



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

NEW YORK

PRESS RELEASE

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Society of Foreign Consuls Honors Philippine Consul General and Filipina Educator at Women's Day Event

6 March 2018, New York – The Society of Foreign Consuls in New York (SOFC) honored Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega and Filipina-American Educator and Early Childhood Learning Advocate Victoria Calderon with citations at the Society's International Women's Day event held at the Bohemian Hall in New York City on 05 March 2018.

The annual event which honors migrant women who have made significant contributions to their communities in the US and in their respective home countries is a flagship event of the SOFC.

This year 17 outstanding women from different fields were honored for their achievements and their commitment to making the world more inclusive, diverse, and devoid of any gender bias.

Among the honorees were medical doctors, cultural advocates, artists, performers, educators, academicians, and entrepreneurs.

The Philippine honoree, Maria Victoria F. Calderon, Ed.M, is a recipient of the New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Education. She was likewise named an Exceptional Global Master Leader of Early Care and Education and Director of the Year by the National Coalition for Campus Children's Learning Centers in 2015. Her other honors include the Joan Bozer/Minnie Gillette Leadership Award for Empowerment of Women and the Brady Award of Excellence for Administrators given by the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Ms, Calderon has traveled to many countries in order to ensure that children of American Military personnel receive quality education. She was instrumental in the federal grant award of Child Care Access Means Parents in School program for low-income students to continue their education. She likewise helped to raise funds to build the only girls school in Tanzania and does outreach work on training educators in the Philippines' Arellano University.

She is deeply honored to be among the 2018 SOFC awardees and says it inspires her to continue her work and advocacy and for giving children, especially young girls, both the roots and wings to be better persons.

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During the program, the SOFC likewise awarded a Citation to Philippine Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega for her outstanding service and contributions to the Society, having served in the Executive Board as Vice President for East Asia and Western Pacific from 2016-2017 and currently as Alternate Vice President for the same region.

Consul General Dizon-De Vega thanked Society President Honorable Khaled M. Alsharif, Consul General of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the entire Executive Board and members of the SOFC for the honor. END



L-R Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega, Ms. Victoria Calderon and Consul General Khalid Alsharif (all photos by NYPCG)



L-R Founder of International Women's Banking Michaela F. Walsh, Consul General Dizon-De Vega and Financial Specialist Lilia Calderon Clemente



Consul General Khalid Alsharif presents a Citation to Consul General Dizon-De Vega

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Consul General Dizon-De Vega (2nd from left) and SOFC President Khaled Alsharif (4th from left) join the other SOFC Executive Board Members