

**Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines** 

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Post Arrival Orientation Seminar for School Children a New Program Under Paaralan sa Konsulado



Teacher Rena, Board of Director of Association of Filipino Teachers in America (AFTA), briefs the families who attended at the first ever Post Orientation Arrival Seminar on 13 July 2019 at the Philippine Center in New York.

20 July 2019, New York – The Paaralan sa Konsulado (PSK) continued its learning activities for around 40 students and, for part of somesessions, for the parents as well, as

the first ever **Post Arrival Orientation Seminar (PAOS)** was held during Day 3 of the PSK aimed at establishing support mechanisms for newly arrived Filipino school children to help in navigating the American school system.

Ms. Rena Pedaria, a member of the Board of Directorsof the Association of Filipino Teachers in America (AFTA) and a teacher-volunteer of the PSK, briefed the newly arrived families on programs of the New York City Department of Education. She guided the students through the NYC school system, from the family welcome centers to enrollment, school life, summer city programs, special education and other support systems for immigrant families including accessing government benefits, application assistance relating to immigrant status, healthcare, social services and civic classes.

The PAOS session was preceded by a talk on **Anti Bullying** by Mr. Brendan Lang, a Senior Program Manager of School Culture and Climate, NYC Department of Education (DOE) Office of Safety and Youth. Mr. Lang encouraged the students to share their thoughts and experiences at their respective schools in identifying and addressing bullying and bias-based behaviors in schools and communities. He also delved on cyber-bullying which is, according to him, prevalent and a serious concern among the youth.

The students also enjoyed the traditional classes during the day, including the **Kwentong Pilipino** for the youngest group led by Deputy Consul General Kerwin Orville Tate who amused the children with the story "Ang Pagong at and Matsing". Other traditional classes were **Filipino Modern Heroes** by teacher Ramil Buenaventura; **Life of Jose Rizal** by Ms. Olive Abarquez; **Philippine Dances** by teachers Catalino Arca, Sheridan Lambert, CherubyInot and Josette Ticzon; **Arts** by Doreen Casas and Josephus Reynes; **Conversational Pilipino** by teachers Nellie Gabatino, Rolita O'Meally and Lourdes Reynes and **TuklasTalino** facilitated by AFTA volunteer Carol Tanjutco. END



Deputy Consul Kerwin Orville Tate amused and engaged the Paaralan sa Konsulado (PSK) Group 1 students as he told the story "Ang Pagong at ang Matsing" during the Kwentong Pilipino class at PSK Day 3 on 13 July 2019 at the Philippine Center in New York.



Mr. Brendan Lang, a Senior Program Manager of School of Culture and Climate, NYC Department of Education (DOE) Office of Safety and Youth. Mr. Lang engaged the students during the Anti Bullying Session at PSK Day 3 held on 13 July 2019 at the Philippine Center in New York.



Group 3 Paaralan sa Konsulado (PSK) students deliberate about modern heroes atthe class facilitated by teacher Ramil Buenaventura.



Students write their essays about the Philippineswhich will be considered for the TuklasTalino competition to be awarded on the Culminating Day of the PaaralansaKonsulado.