



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

NEW YORK

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Philippines Headlines Cultural Show in Ellis Island New York



Kinding Sindaw Heritage Foundation performs an excerpt from the Meranao epic *Derangen* - proclaimed by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2005 – at the Great Hall in Ellis Island, New York on 6 May 2018. (PCGNY Photo)

NEW YORK, 17 May 2018 – In celebration of Asian-American Heritage Month, the National Park Service, in cooperation with the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company presented the Ellis Island Asian American Heritage Festival last 6 May 2018 at the Great Hall of Immigration at Ellis Island.

Filipino cultural group Kinding Sindaw Heritage Foundation headlined the show, with a 15-minute dance interpretation of an excerpt from the Meranao epic *Derangen*. *Derangen* was proclaimed by the UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2005. *Derangen* encodes customary law, standards of social and ethical behavior, notions of aesthetic beauty, and social values specific to the Meranao people of Mindanao Southern Philippines. This epic dates back to the 4th to 10th century.

Five other groups from China, Vietnam, India and Hawaii performed their traditional and indigenous dances and music.

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Vice Consul Khrystina Corpuz Popov and Cultural Officer Olivia Osias-Magpile coordinated with the National Park Service on the Philippines' inclusion in the program, and represented the Philippine Consulate General of New York at the event. END



From left: Cultural Officer Olivia Osias-Magpile, Ranger Douglas Treem, Vice Consul Khrystina Corpuz Popov, and Mr. Andy Chen of Nai-Na Dance Group discuss future possible partnerships after the cultural show. (PCGNY Photo)

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