

Oscar winner heading to NYC

Written by Administrator
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Robert Lopez (right) and wife Kristen Anderson-Lopez show off their Oscars backstage. (AFP photo)

Pinoy pride: Robert Lopez

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Filipino-American songwriter Robert Lopez gave the Philippines some Oscars joy after scooping on Sunday the coveted golden statuette for Best Original Song for “Let It Go” from the Disney hit animated film “Frozen.”

Robert paid tribute to his ancestral homeland during a backstage press conference after the win.

“Filipino pride. I’m so excited,” he declared.

“I’m just sending love to the Philippines,” he said.

“I know they’ve had a tough year and I just send out my feelings to them,” he added, referring to Super Typhoon Haiyan which battered the Visayas region last November, leaving over 6,000 dead.

The Oscar win, which Robert shared with his wife Kristen Anderson-Lopez, saw the songwriter join an elite group of artists who have won the grand slam of entertainment industry awards — Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony, or “EGOT.”

At 39, he is the youngest to join the EGOT league composed of Audrey Hepburn, Mel Brooks, Mike Nichols, Whoopi Goldberg, Richard Rodgers, Rita Moreno, Helen Hayes, John Gielgud, Marvin Hamlisch, Jonathan Tunick and Scott Rudin.

Robert clinched two Daytime Emmys in 2008 for Best Music Direction and Best Composition for “The Wonder Pets.”

He brought home a Grammy in 2012 for Best Musical Theater Album for “The Book of Mormon.”

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He was honored with a Tony in 2004 for Best Original Score for “Avenue Q.”

Robert said he will keep his Oscar next to his three other precious statuettes at home.

He and his wife have two daughters, Katie and Annie, who both have voice parts in “Frozen.”

Meanwhile, the Lopezes are heading to the Big Apple to grace the #PinoyRelief Benefit Concert at The Theater at Madison Square Garden in New York City on March 11.

The star-studded event aims to create grants and programs dedicated to the victims of Haiyan, with beneficiary organizations such as Operation Blessing, Habitat for Humanity, Save the Children, and Give2Asia, along with other local NGO partners.

Performing at the #PinoyRelief concert are Oscar and Grammy winner Jennifer Hudson, Charice, “American Idol” runner-up Jessica Sanchez, A Great Big World, Pentatonix, Plain White T’s, DJ Poet Name Life, REO Brothers and various artists.

Also gracing the event are apl.de.ap of the Black Eyed Peas, Dante Basco and Dr. Mehmet Oz, host of the “Dr. Oz Show.”

Pinoy Relief is an Alvarez Foundation partnership initiative, supported by the Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce and the Philippine Consulate General in New York.

It is co-chaired by Abigail C. Alvarez and Antonio Alvarez II, with Dr. Oz, Bryan Marsal, Michael Nierva and Megan Sullivan as board members.

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Basilia Yao is the Pinoy Relief Team COO, with Daniel Baker as grants advisor.

Administrative costs and overheads for Pinoy Relief are paid for by board members.

Thus, 100% of public funds raised by Pinoy Relief will go to NGO grants focused on disaster relief and aid for Haiyan victims.

Visit www.pinoyrelief.org for more information on how to help.