

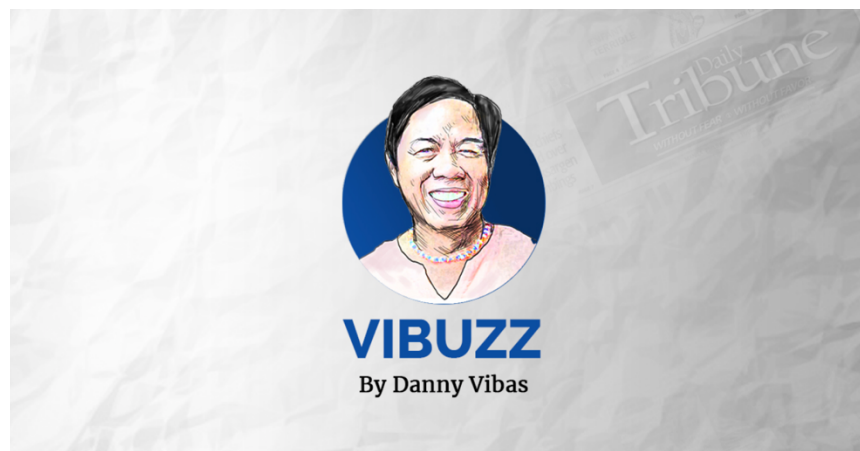


International event invites online participants

Event proponent Cecile Alvarez envisions the workshops to give opportunities not only to artists or artisans, but also to out-of-school youth, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, young people in conflict with the law, members of dislocated families, among others.

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By Danny Vibas @dannyvibas



If you like the idea of joining a skills workshop to help redefine your life, consider the SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) Resiliart Earthsaving event, to be held online from 2 to 10 December.

The two organizations behind the event, Earthsavers UNESCO Artist for Peace, and the Philippine Center of the International Theater Institute (ITI) Social Change Network, can put together a tutorial for you or a workshop with others.

All you need is an Internet connection.



Cecille Guidote Alvarez, director of Earthsavers UNESCO Artist for Peace. / photograph courtesy of danny vibas

The two organizations are identified with Cecille Guidote Alvarez, founder of the Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA) and former executive director of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

“Resiliart” in the event’s title is a portmanteau of “resilient” and “art.”

Alvarez is the director of Earthsavers, a non-profit civil society organization recognized and supported by the UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

She is the first Filipino woman to be elected to the executive council of the ITI as an exponent of applying cultural diversity for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

She has been designated ITI spokesperson in UNESCO’s high-level meetings at the UN.

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But they won’t be lumped together even if they have the same interests.

The workshops are a component of a grand event on UN Human Rights Week from 2 to 10 December.

Believe it or not, but among the event’s host is the Senate. At the in-person media conference held recently at Manila Hotel’s Cafe Ylang-Ylang, Alvarez announced that Office of Senate president Tito Sotto gave a grant to fund the event.

Some congressional committees will participate in some sessions of the event.

The other national and international activities include an art camp, a festival of performances, forums and cultural outreach programs in the Visayas and Mindanao.

The art camp will involve Filipino and ASEAN visual artists creating mural paintings conveying the SDG.

The festival of performances will feature foreign and local dance groups, musicians, poets and other artists.

The forums are a series of discussions aimed at forging a platform of action for actualizing the SDG focused on people, planet, peace and prosperity through partnerships.

Originally scheduled in May 2020, the event has moved three times due to Covid-19.

The event actualizes the roadmap identified in the May 2018 Manila Declaration for the Launch of the International Peace and Climate Justice Movement: Not by Force but by Art, under UNESCO patronage.

Interested online participants may contact the Manila Hotel (02) 8527-00-11; (02) 8301-55-00 extension 1247 Molave; or log on to *manilasdgevent.info*.