



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL
P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Commemoration of EDSA I at the Philippine Center New York



NEW YORK – The 22nd anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution was jointly commemorated by the Philippine Consulate General New York, the Philippine Mission to the United Nations, the Trade and Tourism Offices and the Philippine Center on 26 February 2008.

Consul General Cecilia Rebong delivered the welcome address, followed Ambassador Hilario Davide who gave the key note address, with the reminder that the EDSA Revolution was *“the culmination of all our suffering as a people... we showed the world that we can stand on our own.”*



The former Chief Justice said that

while the spirit of EDSA is institutionalized in our present Constitution, we can only keep the spirit alive if we are prepared to maintain and preserve the virtues of patriotism and uphold the integrity of our democratic institutions.

These messages set the tone for the documentary film entitled **“LABAN! The Meaning of the EDSA Revolution”** by Filipina filmmaker Sally Jo Bellosillo, which opens with President Ferdinand E. Marcos' declaration of Martial Law on September 21, 1972 and chronicles the events that led to the 1986 Revolution. Told from the point of view of those who had the power to influence events, with interviews with President Corazon Aquino, President Fidel Ramos and First Lady Imelda Marcos, the film weaves a factual and compelling account of the triumph of democracy in the 20th century. “Laban” was completed in February 2007 and was presented by Caelestis Productions, Inc. and Monkeyray Productions LLC at the Angelika Film Center, New York, on 17 September 2007 during the Independent Feature Project (IFP) Market Week. Information on the film is available at: <http://www.labanmovie.com>.

The Consul General lauded the film for its successful presentation of recent history, and expressed hope that we never forget the miracle of EDSA I by living its spirit as we fulfill our obligations to our country, to our people, at home and in the workplace.