

Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation 9 April 2024 UP Hotel Quezon City

### **BANTAYOG TOUR VISITORS 2023**















# A legacy fund-raising program (2024-2028)

Foundation operations are almost entirely funded from by donations, fees, and selling merchandise. To support its plans, including the upgrade of its buildings and overhaul of its facilities, it targets to raise P50 million in donations. The upgrades will address Bantayog's fast-growing young audience, embrace new technology, and most important, further promote historical awareness about the Marcos era. We urgently seek your support in ensuring Bantayog's legacy. Please donate or make a pledge.

Gcash: +63 965 509 1011

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Bank accounts: Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation Inc.

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Please issue checks to Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation Inc.

For record purposes, please email proof of donation to bantayogbayani@gmail.com



## SALUDO sa mga HALIGI ng BANTAYOG

Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation 9 April 2024, 10;00 am SP Lopez Room, UP Hotel, QC

#### **PROGRAM**

National Anthem

Invocation Ms. Chasty Franco

Student Christian Movement of the Philippines

Welcome Address Atty. Jose Manuel "Chel" Diokno

Bantayog Chairperson

Our 38 Years Ma. Cristina V. Rodriguez

Bantayog Executive Director

Musical Number Mara Peralta

Presentation of SALUDO Sashes

An Honoree's response Carolina S. Malay

Former Bantayog Chairperson

A Youth's response Michael Beltran

Son of Bantayog Honoree, Maita Gomez

Closing Remarks Edicio dela Torre

Bantayog Vice-Chairperson

Emcees: Marie Jopson Plopinio and Remi de Leon

Lunch will be served

Feliciano Sonny R. Belmonte Jr., served many terms as a member of the Philippine House of Representatives for the Fourth District of Quezon City from 1992 to 2001, and from 2010 to 2019. He was also the Speaker of the House of Representatives from January to June 2001 and from 2010 to 2016.

In addition to serving as a legislator, Sonny Belmonte served as the Mayor of Quezon City from 2001 to 2010, for which he received recognition as most outstanding City Mayor of the Philippines by the Local Government Leadership Awards.

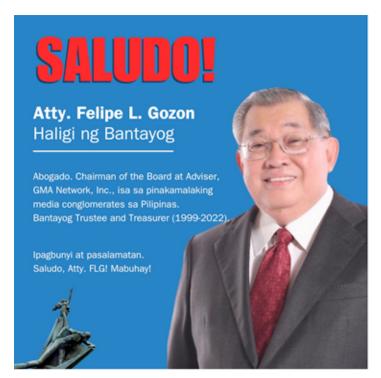


His involvement in Bantayog ng mga Bayani started when he headed "Bayan Muna Bago Ang Sarili," fund-raising campaign in 1987 to 1988. He was the GSIS General Manager at the time. Sonny Belmonte continued to give support to Bantayog ng mga Bayani, and attended events especially when he was Quezon City mayor, paving the way for a long term partnership between Bantayog and the Quezon City government.

His daughter and current Mayor of Quezon City, Joy Belmonte, recently visited the Bantayog Memorial Center and met with the Bantayog staff and trustees, as a next step toward further strengthening this long-term partnership.

Sonny Belmonte's career as a lawyer started at age 25, when he passed the Bar with high grades, then one of the highest among the examinees. His civic leadership was recognized by the Jaycees World Congress in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, when he was elected president of the Jaycees International for 1976.

In 1986, President Corazon Aquino assigned Sonny Belmonte to head various financially struggling government-owned corporations. He became President and General Manager of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and of the Manila Hotel. He was chairman of the National Reinsurance Corporation of the Philippines, and represented the government as a member of the board of directors of the San Miguel Corporation and the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Companhy (PLDT). He also assumed the position of president and chief executive officer of the Philippine Airlines which was then wholly owned by the Philippine government. These three corporations were among the top 10 companies in the Philippines.



Atty. Felipe Gozon is one of the incorporators of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation Inc., and has served for three decades as a Trustee from 1992-2022, and as its Treasurer. He was also a member of the Bantayog Executive Committee.

Atty. Gozon has always made sure that Bantayog was on track of its mandate, and had sufficient funds to run its operations. He continues to be one of Bantayog's advisers.

His invaluable contributions helped

preserve the legacy of the Filipinos' struggle for freedom, and inspire today's people and the future generations on the value of defending our liberty, at all costs.

He is a lawyer by profession, but is best known as the visionary behind GMA Network, Inc.'s rise as the Philippines' leading media conglomerate. During his early years with the company, he was credited for improving the network's financial position and ratings. He would continue to lead GMA to greater heights, to make it the dominant media network. Along the way, he received recognition for his work, including the prestigious Global Leaders Award in 2015, the first Filipino to receive the distinction. He currently serves as the company's Chairman of the Board of Directors, as well as its Adviser.

He also heads several different ventures and pursues various advocacies, which earned him recognitions not only in business, but also in the fields of media, law, and public service.

Yet, behind the business tycoon and media magnate is a person of principle. He is a man of profound faith. He places God above all. This is reflected in how he treasures his people, and in GMA's core corporate values. He is genuinely committed to making the lives of his fellow Filipinos better. His heart for the causes of the poor and is shown in GMA's countless public service announcements; high-impact projects led by the GMA Kapuso Foundation, as well as other charitable efforts that range from health, education and the environment.

He stands for the truth - and this goes beyond GMA's integrity in providing news and information that is "walang inuurungan, walang pinoprotektahan, walang kasinungalingan" and "serbisyong totoo lamang."

This deep conviction extends to safeguarding history.

Gloria A. Jopson KIntanar served as Trustee of the Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 2004 to 2014. She headed the Balay Bayani Committee, and also headed the Screening Committee from 2013 to 2015. An active member of Bantayog since the early 2000s, she contributed to developing and strengthening Bantayog's membership. She helped organize the annual honoring of heroes and martyrs. She took charge of maximizing the use of the Balay Bayani at the time when the JRS building was not yet in place by putting up exhibits and organizing



from her own pocket for some expenses involved in conducting activities. She remained an active volunteer of Bantayog even after her stint as a Trustee.

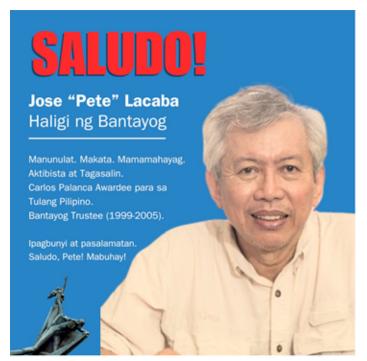
Joy's life story is marked by compassion, courage, purpose and resilience. Like other young colegialas, she had middle-class aspirations of getting married, raising a family, and having a simple existence. But she found herself pursuing a greater purpose – overthrowing a dictator and building a more equitable social system. It was the First Quarter Storm of 1970 that thrust her into activism. This was also where she would meet the man who would become her first husband, martyred student leader Edgar Jopson.

Edjop and Joy spent many years as cadres of the underground movement, with its risks and challenges - changing identities, transferring communities, separation from their children, limited communication with friends and family, and constant fear of capture and death. But Joy found solace in the impact of their grassroots initiatives, to help empower peasants laborers, indigenous groups, and women to fight for their issues and interests.

Joy's faith enabled her to navigate and endure life's adversities, including the death of two great men she loved. Her first husband is Edgar Jopson, one of the martyrs honored by Bantayog. Her second husband is the revolutionary Romulo Kintanar.

Edjop's death offered Joy the opportunity to return to her old life aboveground. She continued to honor his memory and his heroism by producing Edjop, the first documentary film on a martyr after the toppling of the dictatorship and through her active participation in Bantayog's activities.

She continues to inspire with her fortitude and remains steadfast in supporting causes that are close to her heart.



Jose Maria Lacaba, commonly known as Pete Lacaba is known as a journalist, activist, poet, screenwriter, essayist.

He served as Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 1999-2005, and also headed its Journey with Heroes Committee. The Committee's thrust was to keep telling the stories of valor of the martyrs and heroes as they responded to the Dictatorship.

Pete Lacaba wrote for the Philippines Free Press and for the Asia Philippines Leader,

where he covered the tumultuous demonstrations during the period of intense civil unrest and political dissent against the Marcos Sr. regime. This culminated in what we now know as the First Quarter Storm of 1970 - and was also the height of militant youth activism and organizing in the Philippines.

A compilation of his on-the-spot reports on the First Quarter Storm in the book Days of Disquiet, Nights of Rage,has been described by Quijano de Manila as "a useful manual for mass media students and practitioners working in the so-called New Journalism or literary journalism." The violent dispersals led him to take a critical stand against the administration, a stand he shared with his brother Emmanuel Lacaba, a martyr honored by Bantayog.

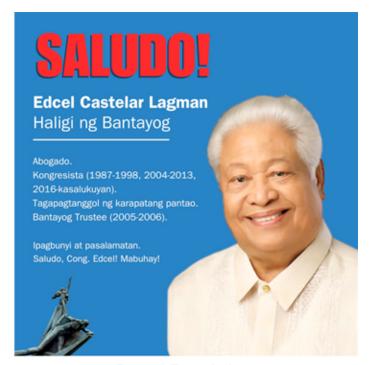
Pete was among the numerous writers and journalists who bravely fought the Marcos dictatorship. After learning that he was going to be arrested by government forces, he went underground and wrote for Taliba ng Bayan from 1972 to 1974, a publication which carried stories and poems of resistance.

He is also known for having written "Prometheus Unbound" (under the pseudonym Ruben Cuevas) - the protest poem that managed to sneak its way into state media bearing a hidden message in acrostics. When read downwards, the first letters of each line spelled out the outcry of the resistance: "Marcos Hitler Diktador Tuta."

He was arrested, detained without charges, and regularly tortured during Martial Law along with other several prominent activists of his time. He was incarcerated for almost two years. He continued writing later in life, and became a notable figure in Philippine literature. He also ventured into screenwriting. His films depicted injustices in Philippine society and echoed the sentiments of the poor and oppressed. His most notable screenplays are cited as among the most important films in Philippine Cinema.

Congressman Edcel Lagman is a human rights lawyer and politician. He has served in the House of Representatives from 1987 to 1998, from 2004 to 2013, and from 2016 to the present.

His late mother, Cecilia Castelar Lagman, is a human rights advocate. Edcel is the elder brother of Hermon Lagman, one of Bantayog's martyrs, a political activist who disappeared during martial law. Another younger brother is Filemon "Popoy" Lagman who was assassinated in 2001.



Edcel Lagman has served as Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation.

As a congressman, he played a key role in the abolition of capital punishment in 2006. He has vowed to oppose any proposals to revive it, as it violates human rights and is biased against the poor. He is also the principal author of the Anti-Torture Act of 2009 (R.A. 9745), the Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act of 2012 (R.A. 10353), and the Human Rights Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2013 (R.A. 10368).

In 2016, He was one of the legislators who called for the exhumation of the remains of former president Ferdinand Marcos after he was hastily and surreptitiously buried in a private ceremony at the Libingan ng mga Bayani. This happened before the Supreme Court ruling that nullified earlier petitions was "final and executory," which outraged human rights groups and victims of Marcos' purges.

In 2023, together with other progressive lawmakers, he slammed the DepEd's attempt to remove the name of Marcos in the phrase "Diktadurang Marcos" from the public schools' Grade 6 Araling Panlipunan (AP) program under the new "Matatag" curriculum. He also questioned if the DepEd has fulfilled a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to incorporate the human rights violations and injustices of Martial Law into its curriculum for basic education

In October 2023, he filed House Bill 9405 that seeks to declare the permanence of February 25 as a regular, national, non-working holiday, to commemorate the EDSA People Power Revolution. This came ahead of the release of Philippine Holidays for 2024, which notably excluded the celebration of EDSA People Power Revolution. There is no law that officially recognizes EDSA People Power as a national holiday. Its observance has relied on the decisions of incumbent and past presidents.



Carolina "Bobbie" Malay served as a Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 2008 to 2022, and Vice Chairperson from 2018 to 2022. She headed the Bantayog Museum Committee from 2013-2015. After transferring Bantayog operations and exhibits from Balay Bayani to the JRS Building, Bobbie lead the conceptualization of what the museum is today. She campaigned for donations of historically significant materials related to heroes and martyrs, and the struggle of against the dictatorship. She engaged experts and managed a big pool of volunteers to set it up, incljuding the initial

policies and protocols that the museum adopted. While the Wall of Remembrance features the names of Bantayog's heroes and martyrs, Bobbie set up a Hall of Remembrance, featuring capsule biographies of heroes and martyrs, and displaying some of their personal belongings.

Bobbie is also the Chief Editor of Bantayog's two-volume collection of biographies of its heroes and martyrs entitled *Ang Mamatay ng Dahil Sa 'Yo:* Heroes and Martyrs of the Filipino People in the Struggle Against Dictatorship 1972-1986, which were released in 2015 and in 2016. Bobbie continues to be one of Bantayog's dependable resource persons.

She is the daughter of Dean Armando Malay and Ayi Malay, both honored as heroes by Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation. She is a writer, a former journalism professor, and prominent figure in the anti-martial law struggle in the Philippines. In 1960, she worked with The Evening News, then later, with The Manila Times. She studied in Paris on a scholarship from the French government. Upon her return, she worked for Taliba and wrote in Filipino. She realized that for the media to serve the interest of the masses, it must talk about their lives and issues and be written in a language that they understand. It was also when she came back that she got involved in the national democratic movement, which also led her to meet Satur Ocampo, who would become her husband. She went underground when Martial Law was declared in 1972, and stayed in the underground movement for many years.

After the EDSA People Power, Bobbie resurfaced with husband Satur, to represent the NDF in peace negotiations with the Corazon Aquino government. The peace talks collapsed and they were arrested in 1989. Bobbie was released two years later. Bobbie taught journalism at the UP College of Mass Communication. She also wrote for the Pinoy Times. Throughout her life, Bobbie Malay has participated in various causes advocating for press freedom, human rights, and social justice.

Helen N. Mendoza was a member of the first Research and Documentation Committee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation.

She helped initiate the documentation and research on those who died while fighting for their principles during the martial law years. She also helped in crafting the policies of Bantayog on the honoring process.

Helen would painstakingly interview family members and friends of nominated martyrs



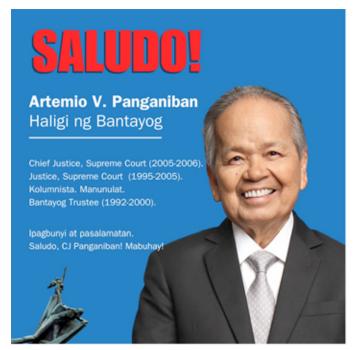
and heroes to check and countercheck facts about her subjects to ensure its incontestability. She did this unfunded undertaking in between her full teaching load in the university. She was in her 60's at that time.

She was a professor of English and Comparative Literature in UP Diliman with an MA in English Literature from Stanford University and PhD in American Literature from the University of Minnesota.

Helen was a professor in UP when martial law was declared. She was there during the Diliman Commune when the brave students defied Marcos. She has written, "I was there when the police/military broke into the campus and picked up many students, like the son of Flora Lansang. Many of those picked up were imprisoned and tortured, and some were never seen again. Ateneo activists were not spared. Even women were not spared, like Liliosa Hilao who was tortured and raped and was killed via muriatic acid poisoning. Jessica Sales, another activist, just disappeared — one of the multitudes of desaparecidos whose bodies were buried in some unknown grave."

Helen is the author of Childhood Memories of Zamboanga, KEN Incorporated, 2013. She also wrote a chapter: Memories of the War Years: A teen-age girl's life in the Philippines under Japanese rule, in the book Under Japanese Rule: Memories and Reflections edited and with introduction by Renato Constantino.

Her chapter is in three parts, the first are glimpses into the death march from eyewitness testimonies; the second is the saga of four brothers arrested by the Kempeitai, and the third is on her family's experience, beginning in Zamboanga and evacuating by boat to Iloilo and then on to Luzon.



Artemio V. Panganiban served as a Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 1992 to 2000.

He is a multihyphenate. He is a successful entrepreneur and an Independent Director for major publicly-listed firms in the country. Yet, he has also served as consultant and adviser for civic and religious groups, and NGOs.

The Philippine Bar Association, in conferring to him an Award of Honor, described him as "a principled and visionary leader by example; a prolific writer of the Supreme Court, bar

none; a renaissance man and a nobly-souled and gifted jurist; a much sought-after speaker; a recipient of over 250 awards and citations from national and international entities and organizations, including several honorary doctoral degrees; an eminent lawyer, law professor, Catholic lay worker, civic leader and businessman; a scholar imbued with mental dexterity; and, an exemplary family man."

He is an avid writer. On top of the 1,200 court decisions that he has penned over the years, he has written 12 books between 1994-2021. The last is a three-volume compendium of selected articles from the weekly column he writes for the Philippine Daily Inquirer (up to the present). He is also an in-demand speaker, both locally and abroad. In the legal profession, he has a most inspiring life narrative – the simple boy from humble origins, who studied hard, who became an accomplished lawyer and law professor, who became a Supreme Court Justice, and then later became the Chief Justice of the Philippines from 2005-2006.

He is known for his pro-poor stance particularly on labor issues. As Supreme Court Justice, he also voted for the conviction of Imelda Marcos in 1998. During his term as Chief Justice, he has preserved the independence of the Supreme Court, while having a respectful co-equal relationship with the Chief Executive. So, he was very critical of the Supreme Court being flooded with career justices who are Duterte cohorts. In recent years, amidst Marcos Jr.'s attempt at historical revisionism, he fearlessly reasserted the truth about the "organized pillage" of the Marcos regime and enumerated the Marcos assets that the Supreme Court has found ill-gotten.

This should guarantee that Filipinos now and in the future will be educated and will be reminded of the wealth that the Marcos family and their cronies illegally amassed from the country's coffers.



Among the earliest supporter and sponsor of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation is Judy Araneta-Roxas, who has been called the grand doyen of Philippine politics.

She may be better known by the public as the wife of Senator Gerry Roxas, and the mother of Senator Mar Roxas, but she is an accomplished person in her own right, as a businesswoman and a philanthropist.

Born to a wealthy family from Negros

Occidental, Judy Araneta Roxas is the eldest child. She did her studies from elementary thru college, in Assumption Manila, graduating in1954. Soon after, she married Senator Gerardo Gerry Roxas and had three children.

In her lifetime, Judy Roxas suffered three catastrophes that would have destroyed lesser mortals. In 1971, two grenades were lobbed at the miting de avance rally at Plaza Miranda. Several people were killed and injured including Judy Roxas who was hit by a grenade shrapnel in the leg. Soon after, President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial rule. Judy Roxas became a political pariah as most of their political allies stayed away out of fear of Marcos.

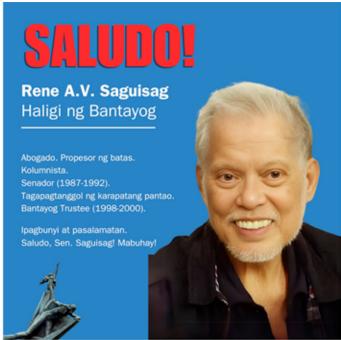
The second calamity is the death of her husband Gerry Roxas at an age when he should have been at the height of his political powers. Shortly after the death of her husband came the death of her youngest child, Gerardo "Dinggoy" Roxas. Only in his late 30s, and the political heir of his father, Dinggoy was just starting to make his mark in Philippine politics.

Even at her advanced age, she continues to chair the Gerry Roxas Foundation. Since 1958, the Foundation has helped 56,000 high school graduates nationwide and assisted 1,200 scholars get a college degree. She's also Senior Vice President of Progressive Development Corporation, the Araneta family firm which administers their myriad business interests.

In recognition of her service and humanity, Judy Roxas was personally bestowed the Papal Award in 1987 by Pope John Paul II - one of the highest honors a Catholic can hope to get from the Vatican. The late Jaime Cardinal Sin also gave her this accolade: "Judy Roxas has remained a woman of great faith working with and treating other people with a soul of consideration and gentleness even when tragedy touched her life."

Rene Saguisag is a well-respected lawyer, a former senator, who was the spokesperson of President Corazon Aquino. He is known for his staunch advocacy for human rights, social welfare, and responsible governance, and for taking clear and consistent stands on various important issues in Philippine politics.

Atty. Rene Saguisag served as a Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation, and is one of its beloved resource speakers.



As a firm defender of democracy, he was actively involved in the opposition movement during the Marcos Dictatorship and fought against the abuses and atrocities committed by the Marcos Sr. regime. Upon the declaration of Martial Law, he was jailed for several months without formal charges. He joined the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG) upon release and took on the prosecution of the Manero brothers for the murder of Fr. Tullio Favali.

He is co-author of the Ombudsman Act of 1989, and was one of the senators who voted against the extension of the U.S. military bases treaty in 1991. He has also consistently objected to the reinstatement of the death penalty in the Philippines, saying it is anti-poor and even worse than extrajudicial killings (EJK). He advocates, instead, for alternative approaches to crime prevention and justice.

Atty. Rene Saguisag also petitioned against the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) alleging that the government infringed upon various provisions of the Constitution, such as the prohibition on foreign military bases and facilities without Senate approval; and that EDCA could potentially enable the introduction of nuclear weapons into the Philippines, which is also explicitly prohibited by the Constitution. He also critiqued the burial of Marcos Sr at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

He is one of the petitioners, together with other lawyers. asking the Supreme Court, to declare the Anti-Terrrorism Law (ATL) null and void. They alleged its unconstitutionality and potential adverse impact on civil liberties and human rights, particularly on the broad definition of terrorism and the provisions allowing for prolonged detention without charges.

Atty. Rene Saguisag is committed to upholding democratic principles, protecting civil liberties and defending human rights. He continues to participate in initiatives that support similar advocacies.

Former Antique Governor Sally Perez served as a trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 2002 to 2008.

It was during her term that Bantayog started recognizing those who fought the dictatorship, even through armed struggle, like Romulo Jallores who was honored in 2003.

The Bantayog Board recognized that during martial law, there were many Filipinos that were pushed to take up arms against the dictatorship because of the curtailment of

Salvacion Z. Perez
Haligi ng Bantayog

Gobernador ng Antique (2001-2010).
Anak ng Bantayog hero, Calixto Zaldivar.
Bantayog Trustee (2002-2008).

Ipagbunyi at pasalamatan.
Saludo, Inday Sally! Mabuhay!

other peaceful means and because of the intense attack of the military against those who resisted the dictatorship.

Popularly known as "Inday Sally," Governor Salvacion Perez is the daughter of one of the Bantayog ng mga Bayani hero - Calixto Zaldivar.

Inday Sally is a BS Foreign Service (1957) and A.B. Political Science (1958) graduate of the University of the Philippines. She pursued her post-graduate studies at the Asian Institute of Management where she took up a Management Course.

She started her career as an executive secretary at the Insular Life Assurance Co., then moved to the Ayala Museum as Administrator.

After these private sector engagements, she got involved in public service in various capacities – as a management staff at the Supreme Court, the University of the Philippines, and the Office of Senator Edgardo Angara. She joined the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office as Undersecretary in 1998.

In 2001 Inday Sally was elected governor of her home province of Antique.

In addition to her engagement in the private sector and in government service, Sally has also worked with non-government and civil society organizations. She was the chair of the Antique Development Foundation. She was also one of the founding trustee of the Evelio B. Javier Foundation (EBJF).



A highly-respected lawyer, human rights defender, former congressman and former senator, Wigberto E. Tañada comes from a family with a long tradition of standing up against authoritarianism, and advocating for democracy and social justice. He is the son of former Senator Lorenzo Tañada, one of Bantayog's heroes.

Wigberto "Ka Bobby" Tañada served as the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 2017-2022.

During his term, Bantayog took part in these

initiatives: a) Signature campaign to Stop the Killings in Negros. b) Forum on extrajudicial killings (EJKs).c) Assistance to the RA 10368 reparation claimants. d) Forum: Ang People Power sa Halalan 2019 with CJ Lourdes Sereno and Ma. Serena Diokno as the main speakers. e) Partnership with Wiki Society of the Philippines, which allowed Bantayog to monitor, correct and improve martial law articles in Wikipedia.

Other developments helped to improve Bantayog's operations - constituting the library and archives committee, rebuilding the museum committee, pushing harder for digitization and archiving of Bantayog collections to consider possible difficulties in the political situation. Ka Bobby sits on Bantayog Foundation's Advisory Board.

Ka Bobby has been consistently outspoken on matters of national sovereignty, vigilant on insidious maneuvers to impose authoritarian rule, and resolute in preserving and asserting historical truth. As a senator,, he led the Magnificent 12, the senators who voted to reject the renewal of the United States Military Bases Treaty in 1991. He also filed a petition against EDCA, Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement with former Senator Rene Saguisag and the Makabayan Bloc, stating that it transgresses provisions on territorial integrity, national sovereignty, and freedom from nuclear weapons.

In 2020, at the National Press Club (members of which were jailed during Martial Law), he slammed then citizen Bongbong Marcos' attempt at historical revisionism, claiming that the accounts of corruption and atrocities done by his family during his father's regime were but a propaganda of their political rivals.

Ka Bobby's life reflects a deep sense of responsibility to uphold freedom, democracy, human rights, and social justice.

Deogracias N. Vistan served as Trustee of Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation from 1992 to 2013.

He was the first head of the Screening and Nominations Committee. He was a member of the Bantayog Finance Committee and later headed the committee.

During his term as Landbank President, a long-term lease of a 1.5 hectare property of

Deogracias N. Vistan
Haligi ng Bantayog

Presidente at CEO ng
Landbank of the Philippines (1986-1992).
Pinuno, Bantayog Screening Committee.
Miyembro, Bantayog Finance Committee (1992-2013).
Pinuno, Bantayog Finance Committee (2013).
Bantayog Trustee (1992-2013).
Ipagbunyi at pasalamatan.
Saludo, Sonny! Mabuhay!

Landbank was secured for Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation to put up its Memorial Center, through President Corazon Aquino's Proclamation No. 310 on 24 August 1988. The Filipino people is therefore able to enjoy the presence of the Bantayog Memorial Center for the past 32 years.

As Landbank's 4th President and CEO from 1986 to 1992, Sonny Vistan transformed the institution with his corporate expertise and passion for agriculture.

He launched training programs to empower employees, emphasizing teamwork and the Bank's mission. His dedication to rural development was unwavering, pushing Landbank to support farmers' cooperatives.

During his regional visits, President Vistan personally engaged with farmers, ensuring they had access to livelihood loans. According to Landbank staff "His leadership teaches us to invest in our team's growth and prioritize those we serve."

With over three decades of banking experience, Sonny Vistan is the author of two books: The Business of Banking, published in 2021 and The Filipino Entrepreneur – Opportunities and Strategies in a Growth Economy, published in 2023.

He was one of the most influential bankers in the country during the height of his career and was President of the Bankers Association of the Philippines at the peak of the Asian financial crisis in 1997. He has held top positions in every major bank there was.

Outside his corporate life, he also sat on the Board of a non-government organization helping microentrepreneurs and small-and-medium enterprises (SMEs).

# Maraming Salamat

We thank our donors:

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Thank you
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You all made Saludo sa mga Haligi ng Bantayog memorable



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#### BANTAYOG NG MGA BAYANI FOUNDATION INC.

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### The struggle of memory against forgetting.

Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation Inc. tells the stories about the dark days of the Marcos dictatorship and the valor of the Filipino people who fought against it to regain democracy. For 38 years, Bantayog has pushed back against attempts to erase the memories of the dictatorship from the consciousness of the Filipino people,

We draw inspiration from people who have persevered in their commitment despite the continued threat of repression even after the EDSA People Power.

Many of these valiant people have gone to eternal rest. But some of them are still around and continue to make meaningful contributions to Bantayog and the nation, unmindful of their physical difficulties and advancing age.

