

## Janella and Elmo's sizzle to fire up Fiesta In America

Written by Special to the Filipino Reporter  
Thursday, 12 July 2018 09:59

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**Janella Salvador and Elmo Magalona in a file photo.**

Sparks of real-life attraction could fly from one of Philippine TV and film's hottest young stars at Fiesta In America on Aug. 11 and 12, 2018.

On those two days, Janella Salvador and Elmo Magalona, award-winning performers on the big and small screens, will bring their much-ballyhooed love tandem at New Jersey's Meadowlands Expo Center in Secaucus.

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The duo will share the concert limelight with all-time Filipino favorites Gary Lewis and the Playboys, laugh-out-loud comic and singer Ogie Alcasid, and superb New York-area artists.

Janella, 20, has acting in her DNA, being part of the fabled Salvador acting clan, as well as a daughter of Miss Saigon's Jenine Desiderio and singer Juan Miguel Salvador.

She first appeared on-screen in 2012 at 14 in the teleserye "Be Careful With My Heart," which became one of ABS-CBN's most successful dramas.

Her first lead role came in 2015 as orphan teenager Sofie in ABS-CBN's "Oh My G!"

That same year, Janella proved her musical chops when Star Music released her self-named debut album.

It reached Number One and was certified platinum, winning her the PMPC Star Awards for Music, Best New Female Recording Artist.

Janella was cast with Elmo Magalona in the 2016 music drama, "Born For You," triggering rumors about a budding off-screen romance.

The other half of the dreamy duo also has the movies and music in his bloodstream.

Elmo, 24, son of the late singer-actor-producer Francis Magalona and actress Pia Magalona, first broke into the limelight much earlier than Janella.

In fact, Elmo appeared at six months old on the cover of his father's rap album, "Freeman."

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In 2011, his film career was launched in the teen comedy "Tween Hearts: Class of 2012."

Signing up with ABS-CBN, Elmo's debut project was the 2016 musical-drama series, "Born for You," which introduced his on-screen partnership with Janella.

Elmo's passion for rap served him well when the two singers teamed up on the official soundtrack for "Born for You."

The album charted at Number One on iTunes Philippines.

In October 2016, the young heartthrob released his album, "Elmo," which reached gold record status and solidified his credentials among fans of Pinoy rap music.

Janella and Elmo are expected to heat up Fiesta In America's cultural show, but the romantic team will not dampen the excitement for the two other main concert acts.

Super comic and recording sensation Ogie Alcasid will impart his inimitable brand of parody and perform some of the biggest hits among his 12 gold records, three platinum records, and three double platinum records.

Pop-rock icon Gary Lewis and the Playboys, on the other hand, will revive golden memories with their string of seven Top 10 hits on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100, including This Diamond Ring (#1), Count Me In and Save Your Heart for Me (both #2), She's Just My Style (#3), Everybody Loves a Clown (#4), Green Grass (#8), and Sure Gonna Miss Her (#9).

Fiesta In America's milestone 20th Anniversary edition will be ushered in by a marquee Trade Pavilion.

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This year, no less than 14 exporters of handicraft, holiday décor, personal accessories, packaged food and other Philippine goods will exhibit their unique products under the Region IV-A (CALABARZON) banner.

The Trade Pavilion will also feature tourism exhibits, immigrant-tailored financial and other services, free health screenings and self-improvement workshops, and Total Wellness presentations.

The latter will include AARP workshops on how to prevent fraud online, and free sampling of healthful recipes and a workshop on “cultural eating” by Goya Foods as part of the event’s Total Wellness theme.

A native food court stocked with regional delicacies, as well as artistic and fun activities for all age groups, will round up the festivities on both days.

In the morning of Aug. 12, a Sunday Mass and a colorful Santacruzán pageant will launch the second day’s celebration.

Fiesta In America’s community-tribute gala, the People’s Ball, will be held on Friday, Aug. 10, at the Meadowlands Hilton in East Rutherford, N.J.

The People’s Ball will be highlighted by the presentation of awards for outstanding Fil-Am achievers in diverse fields.

To attend, exhibit, sponsor or advertise, please call 212-682-6610.

For more information, send an e-mail to [info@fiestainamerica.com](mailto:info@fiestainamerica.com) or log on to [www.fiestainamerica.com](http://www.fiestainamerica.com).