

FEBRUARY 2022 **GMA** ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE

KAPUSO

Meet the
**5 Sparkle
Sweethearts**

Gabby Concepcion
and Sanya Lopez
make viewers fall
in love anew in

*First
Lady*

LOVE
Together,
HOPE
Together

HAPPY KAPUSO MONTH

COVER: GABBY CONCEPCION
AND SANYA LOPEZ



EDITION'S TOTOPES EDITION'S

HAPPY KAPUSO MONTH!

February is extra special for us as we celebrate the month of hearts.

To be a Kapuso is to be One in Heart. We are one in dreams and aspirations, in valleys and peaks.

This month, we invite you to explore a lot of new things that your heart will surely love. Get ready to step in the shoes of First Lady, the sequel to 2021's number 1 program First Yaya. Adding more kilig this February are the newly-launched Sparkle love teams!

We are bringing the latest news closer to the hearts of our Southern Luzon viewers with GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog. Curated in this magazine are some of the newest songs from GMA Music: Garrett Bolden's Pwede Ba? and Crystal Paras' Hintay that touch on different themes on love.

Remember that love is all around us. A sweet children's book by Amy Krouse Rosenthal beautifully captures it: "That bright sun? That's me beaming at you. That soft breeze? That's me kissing you. That feeling you always have in your heart? That's me loving you."

Wherever we are, whatever we do, there He is saying—this is me, loving you. That is the greatest love.

Happy Valentine's mga Kapuso!

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This February | GMA Life TV

MEET THE 5 SPARKLE SWEETHEARTS

By Aaron Brennt Eusebio
From GMANetwork.com



MAVLINE

ALFIA

T rue to its fun and exciting new name, Sparkle has plenty of plans up its sleeve that's sure to shine a spotlight on our stars and leave a glowing mark in the industry!

GMA Network's talent management arm's first project for the year began last January with the launch of Sparkle's Next Brightest Stars for 2022, namely, Bianca Umali, Ysabel Ortega, Gabbi Garcia, Sanya Lopez, Miguel Tanfelix, Khalil Ramos, Derrick Monasterio, and Ruru Madrid.

Now, Sparkle promises to amp up the kilig this February with the release of Sparkle Sweethearts; five young and cute love teams that will certainly give you all the warm, fuzzy feels for the month of love.

MAVLINE

Kyline Alcantara and Mavy Legaspi are dubbed as "up-and-coming showbiz royalties." Recently, Kyline and Mavy respectively starred as the feisty city girl Tiffany and the charming probinsyano Basti in GMA's well-loved primetime drama, *I Left My Heart In Sorsogon*.

Kyline became known for her roles as Cheska in *Kambal, Karibal*, Anna/Elsa in *Inagaw Na Bituin*, and Maggie in *Bilangin Ang Bituin Sa Langit*, proving that she's one to watch when it comes to acting. Meanwhile, Mavy, who's been a household name all his life, continues to make his star power shine brighter since officially becoming a Kapuso in 2018.

ALFIA

Fondly called "Team Jolly" by their fans, Sofia Pablo and Allen Ansay put a smile on everyone's face through their YouTube pranks and TikTok videos. Currently, Sofia and Allen respectively star as Donna Lyn and Fonsie in *Prima Donnas*. Sofia is one of Sparkle's homegrown talents, and the public has witnessed how her acting skills grow and develop over the years. Meanwhile, Allen rose to fame when he competed in StarStruck Season 7, where he finished as the *First Prince*.

ALBRUCE

Because of their different personalities, Althea Ablan and Bruce Roeland's tandem is one to watch. The two prove that opposites attract. Currently, Althea and Bruce respectively portray Donna Belle and Hugo in *Prima Donnas*. Althea started with Sparkle as a child actress but she rose to fame when she portrayed the young Alena in the *Encantadia* prequel in 2016. Like Althea, Bruce started his showbiz journey with Sparkle at a very young age where he played kid roles in various Kapuso seryes. Now that he's 17 years old, Bruce has developed into a young man ready to take the center stage.

ABDAYNE

StarStruck Season 7 alumni Shayne Sava and Abdul Raman first met each in the show in 2019. Since then, the two immediately shared a connection. Shayne and Abdul are currently preparing for their roles in GMA's upcoming afternoon drama *Raising Mamay*. The public got a glimpse of Shayne Sava when she finished as the Ultimate Female Survivor in StarStruck Season 7. Like Shayne, Abdul is also a proud alumnus of StarStruck Season 7. Although he exited the show before the 'Final Judgment,' Abdul proved his acting chops when he starred in GMA's top-rated cultural-teleserye *Legal Wives*.

JANIA

The tandem of Zonia Mejia and Jamir Zabarte always gives positive vibes and good energy wherever they go. The duo was first paired in the romantic-comedy series *Heartful Cafe*. Zonia, who transferred to Sparkle in 2019, is known for her sweeter than sweet disposition. Meanwhile, Jamir is known for his natural charm and wit, a perfect fit for Zonia. ❤️



ALBRUCE

ABDAYNE

JANIA

GMA NETWORK'S KAPUSO MONTH CELEBRATION CONTINUES TO SPREAD LOVE AND HOPE

This Kapuso Month, GMA Network sends virtual hugs to viewers from all parts of the world as the country's leading broadcast company reinforces the power of being together in the name of love and hope.

Although being together physically might still be a challenge as the threats of the pandemic remain, GMA urges Filipinos to continue spreading love even at a safe distance and assures that better times are ahead for those who remain hopeful.

To make the Kapuso Month even more vibrant, a video plug was also released with a cheerful tune titled, "Love and Hope Together." The song was performed by Thea Astley and Jeremiah Tiangco from The Clash Season 2, with lyrics by Emman Rivera, and music by Ann Figueroa.

Adding more kilig in the February campaign are the newly-launched Sparkle love teams: Mavy Legaspi and Kylene Alcantara; Abdul Raman and Shayne Sava; Allen Ansay and Sofia Pablo; Bruce Roeland and Althea Ablan; and Jamir Zabarte and Zonia Mejia.

Kapuso royal couple Dingdong Dantes and Marian Rivera, as well as Bea Alonzo along with other Kapuso artists also sent in their messages of hope in this season of love.

With GMA Network, Filipinos are always reminded that any trials can be surpassed as long as we love and hope together.

For more Kapuso updates this Kapuso Month, visit www.gmanetwork.com.





Prix Jeunesse International Festival 2022

Considered as the Oscars of Children’s TV, the Prix Jeunesse International Festival is a bi-annual festival that aims to shine a spotlight on the world of outstanding television productions for children.

Well-loved infotainment program *AHA!* scores finalist status at the prestigious Prix Jeunesse International Festival 2022, joining shortlisted entries from 41 countries. Aside from being a finalist, *AHA!* will also be included in the festival catalogue 2021/2022 dubbed “Quality in Children’s TV Worldwide.”

4th Gawad Lasallianeta Awards

De La Salle Araneta University’s awards for the country’s most effective, influential and outstanding communicators in the field of mass media.

Jessica Soho
Most Outstanding Female News Anchor
State of the Nation with Jessica Soho

Mike Enriquez
Most Outstanding Male News Anchor
24 Oras

Atom Araullo
Most Outstanding Male Documentarist

Kara David
Most Outstanding Female Documentarist

Mariz Umali
Most Outstanding Female Correspondent

24 Oras
Most Outstanding News Program

Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho (KMJS)
Most Outstanding Magazine Show Host

Pepito Manaloto
Most Outstanding Comedy Show

I-Witness
Most Outstanding Documentary Show

Tunay na Buhay
Most Outstanding News/Current Affairs Talk Show

Papa Dudut
Most Outstanding Male FM DJ



Marketing Excellence Awards

The Singapore-based Marketing Excellence Awards is the premier platform for marketers to showcase their creative excellence, successful strategies, and effective delivery.

DepEd TV on GMA
Silver Award | Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility category

Makulay ang Buhay
Finalist | Excellence in Content Marketing category

GMAsk campaign
Finalist | Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility category

Pepito Manaloto: is the most-watched comedy show for 2021 nationwide

GMA-7 | Saturdays
6:15 PM



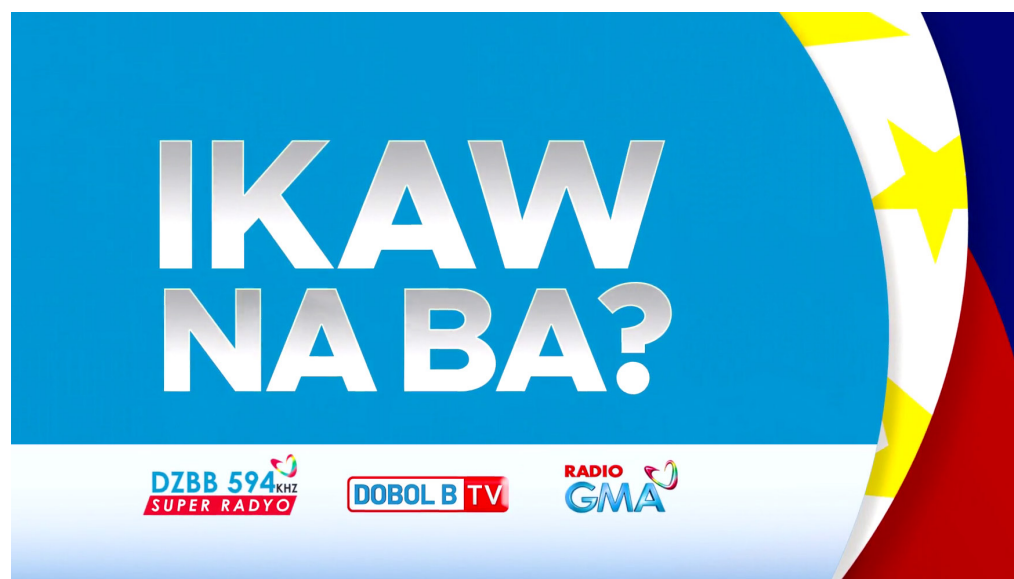
GMA's longest-running Saturday family sitcom 'Pepito Manaloto' is the number 1 comedy program based on Nielsen Philippines' official data for 2021 with an average people rating of 13.2 percent in National Urban Phils (NUTAM).

'Pepito Manaloto' is the brainchild of concept creator, creative director, and three-time Asian TV Awards Best Comedy Actor Michael V. Last year, it started airing the prequel *Ang Unang Kuwento*, chronicling the love story of young Elsa and Pepito in their teenage years.♥

Ikaw Na Ba?

GMA Network's flagship AM radio station Super Radyo DZBB launched its award-winning election information and advocacy program *Ikaw Na Ba? The Presidential Interview* and *Ikaw Na Ba? The Vice Presidential Interview*.

Anchored by senior broadcasters Melo Del Prado and Kathy San Gabriel, the one-hour special program gave presidential and vice presidential candidates the opportunity to be heard, present their platforms, discuss issues, and answer questions as the country gears up for *Eleksyon 2022*.♥



Agimat ng Agila Season 2

GMA-7 | Saturdays | 7:15 PM



After a successful first season last year, the story continues in a brand-new light with more twists and exciting characters.

Led by well-loved and versatile actor Ramon “Bong” Revilla, Jr. as Major Gabriel Labrador, the top-rating program showcases his adventures and misadventures as the bearer of the powers of an enchanted eagle who sets off on various missions to battle evil forces and protect the environment.

Also returning to the series is the stellar roster of cast headlined by special guest Sanya Lopez as Maya Lagman, Ms. Elizabeth Oropesa as Nanay Berta, and Benjie Paras as Sergeant Wes Dimanahan together with new cast members Gardo Versoza as Zeus Limjoco, Betong Sumaya as Sergeant Art, Kim de Leon as Jumong, Lia Salvador as Sharmaine, Sandro Muhlach as Archie, Shermaine Santiago as Carol Llamanzares, and newest Kapuso and Miss Universe Philippines 2021 Rabiya Mateo as Agent Asha Raj.♥

The Penthouse Season 3

GMA-7 | Weeknights
9:35 PM

GMA brings back the top-rating K-Drama featuring the intriguing story of three women from a luxury high-rise apartment. The final season, which is headlined by Lee Ji-ah as Simone Shim, Kim So-yeon as Scarlet Cheon, and Eugene as Cindy Oh, continues to tell the story of wealthy families living in Hera Palace and their children at Cheong-ah Arts School.

Just when Simone (Lee Ji-ah), who faked her death in Season 1, thinks she can finally live happily, Logan Lee (Park Eun-Seok) dies right before her eyes in the last episode of Season 2 when an explosion takes place by his car. A suspicious elderly man walks by while a mysterious figure watches in the background.

Who could have planned to murder Logan? The final lap of greed, corruption, justice, and redemption is just beginning.♥



Mano Po Legacy: The Family Fortune

GMA-7 | Weeknights | 8:50PM

Loyal viewers of GMA and Regal Entertainment's hit primetime series will have more reasons to get hooked to their favorite soap as it moves to an earlier timeslot.

Top-billed by Barbie Forteza, Sunshine Cruz, Maricel Laxa, and Boots Anson-Roa, the series revolves around the members of a prominent Chinese-Filipino family after the business tycoon and leader of the clan died unexpectedly. Joining the powerhouse cast are David Licauco, Nikki Co, Rob Gomez, and Dustin Yu together with Almira Muhlach, David Chua, Darwin Yu, and Casie Banks.

As the power struggle between Valerie (Maricel Laxa) and Cristine (Sunshine Cruz) over the family's conglomerate intensifies, how will Joseph's (Rob Gomez) love confession affect Steffy's (Barbie Forteza) responsibilities for Christine? Tensions rise as brothers Joseph and Anton (David Licauco) continue to fall for the same girl. Will this drive the two apart? Will Consuelo (Boots Anson-Roa) succeed in protecting the family's reputation and legacy?



TAKING IT ALL IN **STRIDE**

WORDS BY CARA
EMMELINE GARCIA
PHOTOS BY
JAMESSON VISTA



As we begin the interview, we gradually understand the magic that Barbie Forteza is known for. This lady has charisma and a light, easy-going personality that draws you in.



HOMEGROWN

Ever since her acting debut in 2009 by starring in the Philippine adaptation of the K-Drama series *Stairway to Heaven*, the actress admits being more mature when it comes to acquiring roles in the small and big screen.

This homegrown GMA talent has also worked on (received praise for) independent films like *Tuos*, *Puntod*, *Laut*, and *Mariquina* where she bagged awards like New Movie Actress of the Year at the 26th PMPC Star Awards in 2010 and Best Actress in the 36th Fantasporto International Film Festival in 2016.

BEHIND THE CAMERA

As an actress, she is known for having the utmost sense of professionalism and dedication to her craft as stressed by her previous and current co-stars. So much so, that Superstar Nora Aunor had even praised her acting ability during a press event for their film *Tuos*.

Barbie's craft has given audiences and the crew a good look at what makes her so compelling as a performer. She has a commanding presence that automatically turns

on cue once shooting starts but as any actor knows there also comes a time to be vulnerable when needed.

“May mga times rin kasi na mahihirapan kang makahugot ng emotions lalo na ng madaling araw,” she confesses. “Akala ng iba, kaartehan lang ’yun ng mga artista na madaling araw ’di makapag-dialogue, ’di maka-arte, ’di maka-iyak. Pero para sa akin kasi kung alam na ng katawan mo na pagod ka na, matulog ka na.”

The way she points it out there are three versions that encompasses who Barbie is—her artista mode, her work mode, and her introverted mode. And for a young actor, she knows exactly how to separate her private and public life.

When she's not busy shooting, she simply lives up to her name. Like the famous doll, Barbie enjoys her free time glamming up and enjoying her moments with her family as much as she can.

Unlike her generation and the generation after, Barbie is not seeking for attention. When doing things “for the ’gram” seem to be what's fad, she's steers away from it.

“

***Basta
pag may
tinanggap
ako I give
my one
hundred
percent.”***



“Ako kasi ‘yung tao na in the moment. Gusto kong ramdamin kung ano ‘yung nararamdaman ko at this moment.”

Her maximum time limit for filming her makeup vlogs eats up only an hour of a specific day. “Half of my life kasi, ano na eh, public property. Kaya ‘yung mga maliliit na bagay tulad ng mga bonding namin, ‘yung kain namin sa labas ng pamilya ko at ni Jak, hangga’t maaari, ‘di ko pinopost kasi I’d like to keep it for myself.”

Aside from her privacy, the one thing she values the most is her family. Her parents have been involved in her career as soon as she started living a public life. In fact, her dad who was present at the shoot has admitted being somewhat involved in every project she’s taken on.

INTO THE FUTURE

Despite the many successes and roles she portrayed on-screen, Barbie is not worried about being typecast with a specific role.

“Happy ako na na-cha-challenge pa rin ako hanggang ngayon,” she says. “Yung mga kailangan kong gawin na may mga koneksyon sa heights na ayaw na ayaw ko at ‘di ko gustong gawin pero kailangan ay nagawa ko sa TV.”

She seems energized by it, excited by the chance to explore more of what she can do even if it means transitioning to the big screen. “Sana mas marami akong magawang independent films kasi gusto ko naman i-expose ‘yung sarili ko sa pelikula - basta maganda ‘yung materyal.”



Taken from Kapuso Profiles of www.gmanetwork.com. You may read the full article by scanning this code: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/entertainment/kapusoprofiles/news/16/barbie-forteza-taking-it-all-in-stride/kapusoprofiles>

MANO PO LEGACY

Currently, Barbie plays the role of Steffy Dy, a loyal, hardworking, fearless assistant of Gold Quest President Cristine Chan (Sunshine Cruz). Tensions rise as brothers Joseph (Rob Gomez) and Anton (David Licauco) continue to fall for Steffy.

Barbie has reaped praises for her portrayal, even from her co stars. As Sunshine said: “[‘Yung] makasama sina Barbie, napakagaling! Si Barbie Forteza, sobrang perfect siya as ‘yung aking pinagkakatiwalaan dito na secretary. Ang galing, laging ‘take one’ at saka puro monologues ha. I am really impressed sa kanya.”

In a PEP interview, Rob Gomez shared: “Barbie’s great. She’s amazing. She’s such a great actress kaya sometimes pinapanood ko na lang siya kapag umaarte...She’s kind and super approachable. Again, I feel so honored working with her. I hope we get to work together more.”❤️



The much-awaited sequel to the
Philippines' No. 1 show for 2021



Directed by: LA Madrideo and
associate director Rechie del Carmen
Weeknights | GMA, GTV, and Heart of Asia



Cassy Legaspi, Sanya Lopez, Clarence Delgado, and Patricia Coma



Sanya Lopez and Boboy Garrovillo



Samantha Lopez, Isabel Rivas, Francine Prieto, and Sanya Lopez



FIRST LADY

Sanya Lopez and Rocco Nacino

“
We have a good team that brought us to where we are right now.”

- Gabby Concepcion

GMA Entertainment Group proudly presents one of the Network’s most anticipated series and the sequel to the Philippines’ No. 1 show for 2021, *First Lady*.

With the upcoming presidential elections, the series will also serve as a timely and relatable source of entertainment for Filipinos nationwide. Political and research consultants, including a national elections political strategist and a member of the Presidential Management Staff (PMS), were hired to help to create a realistic view of the First Family’s daily life.

THE STORY

First Yaya ended on a happy note with the fairytale romance of President Glenn and Melody. The newlywed couple navigates

new territory and delves into trust and doubt; change and tradition; and the line of clear communication that will challenge their marriage. As Glenn seeks another term to his presidency, Melody needs to reassess and find her place once more in her husband’s ever-chaotic and busy life.

THE CAST

The original drama stars once again the swoon-worthy pairing of award-winning actor Gabby Concepcion as President Glenn Acosta and brilliant Kapuso actress Sanya Lopez as First Lady Melody Acosta.

Playing important roles are Pancho Magno as he reprises his role as PSG Captain Conrad Enriquez, head of PGA’s security detail and the primary protector of the First Family; Ms. Pilar Pilapil as Blesilda, the headstrong mother of PGA

who will stop at nothing to protect the presidency; Boboy Garovillo as Florencio, Melody's father who passed away but still appears to her visions; Maxine Medina as Lorraine, Assistant Secretary of the Presidential Communications and Head of the Speech Writers Group and Melody's former rival turned "frienemy"; Thou Reyes as Yessy, Presidential Management Chief-of-Staff who also holds the post of Presidential Spokesperson; and Ms. Sandy Andolong as Edna, the loving and streetwise mother of Melody.

Back to showcase more spark and fun are Cassy Legaspi as Nina Acosta, the eldest daughter of PGA who is also running for a position in her school government; and JD Domagoso as Jonas, Nina's boyfriend who also joins the school campus elections but ends up competing against her. Also returning to the series are Clarence Delgado as Nathan, the second child of PGA whose resolve is tested when his family is besieged by challenges to their stability and security; and Patricia Coma as Nicole, the youngest child of PGA who is closest to Melody.

Returning to the series as well to spice up the lives of PGA and Melody are the well-loved characters of Kakai Bautista as Pepita; Anlyn Barro as Gem Rose Reyes-Agcaoili; Glenda Garcia as Marni Tupaz; Cai Cortez as Norma; Thia Thomalla as PSG Lt. Val Cañete; Anjo Damiles as Jasper Agcaoili; Jon Lucas as Titus De Villa; Jerick Dolormente as Lloyd Reyes; Muriel Lomadilla as Bevs; Kiel Rodriguez as PSG Paul Librada; Atak as Impak; Cecil Paz as Jesse.

NEW CAST MEMBERS

Making the series more exciting is seasoned actress Alice Dixon as Atty. Ingrid Domingo, a political strategist that eventually gets hired by President Glenn Acosta's (PGA) team. She is revealed to be Glenn's former girlfriend. Award-winning actor and one of GMA's prime leading men



Rocco Nacino steps in as Mayor Moises Valentin, a rising political star and young hotshot Mayor of "Magat" City.

The other addition to the powerhouse cast includes Isabel Rivas as Allegra Trinidad, a former First Lady and former number 1-elected senator. She's the queen bee of a group of three former first ladies terrorizing the new first lady and former yaya, Melody; Francine Prieto as Soledad Cortez, a former first lady initially loyal to Allegra who ends up becoming an adversary; Samantha Lopez as Ambrocía Bolívar, another former first

lady who is loyal to Allegra; Shyr Valdez as Manang Sioning, a veteran staff of the Presidential palace who was on leave but is now back to make sure that everything is in order; John Feir as Teddy, President Glenn Acosta's Campaign Manager; Divine as Bella, Yessy's office assistant and Ingrid's double-agent.

THE CREATIVE TEAM

First Lady is under the supervision of the GMA Entertainment Group headed by SVP for Entertainment Group Lilybeth G. Rasonable, VP for Drama Cheryl Ching-Sy, AVP for Drama Helen Rose Sese, Senior Program Manager Ali Nokom-Dedicataria, and Executive Producer Joy Lumboy-Pili.

The drama is a product of the visionary minds of Concept Creators Jojo Tawasil Nones and Marlon G. Miguel; Creative Director Aloy Adlawan; Content Development Consultant Ricky Lee; Creative Head Dode Cruz; Creative Consultant Kit Villanueva-Zapata; Headwriter Jojo Tawasil Nones; Senior Writers Marlon G. Miguel, Christine Badillo-Novicio, and Obet Villela; and Junior brainstormer Jai Shane Canete. ❤️



Sanya Lopez, Gabby Concepcion and Alice Dixon

DIGITAL DIGEST

LATEST PODCAST, ONLINE NEWS, AND MUSIC

GARRETT BOLDEN'S PWEDE PA BA?

Kapuso Soul Balladeer Garrett Bolden's self-penned single *Pwede Pa Ba?* immediately climbed to the third spot of iTunes PH when it was released last January 28.

"The song is about the cliché feeling whenever you break up with someone or when you fall out of love with

someone. There's that regret and the longing to go back to the relationship but you're not sure if 'Pwede pa ba?'" he says.

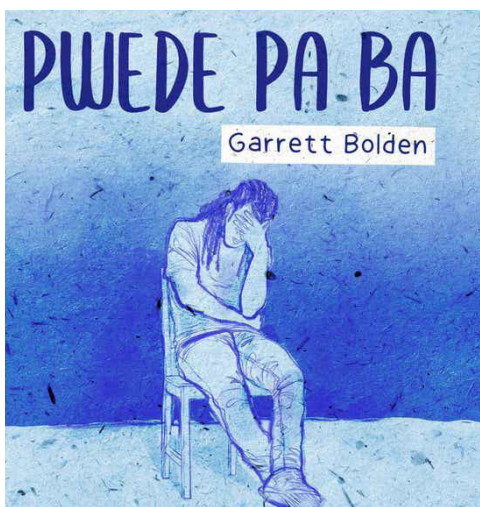
The Clash Season 1 alumnus has been tapped to sing the theme songs of various GMA dramas such as *Agimat ng Agila*, *The World Between Us*, and *Stories from the Heart: Love on Air*. His first self-penned single *Our Love* was specially selected to be the official music of the primetime series *I Left My Heart in Sorsogon*.❤

THE HOWIE SEVERINO PODCAST

Did you know that Connie Sison didn't expect to become a journalist? In fact she majored in Psychology back in college. How did she end up in the industry and what's her secret to being one of the most successful news personalities in the country?❤

BEHIND THE SONG

Crystal Paras reveals how she related to her song *Hintay*, which revolves around the hope that her lover can wait for her even while she tries to reach for her dreams.❤



JARGON BUSTER

Media lingo you need to know



BUBBLE GANG: 25 YEARS IS NO JOKE

Explaining a joke is hardly ever funny, but wouldn't you like to know how the Philippine television's longest-running sketch comedy program managed to "chew it" on air for more than 25 years?

The creators of *Bubble Gang* broke down seven of their most iconic sketches, revealing little-known facts and timeless secrets exclusively for GMA News Online. ❤️



The logo features the GMA network logo in blue and red, followed by the word "Lifestyle" in a large, purple, sans-serif font.

Travel, food, health, fashion, beauty, and more Lifestyle stories you love

GMA LIFESTYLE WEBSITE

Enrich and live your life with intention this New Year as GMA Network launches its new website GMA Lifestyle (www.gmanetwork.com/lifestyle) - the latest addition to its array of online platforms to provide lifestyle content as well as to promote GMA's lifestyle shows and celebrities.

GMA Lifestyle visitors can browse articles, galleries, and videos under the eight main sections varying from their interests: News, Travel, Food, Health & Fitness, Fashion & Beauty, Relationships, Home, and Shopping. It also has two minor sections, Polls and Quizzes, that netizens can equally enjoy participating in. ❤️

A-Roll

The main portion of audio video footage in a news story

B-Roll

Supplementary material to complement the A-Roll, such as establishing shots or graphical overlays.

Hot Roll

Showing live footage during the broadcast.

Ad Lib

Spontaneous or unscripted talk

Bumper

A piece of visual material inserted at the end of one newscast segment to allow for a smooth transition to another segment

Crawler

Text or words moving across the screen

Lineup

The list of all the elements - copy, voice overs, reports, commercials in the news program, from start to finish in order of appearance

GMA joins thousands at Expo 2020 Dubai Philippines National Day

Thousands of Filipinos forming part of the 700,000 strong community in the United Arab Emirates came in full force to support the festivities during the celebration of the Philippines National Day in Expo 2020 Dubai last February 11, 2022.

GMA Network was invited to be part of the official Philippine Delegation to this milestone event. GMA International's First Vice President and Head of International Operations Joseph Jerome T. Francia represented the network.

Some of the highest officials from the United Arab Emirates and the Philippines attended the event such as Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Ramon M. Lopez, Philippine Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Her Excellency Hjayceelyn M. Quintana, Philippine Consul General in Dubai Hon. Renato N. Dueñas, and Department of Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary for Migrant Workers Paul Raymund Cortes.

Spectators were awed to see the Philippine Flag projected at the Al Wasl Dome. The plaza was filled with fun and excitement when some of the most talented Filipinos based across the entire UAE came together to give spectacular performances.

“Napakalaking selebrasyon po ito ng Filipino Community dito sa UAE at napakahalaga ng mensahe nito para sa ating mga kababayan sa buong mundo.”

Joseph T. Francia
First Vice President and
Head of Operations
GMA International

After the flag-raising ceremony at the Bangkota, the week-long celebration officially opened with a colorful grand parade that highlighted Filipino traditional costumes and music around the *Avenue of Nations*.

One of the main highlights of the event was the *Daluyong ng Diwa* or *Tides of Our Soul*, an original musical featuring the Philippines' outstanding artists and performers including Bayang Barrios.

Similar to festivals in the Philippines, a food fiesta was held at the Philippine Pavilion where different restaurants showcased sumptuous Filipino delicacies.

The Philippines is one of 192 countries represented in this Expo, which is the first to be held in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia, and is said to be the biggest Expo staged so far.

“At Expo 2020, under the theme *Connecting Minds, Creating the Future*, we aim to chart a better and more sustainable tomorrow for everyone and we are thankful for the Philippines' substantial contributions to our purpose,” UAE Minister of State His Excellency Ahmed Bin Ali Al Sayegh said in his statement.

The Philippine Pavilion is called Bangkota, the ancient name for coral reef. It tells the fascinating and inspiring 4000-year journey of the Filipino people, starting when Austronesians started settling in the Philippine islands.

“[The coral reef] represents the Filipinos because you can really see them starting with one polyp and connecting with another, and then eventually building a community, and that is what the Filipinos



VIPS in BangkotaPH Pavilion



Gala Night presentation crowd



From left first row: Joseph T. Francia, Marian Roces, and Prof. Ambeth Ocampo
Back row from left: NHCP Chair Rene Escalante and Prof Xiao Chua



DTI Secretary
Ramon Lopez

are around the world. They move, they go to different countries, sometimes they work there or migrate and eventually they build communities,” DTI Sec. Lopez said.

PH Ambassador H.E. Quintana believes the Philippines’ participation in the event is historic. “There has been a lot of anticipation of what we are offering to the Expo and this spectacle was just mind-blowing and really touches the



Joseph T. Francia
and FILCOMMS

hearts of many people. And that’s what the Expo is all about. It’s connecting us with each other, it’s able to touch us in a very special way. And it’s good that we have been an instrument of that.”

“There are lots of Filipinos joining us to celebrate this special day. This is one of the highlights of our participation in the Expo 2020. This is a time to be proud of our heritage and of course our participation in this significant event in the community of nations,” Consul General Dueñas added.

DFA Asec. Cortes explained how meaningful this cheerful event was for Filipinos all over the world. “Ang Bangkota ay kuwento ng paglalakbay ng mga Filipino mula sa Pilipinas at kung saan man sa mundo at ipinapakita natin kung ano ‘yung kwento at kung ano ang kontribusyon ng ating mga kababayan. We try so search for ourselves and as we try to make lives better for ourselves and the community we transplant ourselves in.”

Bangkok Over-all Curator Marian Pastor Roces explained how their modern take on the Pavilion’s design can help improve the image of the country to the world.

“We were convinced at the very start of this project, that the Philippines needs to update its image of itself. And updating doesn’t have to be built purely on conjecture, or speculation or fantasy. We can fantasize but it must be built on something. And so we built the pavilion on updated science.”

“Nagagalak po ang GMA Pinoy TV na maging bahagi nitong Dubai Expo 2020 Philippine National Day. Napakalaking selebrasyon po ito ng Filipino Community dito sa UAE at napakahalaga ng mensahe nito para sa ating mga kababayan sa buong mundo.” GMA International Head Joseph Francia said.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Filipinos were able to come together, in true Bayanihan spirit, to share the beauty and grandeur of Philippine heritage, culture, and tradition to the world. Our countrymen are indeed #StrongerTogether when they dream and work together.

The Expo 2020 is open until March 31, 2022. Watch the highlights of the Philippine participation at the Expo 2020 on GMA Pinoy TV and various GMA outlets.❤️



QUICK CHAT
with
BIANCA UMALI

Bianca Umali gushes over unforgettable experience in HBO Asia's Halfworlds



Credits to HBO Asia

Kapuso actress Bianca Umali could not contain her excitement for the world to see her on HBO Asia's original series *Halfworlds* which will premiere this year. She bagged the lead role in the fantasy thriller series which is now in post-production.

"We shot for the series for about a year and a half. But the whole thing has been in the making for five years already," Bianca said on GMA Pinoy TV's *Quick Chat*.

Asked about her most memorable moment in doing the series, she said that auditioning for the main role is definitely one for the books.

"After a month, when I was finishing 'Sahaya,' I received the call. [The audition master] finally said na 'Congratulations, you got the part!' I remember crying. I had to leave the set. I had to go behind the tent and call my lola agad kasi kailangan kong sabihin na 'Mama, I got the part!'"

Bianca feels blessed and privileged to be part of the series which is under the helm of internationally-acclaimed filmmaker Mikhail Red.

"Honestly, hindi pa siya nagsi-sink in talaga. Kahit na lahat ng remarks na sinabi nila, how the executives describe me, I think it will never sink in. HBO is surreal talaga. Napakataas na pangarap

nu'n. Never ko pa nga siya pinangarap eh pero dumating siya sa akin."

Bianca's achievement is something that every Filipino around the world can be proud of. By supporting her and other Pinoy talents who are making a name for themselves in whatever industry they are in, Filipinos become #StrongerTogether.

"It humbles me and hindi ako makapaniwala na ito na ako ngayon. Kaya walang humpay na pasasalamat!"

Visit www.gmapinoytv.com/subscribe for more details! Follow GMA Pinoy TV on social media to stay updated on your favorite Kapuso shows and stars.❤️

Watch these 5 unique Kapuso love stories on Amazon Prime Video!

Do you enjoy binge-watching out-of-the-box love stories? Then, these five GMA Pinoy TV programs on Amazon Prime Video should be on your must-watch list this Kapuso month!



ASAWA KO, KARIBAL KO

Headlined by Kris Bernal, Thea Tolentino, Jason Abalos, and Rayver Cruz is an unconventional love story of a woman and her gay ex-husband who faked his own death to live a new life as a woman. What will they do when their paths cross and they fall in love with the same man?



BECAUSE OF YOU

Top-billed by veteran actor Gabby Concepcion, Carla Abellana, and Rafael Rosell, *Because of You* is a romantic comedy series about Andrea whose heart got shattered when his groom-to-be left her at the altar on their wedding day. To mend her broken heart, she got a career move where she meets the clothing line magnate and widower, Jaime. Will she finally get the happy ending she deserves?



THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

May the best ex-girlfriend win! Starring Lovi Poe, Max Collins, Rhian Ramos, and Dennis Trillo, *The One That Got Away* tells the incredible story of three independent and gorgeous women who dated the same guy. Can they be friends with each other, or have they found the perfect opponent vying for the love of their life?



ONANAY

Onanay tackles the selfless love of a mother who has achondroplasia. Despite her condition, Onay was able to raise her daughter Maila into a nice and attentive lady. Together, they found Natalie, Onay's long-lost daughter who is arrogant and disobedient. Onay will do the best she can to win her daughter's heart. The cast members include Jo Berry, Wendell Ramos, Mikee Quintos, Kate Valdez, Ms. Cherie Gil, and Superstar Ms. Nora Aunor.



MY FAITHFUL HUSBAND

Real-life couple Dennis Trillo and Jennylyn Mercado paired up in the romance drama series *My Faithful*

Husband. The show tells the story of a married couple, Emman and Mel. Upon meeting again her former boyfriend, Mel suddenly feels confusing emotions. Will she remain faithful to her husband?

Don't miss out on these one-of-a-kind stories. Stream now in the USA and the UK by logging on to [primevideo.com](https://www.primevideo.com). New users can sign up on Prime Video to enjoy a 30-day free trial and watch exclusive GMA titles.

Amazon Prime members are provided streaming access to the GMA collection which is available in the following territories: US, UK, Rest of World (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, British Indian Ocean Territory, Brunei, Christmas Island, Cocos Islands, Cook Islands, Heard Island and McDonald Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Botswana, Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, Anguilla, Antarctica, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bouvet Island, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Mauritius, Montserrat, Saint Helena, Saint Kitts And Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent And the Grenadines, South Georgia And the South Sandwich Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks And Caicos Islands, United States Minor Outlying Islands).

Feel the love and be #StrongerTogether with GMA Pinoy TV this February.

Download the Amazon's Prime Video app now or visit <https://www.primevideo.com/>. Restrictions may apply. Learn more at [primevideo.com/terms](https://www.primevideo.com/terms). ❤️

LIFEspirations This February GMA Life TV

Kapuso personalities shared their heartwarming stories when they finally found the ONE in this latest episode of GMA Life TV's "LIFEspirations".

When you have found the one,
everything falls into place



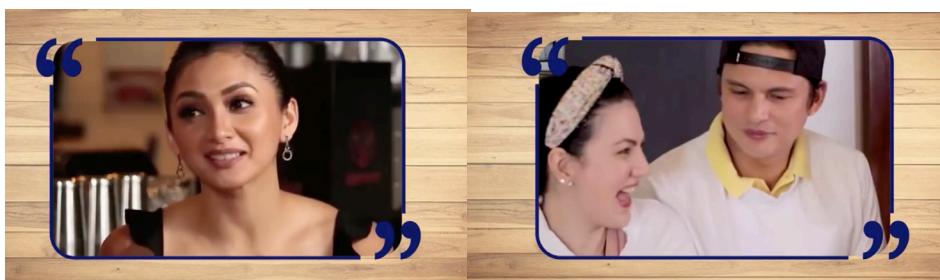
GABBI GARCIA

"Masaya kasi we're both on the same page."

PAULEEN LUNA

"We like having dinners out. We go to mass together."

When you're in love, life
takes a turn for the best



IYA VILLANIA

"All the more I got to love him as he got older."

CARMINA VILLAROEL

"Marami rin akong gustong baguhin sa kanya pero 'wag na lang. Kasi sa tagal ng pagsasama namin, tinanggap ko na."

"LIFEspirations" is a monthly theme-based montage of inspirational quotes culled from GMA Life TV's banner programs that speak volumes about life, love and other important life events.

Subscribe to GMA Life TV for more inspiring quotes



Pockets of Hope GMA Pinoy TV

Roxanne Vasquez is a human resource professional in Washington, USA. In this #PocketsOfHope video, she shares how painting by numbers helped her and her officemates deal with anxiety and fear.

GMA Pinoy TV, through its newest interstitial "Pockets of Hope," is encouraging everyone to share the things that helped them weather these trying times.

Share your #PocketsOfHope with us! Email your story, photos, and videos to pinoyinbox@gmanetwork.com! #StrongerTogether

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**

The **GMA** Pinoy TV Podcast

“

Sa mga Kapuso abroad, hindi n'yo po alam kung gaano na namin kayo ka-miss. Thank you so much pa rin na kahit magkalayo tayo for the meantime, you still show your support to all of us through all the things that we do, especially to the Kapuso network. I really miss performing in front of a live audience and I can't wait for it to be back so ingat lang kayo diyan mga Kapuso.

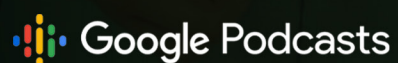
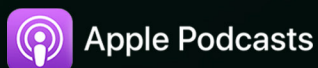
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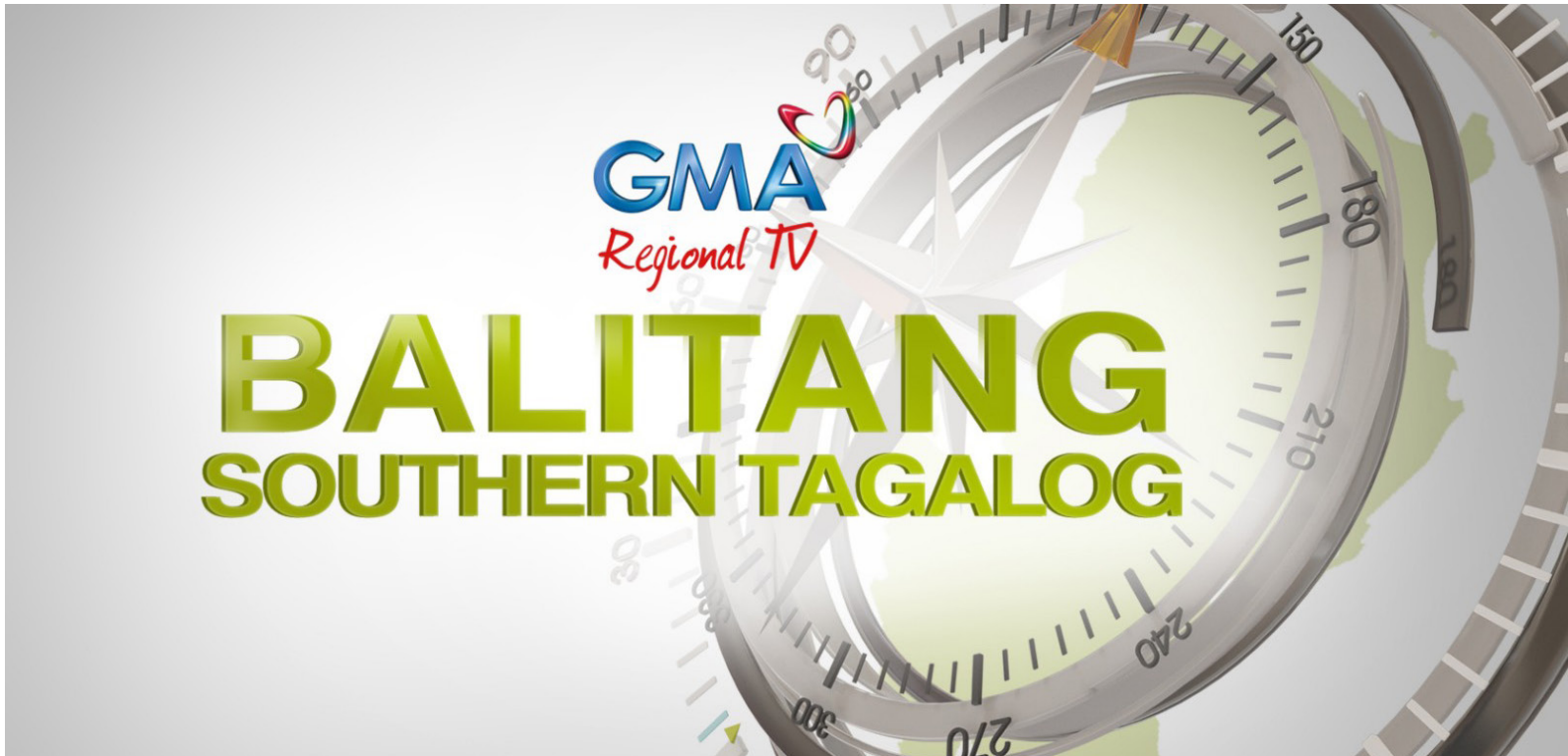
ALDEN RICHARDS'

message to Pinoys abroad

Stronger Together: The GMA Pinoy TV Podcast

Available on





GMA Network solidifies reach and presence with 11th regional station, GMA Batangas

This February, GMA Regional TV—the regional arm of broadcast giant GMA Network—is expanding its reach in Southern Luzon by launching its 11th regional station GMA Batangas and introducing its latest flagship newscast, *GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog*.

GMA Batangas, which can be accessed by viewers via GMA TV 12 on free TV and GMA Affordabox, is GMA Network’s fourth regional station in Luzon after GMA Dagupan, GMA Ilocos, and GMA Bicol. It also makes available GMA Network’s local and national programs in Batangas, Quezon, Laguna, and the rest of CALABARZON.

To complement this new regional station, GMA Regional TV is proud to present the latest addition to its roster of award-winning and top-rating local newscasts: *GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog*.

Airing weekdays at 5 p.m. beginning February 14, *GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog* is anchored by Ivy Saunar-Gasang with Ace Medrano as local news co-anchor.



GMA Regional TV, led by its First Vice President and Head Oliver Victor B. Amoroso (center), is expanding its reach in Southern Luzon by launching its 11th regional station, GMA Batangas, and introducing its latest flagship newscast, “GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog.” Joining him in the photo are (from left) GMA Batangas news producers Andrew Bernardo and Ilonah Manalo; GMA Regional TV Batangas - Southern Tagalog Station Manager Darlene Leviste-Mangubat; “GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog” anchors Ace Medrano and Ivy Saunar-Gasang; and GMA Batangas news producer Lorenzo Ilagan.

It is the seventh flagship newscast from GMA RTV following the successful launches of local newscasts *GMA Regional TV Balitang Amianan* (North Central Luzon), *GMA Regional TV Balitang Bicolandia* (Bicol), *GMA Regional TV Balitang Bisdak* (Central and Eastern Visayas), *GMA Regional TV One Western Visayas* (Western Visayas), *GMA Regional TV One Mindanao* (North, Central, South Central, and Southern Mindanao), and its flagship national newscast *Regional TV News*.

“We are proud to introduce GMA Network’s latest regional station GMA Batangas and GMA Regional TV’s newest flagship newscast, ‘GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog.’ With GMA Batangas, we further strengthen the reach of the country’s leading Network to more viewers in Batangas, Quezon, and Laguna. ‘GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog,’ in turn, stays true to our motto ‘Local news matters.’

It brings viewers in Southern Luzon the latest news and information that are close to their hearts,” said GMA Regional TV and Synergy First Vice President and Head Oliver Victor Amoroso.

Amoroso also expressed his gratitude to the GMA Network management for supporting this latest milestone. “We are grateful to GMA Network Chairman and CEO Atty. Felipe L. Gozon and GMA President and COO Gilberto R. Duavit, Jr. for trusting GMA Regional TV through the years. We are with them in their goal of giving back to our true bosses—our viewers,” he added.

In 2021, amidst the global pandemic, the Kapuso Network thru GMA RTV, successfully launched its local weekday newscast in Bicol, *GMA Regional TV Balitang Bicolandia*, and opened its fourth regional TV station in Mindanao, GMA Zamboanga. With GMA Batangas, GMA

Network further cements its strong presence in the regions.

Catch *GMA Regional TV Balitang Southern Tagalog* weekdays at 5 p.m. via GMA TV-12 Batangas on free TV and GMA Affordabox.

All the freshest news, events, and updates about GMA Regional TV are now available via GMA RTV’s official website www.gmaregionaltv.com and @gmaregionaltv on YouTube. Follow GMA Regional TV on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram via @GMARegionalTV.

For more updates on GMA Network, visit www.GMANetwork.com and www.gtv.ph



A GUIDE TO THE COVID-19 ALERT LEVELS

Here are the COVID-19 alert levels in a nutshell, based on the IATF guidelines as of Dec. 14, 2021.

ALERT LEVEL 1

- Areas with low and decreasing COVID-19 case transmission and low hospital admissions.
- Movement is allowed for people regardless of age, and with comorbidities.
- Establishments are allowed to operate at full capacity with minimum health standards.
- Face-to-face classes subject to the Office of the President's prior approval.

ALERT LEVEL 2

- Areas with low and decreasing COVID-19 cases but with increasing hospital admissions.
- Movement of people for all ages is allowed, but Local Government Units (LGUs) may impose restrictions not stricter than those of higher alert levels.
- Establishments are allowed to operate at a maximum of 50% indoor and 70% outdoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals and below 18 years old. Please refer to the IATF website for the list of allowed and not allowed activities and venues.
- Limited physical classes for higher education, technical-vocation, and basic education subject to prior approval of the Office of the President.

ALERT LEVEL 3

- Areas with high and/or increasing COVID-19 cases and high hospital admissions.
- Movement of people is allowed, but LGUs may impose restrictions not stricter than those of higher alert levels. People below 18 years old and belonging to vulnerable population are allowed to go out for essential goods and services, or for work in permitted industries and offices.
- Establishments are allowed to operate at a maximum of 30% indoor and 50% outdoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals. Please refer to the IATF website for the list of allowed and not allowed activities and venues.

ALERT LEVEL 4

- Areas with high and increasing COVID-19 cases and high hospital admissions.
- Movement restrictions for those below 18 years old, above 65 years old, with comorbidity or other health risks, and pregnant women. Fully vaccinated individuals under the abovementioned age bracket and health condition categories shall be allowed to participate in the permitted activities. Please refer to the IATF website for the permitted activities.
- Establishments with Safety Seal Certification are allowed to operate with maximum of 10% indoor and 30% outdoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only. Please refer to the IATF website for the list of activities and venues allowed.

ALERT LEVEL 5

- Areas with alarming high COVID-19 cases and hospital admissions.
- Movement of people is limited to accessing goods and services from permitted establishments, for work in such establishments, or for other activities allowed under this alert level.
- Minors and over 65 years old, people with comorbidities and other health risks, and pregnant women are required to remain inside their residences at all times, except for obtaining essential goods and services, for work in industries and offices or such other permitted activities. For the complete list of permitted establishments to operate, persons allowed to work, and activities under this alert level, please

ANG BAGONG KAPUSO WEEKDAY HABIT

DAPAT
ALAM
MO!

TUWING
5:30PM



GMA  Gtv

GMA

LOVE
Together,
HOPE
Together

HAPPY KAPUSO MONTH

Huwag mawawalan ng pag-asa dahil wala tayong hindi kakayanin as long as we love and hope together. Happy Kapuso Month!



Scan the QR code above to watch the Kapuso Month music video.