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Watch a concert, support PWDs

BY JONATHAN LUMOGDANG

ILOILO City — Persons with disability (PWD) are inviting the public to watch an inspirational concert on December 9 featuring singing celebrity Alvin Barcelona with Himaya Band.

The city government, through the Office of the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (OPDA) in cooperation with JCI Regatta and SMPC Singles Ministry, will hold a concert for a cause at the Jaro Plaza Covered Gym in Jaro district at 5 p.m.

"The tickets were almost sold out. Thanks to our sponsors who help us in making this a possible one. The proceeds of this concert will be used to support the various laudable projects of our disabled peoples' organizations particularly in this city," said Dolores Laudenario, OPDA head.

On other hand, outstanding PWDs will be recognized and honoured during the "Huwaran nga may Kasablagan 2010" awards for their exemplary achievements and contributions in helping their fellow PWDs and their community.

The event will coincide with the International Day of People with Disability on December 3 to be held at the SM City Event Center at 1 p.m. The same ceremonies will be happening elsewhere in Panay Island.

This year's theme for international celebration is "Mainstreaming Disability in the Millennium Development Goals."

The International Day is a global affair dedicated to unite disability organizations, people with disability, businesses, governments and communities in celebrating the achievements of people with disability, according to Edward Ello, senior technical officer of Handicap International (HI) Umwad Project.

It also aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well being of people with disability, Ello said.

"Being one of the organizers in this year's affair, we hope to liberate the people with impairment from discrimination. The time has come to express our plight and be able to engage the sector in any of the development projects and services that they truly deserve," said Ello.

Moreover, simultaneous activities will be held on the same day, spearheaded by the disabled peoples' organizations, local government units and supported by HI-Umwad Project in the municipalities of Batad, San Dionisio and Concepcion in Iloilo, and Barbaza and Lau-an in Antique./PN



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