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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Humanities Guåhan Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

September 30, 2021, HAGÅÑTA, GUAM - Humanities Guåhan is pleased to announce our 30th anniversary! Officially incorporated in 1991, Humanities Guåhan, also known as Guam Humanities Council, is an independent non-profit organization and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency.

Our organization is dedicated to fostering community engagement and dialogue, inspiring critical thinking, celebrating diversity and enriching the quality of life for island residents through the power of the humanities. Through public humanities programs we connect the ideas and traditions of the Guåhan community with the methods of scholars and academics, from interpretive exhibitions, family literacy, community grants and literary tours to cultural workshops and performances, food democracy tours, community conversations, and digital projects and publications. These programs help us to rethink our perspectives, ask questions about our diverse histories and cultures, and better understand one another in our daily lives.

As Humanities Guåhan reflects on our 30-year journey in sustaining the humanities on our island, we want to thank the numerous local, regional and national institutions, organizations and agencies that have provided the grant support necessary to carry out our work. We are also continually grateful to the diverse group of partners, artists, scholars and authors who have over the years made our work fulfilling, meaningful and a labor of love.

Our organization has also been nurtured by our cohort of former and current Board of Directors, Executive Director Kimberlee Kihleng, and our dedicated staff members through the years, including the late John AB Pangelinan who served as the Fiscal Officer extraordinaire for 16 years before his untimely passing in 2020. In speaking about Humanities Guåhan, Board Chairwoman Elfrieda Koshiba remarked, "Just as our work is dedicated to sustaining Guåhan through the humanities, our work is also sustained by our island community, and the CHamoru value of *inafa'maolek* (to make good)," which we hope to always contribute to and honor.

In response to the current surge in COVID-19 cases our island is experiencing, Humanities Guåhan is celebrating our 30th anniversary virtually through a series of engaging social media posts via [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). We also invite the community to visit our social media pages to share short messages of appreciation, and www.humanitiesguahan.org to learn more about our past and current programs.

“It has been a real privilege to lead Humanities Guåhan for the past 16 years, and most importantly, to serve the Guåhan community through the public humanities. The history, culture and experiences of our island’s indigenous CHamoru people are highlighted in all our work as we also recognize and celebrate the rich diversity that is contemporary Guåhan. *Biba Kompliaños* Humanities Guåhan!” Kimberlee Kihleng

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