer Award

1. Individual
   - Youth
   - Adult

2. Organization
   - Non-Profit
   - Corporate

3. Special Award for LGU

B. Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award

   - Individual
   - Organization

For purposes of the Search,

a) Volunteer refers to individuals who for reasons arising from their socio-developmental, business and corporate orientation, commitment, cooperativeness, passion, time service and resources, whether on full-time or part-time basis to a just and essential social development cause, mission or endeavor in the belief that their activity is mutually meaningful and beneficial to public interest as well as to themselves.

b) Non-Profit pertains to non-stock, non-profit, non-government organization, including voluntary, private academic institutions and employees’ association in the government that implement volunteer programs by mobilization, co-ordination, organizing, engaging volunteers to provide services and assistance in socio-economic, humanitarian, civic and cultural development activities.

c) Corporate refers to private business companies and Government-owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) that implement volunteer programs either as a component of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) or initiated and supported by the employees group, where employees are mobilized and engaged to volunteer their time, skills and resources for socio-economic, humanitarian, civic and cultural development activities.

III. QUALIFICATIONS FOR NOMINATION

A. National Outstanding Volunteer Award

1. Individual
   - Must be fifteen (15) to thirty (30) years old for the youth category and at least thirty-one (31) years old for the adult category at the time of submission of nomination;
   - Has been continuously and consistently providing volunteer assistance or implementing volunteer program or project in the last three (3) years for the youth and five (5) years for the adult. The volunteer service or assistance to which the nominee is being nominated for shall also be within the same period; and
   - Has not been found guilty of crime or offense involving moral turpitude.

2. Organization
   - Has been providing volunteer assistance continuously and for the last five (5) years for the non-profit category and for the last three (3) years for the corporate category at the time of submission of nomination.
   - Volunteer service or assistance to which the organization is being nominated for shall also be implemented within the same period; and
   - The organization must be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or PNVSCA or other duly recognized accrediting government institution; or recognized as a volunteer organization by the local government, local institution or community being provided with volunteer services.

3. Special Award for LGU
   - Has been implementing a volunteer program consistently and continuously for the last two (2) years and has existing mechanism that promotes civil society participation in local governance.

B. Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award

- Has been engaged in consistent and continuous volunteering activities for at least twenty-five (25) years;
- Has been a recipient of national or international awards in their respective fields;
- Has not been found guilty of crime or offense involving moral turpitude, in the case of individual nominees.

IV. CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

A. National Outstanding Volunteer Award
   - Performance of the Volunteer/Volunteer Organization
   - Quality of the Volunteer/Volunteer Organization
   - Outputs and/or Outcomes

B. Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award
   - Promotion of volunteerism
   - Benefits, relevance of volunteer assistance
   - Influence and inspiration

V. NOMINATION PROCESS

1. Nominations forms may be downloaded at PNVSCA website: www.pnvsc.gov.ph or may be obtained from the following agencies:
   - PNVSCA
   - NEDA Regional Offices
   - Regional Planning and Development Office of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

2. The nomination forms must be submitted to the concerned Regional Search Committee (RSC) covering the area where majority of the volunteer program, project, or service of the nominee is implemented.

Deadline for submission of nominations is on 15 July 2019.

VI. EXCLUSION PROVISIONS

1. Self-nomination is not allowed.
2. Nominees who did not qualify for the national award may be re-nominated.
3. National awardees of previous years are no longer eligible to be nominated in the NOVA category but may be nominated in the VLA category.
4. Nomination of the organization and the head of same organization in the same year is not allowed.
5. Members of the NSC are not eligible to nominate.

VII. CONCLUSION

The awarding ceremony will be held in December of every year as the centerpiece activity for the National Volunteer Month. The NOVA will have a trophy which the VLA will receive a metal and a certificate of recognition. PNVSCA will cover the transportation, accommodation, and meals of the awardees during their attendance to the awarding ceremony. There will be no monetary incentive for the awardees.

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SOV 2018 NATIONAL Awardees

RICKY REYES
Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award
Mother Ricky Reyes started generously sharing her talent and resources through capacity-building and livelihood programs in 1994 with the long-running barangay Kalinga program. Today, more than 200,000 beneficiaries have been trained by Mother Ricky in partnership with local government units, government agencies and private organizations to become hands-on workers and self-sufficient members of the society.

KENJAVE MARK T. PARLERO
NOVA - Individual Youth
Twenty-four-year-old Kenjave Mark T. Parlero of South Cotabato founded the Young Educators’ Convergence of SOCCSKSARGEN, Inc. (YECOSI) where he pioneered the laglaguro Literacy Outreach Program for Indigenous People. Through his leadership in YECOSI, he mobilized volunteer teachers and students in the conduct of learning sessions for Ifugao children who are having difficulties attending classes because they have to cross seven rivers just to get to school.

DR. JOANNE J. BALDERAS
NOVA - Individual Adult
Based in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), Dr. Balderas is an ophthalmologist and university professor who merges her volunteer work with her profession and environmental advocacy. Dr. Balderas facilitated and participated in the conduct of medical missions in CAR and nearby provinces which benefited hundreds of indigent patients in need of cataract surgeries and eye care services. She also promoted the conduct of the Adam’s Watershed Project for the three (3) watersheds in Baguio City.

PROF. EDGARDO LAYUG
NOVA - Individual Adult
Dr. Edgardo S. Layug is one of the prime movers in the inception and the institutionalization of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council of the Philippines (AFCP) nationwide. He serves as the voice of poor farmers and fishermen, informing the authorities regarding the assistance and interventions to address their needs. Dr. Layug championed several policy resolutions that significantly contributed to strengthening the AFCP and in guiding the policy makers on measures for agricultural productivity and economic growth.

DR. ROEL CAGAPE
NOVA - Individual Adult
Dr. Cagape has been conducting medical missions for 30 years for the Ifugao tribes in the cities of Sagada and Samat. He started the “O-Rex a Dok,” “Stika sa Kuburan” and “e-health centers” that provide medical advice and access to free medicines through the use of cellphones. He also introduced “Ambulance Kangar”, an innovative means of transporting patients from remote areas to the nearest hospital.

ELVIE SANCHEZ-GUAISON
NOVA - Individual Adult
Fifty-seven-year-old Ms. Elvie Sanchez-Guiason juggles her responsibilities as a general manager with her leadership roles in various civic-educational organizations to live a life of meaning and purpose. With her wide network, Ms. Guiason was able to develop partnerships with organizations in both the public and private sectors to support and organize volunteering projects and activities.

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY - VICARIATES OF THE MOUNT PINATUBO MEDICAL OUTREACH MISSIONS FOUNDATION, INC.
NOVA - Organization Non-Profit
For fifty years, SLU-MPVMOF has rendered free medical, surgical and dental services to 400,000 indigent patients from marginalized communities in the Cordillera region and other places in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Through the Foundation, SLU faculty members, students and even alumni have been able to give back to marginalized communities through volunteerism.

KEEP HOPE ALIVE
NOVA - Organization Non-Profit
Based in Marikina, Oriental Mindoro, Keep Hope Alive engages the youth to volunteer in various health projects such as the AgriProVid and Bantay Kalusugan programs. It has also conducted the Bipik Education program for twelve years now, benefitting 2,500 less fortunate children. NOVA started with the Baliw-Kawela Caravan in 2007 where they mobilized resources to provide school clothing for poor students.

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
NOVA - Organization Corporate
Over the years, Landbank has been actively engaged in volunteer programs, projects, and activities. Land Bank institutionalized employee volunteering in 2016 through its VolunteerPro Program where it engages its employees to volunteer through initiating their own activities, and in participating in Corporate Social Responsibility programs. Landbank also implements its flagship environmental program called Mariveles Bay and in the area of education, Landbankers contribute to the Gawad Palatubi scholarship program.