



The Late Ma. Lourdes Díaz- Abaya

For using film and television as a means of educating audiences about social issues and ethnic differences in an entertaining but enlightening manner; for using film and television as a medium to reawaken the spirit of nationalism in every Filipino; for elevating the art of local filmmaking to the level of national and international acclaim -

*Teresa's Light Woman of Service for **Culture and the Arts***

Mention her name and immediately, the titles of outstanding films that she has directed come to mind: Brutal, Karnal, Baby Tsina, Jose Rizal, Muro-Ami, Bagong Buwan, among others.

Through her films, Marilou has stirred the sense of patriotism and compassion for her countrymen. Her films have ripped open the Filipino audience's hearts and minds to the realities of social and ethnic injustices within the Philippine setting through the entertainment medium.

Her mastery of the film medium allowed her to make full use of it as a vehicle to broadcast the various ills of Philippine society. Abaya's films reaped accolades both from the local industry award-giving bodies and from the international film communities.

Susan S. Castillo



For being an instrument of God's work by the magnanimous sharing of her architectural expertise and her selfless dedication to preserve Filipino heritage —

*Teresa's Light Woman of Service for **Culture and the Arts***

She has accomplished many architectural projects which are exemplary. Noteworthy is her having used her talents to build churches, chapels, convents, and schools, most of these projects *pro bono*, sometimes investing her own material resources for the buildings. Thus, she has earned for herself the *Pro Ecclesiae Et Pontifice* of the Cross for the Church in 1996, a pontifical award given to lay persons who have given service to the Church.

Lisa Macuja- Elizalde



For her visionary mind that thought beyond her success to contribute to the development of local ballet; making a difference in the lives of others by democratizing ballet through her Ballet Futures scholarship program, outreach performances in provinces, and presenting these for free; her love of country by instilling local literature and song into her later performances; and giving time and attention to other forms of Philippines art and artists in her Sunday radio program Art 2 Art—

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Uprooted from her family, friends, and country, she withstood the cruel cold of Russia as well as its still communist society, turning difficulties into challenges, Lisa was not overwhelmed. Instead she topped her class, in addition to being the first foreigner invited to join the prestigious Kirov Ballet Theater. When she came home, she shared her rare talent and technique with local young ballet dancers and formed Ballet Manila. Lisa welcomed into the fold underprivileged talents through her Ballet Futures scholarship and looks after their medical plans, pension and housing. She envisioned a wider range of audiences in the mall, cockpit, arena and gym outside Manila. She translates Philippine Literature and popular OPM into dance, hoping that this trend would reinforce classroom reading and popularize our literature even with foreigners.



Ma. Victoria Cruz- Villareal

For her extensive work and award-winning research in the betterment of health conditions in her community in Iloilo, particularly those pertaining to pediatrics and adolescents; where such research became the foundation for local government policies and procedure for government hospital management-

*Teresa's Light Woman of Service for **Science and Innovative Technology***

She has practiced Medicine in Western Visayas, specifically in Iloilo, and shared her knowledge as a professor in different medical schools.

Her extensive research and publications have earned awards and was awarded the Highest Academic Rank Professor by the West Visayas State University.

She has likewise been recognized for her services as a volunteer Pediatric Consultant at the Holy Angels Nursery of the Asilo de Sta. Louisa de Marilla Orphanage; facilitated the integration into the medical curriculum a program of care of institutionalized children; participated in the Asilo Rehabilitation Program for Disabled and Handicapped Children sponsored by Liliane Stitching Fonds Foundations; one of the volunteer Perceptors of Community Medicine-

“to give the intern, whose training through all these years had been confined in the hospital setting, insight into the reality of medical practice in the urban or rural communities.”

*Teresita Ramirez-
Sanchez, M.D.*



For her pioneering work in the field of Forensic Medicine-

*Teresa's Light Woman of Service for **Science and Innovative Technology***

She is a forensic clinician and lawyer. With this uncommon combination of professions, Dr. Atty. Sanchez has often been sought on matters medico-legal in nature. She has shared her knowledge and expertise through lectures nationwide as well as published articles in medical journals and newsletters on compelling issues such as child abuse, rape, and domestic violence, and medical malpractice. Her greatest achievement to date is the founding of the Philippine Association of Forensic Medicine which is composed of doctors whose work is related to crime solving.

Carmen Tanseco- Narciso



For pioneering the practice of hematology at the University of Sto. Tomas and St. Luke's Hospital; for sharing her expertise as a distinguished educator-mentor in the art of healing patients with hematologic disease; for her volunteer work at the clinic for sick children of the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa) in Tayuman and for being instrumental in expanding and upgrading the facilities of Mary the Queen Charity Clinic in Greenhills, of which she was a Medical Director —

*Teresa's Light Woman of Service for **Science and Innovative Technology***

She introduced the first Hospital Blood Replacement Program and component therapy and fractionation of plasma products for use in transfusion in the Philippines. She also opened the first Chemotherapy Unit at the UST Hospital in 1985 and the first Apheresis Center (donation and therapeutic) in the country, at the St. Luke's Medical Center. She established the first Fellowship Training Program in Hematology at the UST Hospital and St. Luke's Medical Center. The formulation of Republic Act 7719 or better known as the "National Blood Services Act" was also done by Carmen. Her husband says, "My wife found comfort and joy working in God's vineyard... she considered it not work but a way of life, an opportunity to reflect back God's perfect love by showing compassion to the poor and the needy." Therefore, she provided free medical services to the Mother Teresa Missionary Center and established a parish-based Charity Clinic at Mary the Queen Parish.