



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

NEW YORK

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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22 December 2017

### **New York Commemorates 121<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Rizal Martyrdom**



Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega (5<sup>th</sup> from left 1<sup>st</sup> row seated) joins the Knights of Rizal and Ladies for Rizal (photo by NYPCG)

22 December 2017, New York – The Philippine Consulate General in New York together with the Knights of Rizal-New York Chapter held a commemorative event on 21 December 2017 at the Philippine Center on the occasion of the 121<sup>st</sup> death anniversary of Philippine national hero Dr. Jose P. Rizal.

The program was highlighted by a Knighting Ceremony of nine new members of the Knights of Rizal-New York Chapter as well as the elevation of other members to the second degree of knighthood. Among those elevated to the second degree was Consul Arman Talbo of the Philippine Consulate General in New York. The Knighting ceremony was presided over by Sir Francis Sison, KGCR and Regional Commander of the Knights of Rizal. Chapter heads and members of other areas in the US Northeast were present to witness the solemn ceremony.

An additional nine members of the Ladies for Rizal Auxiliary for New York were sworn in by KOR-New York Chapter Head Sir Michael Dadap, KOR.

For more information, visit [www.newyorkpcg.org](http://www.newyorkpcg.org) and [www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY](https://www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY)

The program also featured for the first time a dramatic Tableau of Rizal's execution, staged by the New York Chapter.

Ms. Jocelyn Bernal-Ochoa read excerpts from the book "Lolo Jose" while Knights of Rizal New York Chapter musicians rendered an string version of Dulces Las Horas.

Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega spoke about the challenge of keeping Rizal's legacy, philosophy, and vision for a progressive Philippines alive in an age of technological advances and an increasingly complex world.

Sir Michael Dadap thanked all the present and new members of the New York Chapter and pledged to make the Knights of Rizal a more proactive group by taking part in welfare programs such as an ongoing feeding program of the Knights in Mindanao and helping underprivileged patients avail of ophthalmology services at the Philippine General Hospital's Sentro Oftalmologico Jose Rizal (Jose Rizal Ophthalmology Center).  
END



New members at the Knighting Ceremony



Members of the Knights of Rizal-New York chapter led by Sir Michael Dadap perform Dulces Las Horas



Consul Arman Talbo (1<sup>st</sup> from left) joins other Knights elevated to the next degree of Knighthood

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Knighting Ceremony



Tableau of Rizal's final moments

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Ms. Jocelyn Bernal-Ochoa reads excerpts from “Lolo Jose”