## PR-AAV-044-2018

## WIKA, KULTURA AT KASAYSAYAN SA EMBAHADA, ARAW NG PAGTATAPOS



Philippine Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, H. E. Alfonso A. Ver, delivering his Welcome Remarks during the Graduation ceremony

The Philippine Embassy in Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain held the first Wika, Kultura at Kasaysayan sa Embahada (WIKKA) graduation ceremony on 30 November at the Embassy grounds. The graduating children initiated the singing of the National Anthem and the recitation of Panunumpa ng Katapatan sa Watawat which they learned from their class. H. E. Ambassador Alfonso A. Ver delivered his welcome remarks to the students and parents followed by the performance of the students, volunteer teachers and awarding of certificates for the graduates. Students who were able to complete the 8-week classes were given special recognition for the perfect attendance. Parents have provided positive feedback about the program and hence expressed that they and their children are looking forward to the continuation of the project next year.

The WIKKA sa Embahada Program aims to provide young Filipinos in Bahrain, particularly those who were born and raised here and are attending local or internationals schools with the opportunity to learn the Filipino language, re-connect with their roots and be familiar with PHL history & culture.END



Singing of the National Anthem by the graduating students



Sabayang Pagbigkas from Bayani Class



Mamang Sorbetero song and dance performance from Mabuhay Class



Poem from Bayani Class "Kayamanan" by Ralph Ivahn Red



Graduates from Mabuhay Class together with H. E. Alfonso A. Ver, Madame Ver, Consul General Maria Paz Cortes and the volunteer teachers.



Graduates from Bayani Class together with H. E. Alfonso A. Ver, Madame Ver, Consul General Maria Paz Cortes and the volunteer teachers.

TO: SFA

RT : OSCR- Cultural Diplomacy Division, OUIER-CDU

FR: MANAMA PE

RE: Wika, Kultura at Kasaysayan sa Embahada, Araw ng Pagtatapos

DT : 03 December 2018

RT : OMEAA,OPD

CN

Post reports that it conducted the commencement exercises for the very first batch of students of its Wika, Kultura at Kasaysayan (WIKKA) sa Embahada project. A total of 28 children ages 5 to 11 completed the program. The graduation ceremony was held on Friday, 30 November 2018 at the Embassy grounds.

The kids showcased the different dances, songs and poems which they learned in their 8-week class. The volunteer teachers also participated in the program with a song and dance, showcasing the Cariñosa.

The WIKKA sa Embahada Program aims to provide young Filipinos in Bahrain, particularly those who were born and raised here and are attending local or internationals schools with the opportunity to learn the Filipino language, re-connect with their roots and be familiar with PHL history & culture.

Having received very positive feedback from the students and parents, Post hopes to be able to institutionalize the program. However, Post reiterates its recommendations in ZMM-1351-2018 dated 27 November 2018, that cultural projects must receive separate funding and not be dependent on availability of Post representation.

Attached is a draft Press release for the Department's consideration.

MARIA PAZ CORTES Chargé d'i affaires, a. i.