

## Romualdez meets Northeast Filipino-American Community at 2018 General Assembly

Written by Philippine Consulate General - New York  
Monday, 12 February 2018 14:13

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**Philippine ambassador to the United States Jose Manuel Romualdez (7th from left) joins Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega (6th from left) and Filipino-American Community members at the Assembly. (Photo by Mr. Boyet Loverita)**

Nearly 200 members of the Filipino-American Community representing the leadership of organizations in the U.S. Northeast Region took part in the Filipino-American Community General Assembly “Connecting and Collaborating for Change” at the Philippine Center-New York on Feb. 3, 2018.

The highlight of the General Assembly was the first opportunity of the Filipino Community to meet and engage with the new Philippine envoy to the U.S. Ambassador Jose Manuel “Babe” Romualdez.

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The ambassador paid tribute to the dynamism of the Fil-Am Community and called on them to unite on major issues affecting their personal and professional lives such as immigration, healthcare, education and career mobility.

He also shared the latest welcome developments on the peace and order and economic progress in the Philippines.

Coming from New England, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York, Filipinos attended a day-long event with updates from Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega on the Philippine Consulate General in New York's calendar of activities, programs and services for 2018.



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### **Ambassador Jose Manuel Romualdez with Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega responds to questions during the Town Hall portion. □ (Photo by NYPCG)**

Participants were given information on major programs for the remainder of the year, including consular outreach services, Know Your Rights sessions, trade and tourism promotion, the 2018 Ambassadors' Tour, and flagship, as well as new projects.

De Vega likewise thanked the community for its unflagging support for its various projects.

Likewise on hand at the event as resources persons were Mr. Nicanor Bautista, Senior Trade Representative of the Philippine Trade and Investment Center in New York; Ms. Luz Navarro of the Philippine Tourism Office in New York; Mr. Michael Azucena of Paglbig Fund; Ms. Marites Marin of the Social Security System (SSS); and Welfare Officer Petronila Bergado of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA).

The speakers gave updates on their agencies' respective programs for the year.

The Assembly was likewise graced by the presence of award-winning artist Ms. Lea Salonga who rendered a number from her latest Broadway show "Once on This Island" which will hold a Filipino Night on Feb. 25, 2018; and dance sport champions brother-sister tandem Jared and Jhailyn Farcon who performed to the delight of the participants.

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Ms. Mary Jane (MJC) talks about the advantages of Social Security System membership. (P

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Secretary of Trade and Investment (DTI) and Philippine Trade Ambassador for the Northeast, Secretary Myranda Romualdez, shares the Philippine Trade Ambassador for