UNLV Performing Arts Center Welcomes
The Bayanihan Philippine National Dance Company Oct. 3

Las Vegas, Nev. – The UNLV Performing Arts Center welcomes the Bayanihan Philippine National Dance Company at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3 as part of the New York Stage & Beyond Series. Founded by Dr. Helena Benitez, Bayanihan received a rave review in The New York Times who called the performance “An evening of enchantment … rare and sweet grace.”

Bayanihan takes its name from the ancient Filipino tradition of working together for the common good; the company was the first Filipino group to perform on Broadway and the first non-American dance company to perform in New York's Lincoln Center.

A multiple award-winning company, Bayanihan has awakened a new pride among Filipinos in their cultural heritage; preserved and added a new dimension to the country’s dance tradition; and has built for the country a rich reserve of international goodwill.

Tickets to the Bayanihan Philippine National Dance Company are $35, $50, and $80 and can be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Box Office at 895-ARTS (2787) or by visiting pac.unlv.edu. Student rush tickets are $12.50 each and available one hour prior to each event, based on availability and with valid student I.D. UNLV faculty and staff discounts also are available. A $1 facilities fee, in addition to the ticket price, is charged on all Performing Arts Center tickets. The box office is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Information about all of the season’s performances can be found on the Performing Arts Center website, located at pac.unlv.edu.

Founded in 1976, the Performing Arts Center at UNLV continues to be Southern Nevada’s premier performing arts venue. Located on the north end of the UNLV campus, the PAC hosts a variety of performances each year in three distinct series – the Charles Vanda Master Series, New York Stage & Beyond Series, and the Classical Guitar Series. UNLV and KLVX Channel 10 are graciously sponsoring the season.
BAYANIHAN
THE NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY OF THE PHILIPPINES

HELENA Z BENITEZ: Founder
AMB. ALFONSO YUCHENGCO: Chairman
DR. LUCRECIA R. KASILAG: President
SUZIE MOYA BENITEZ: Executive Director
ISABEL A. SANTOS: Artistic and Costume Director
FERDINAND B. JOSE: Dance Director and Choreographer
MELITO S. VALE CRUZ: Music Director
SHAKIRA MARIS VILLA: Lighting Designer-Technical Director
MICHELLE BELLEZA LUZ RODRIGO SOL CRUZ: Fly Technician
RETCHIE CORRIGIDOR: Fly Technician
HELEN LEGION: Costume Mistress

PROGRAM

EARTH RHYTHMS
The origins of dance from man's early awareness of the dynamic earth: the colors, sounds and rhythms of the wind and the waters, the trees and the animals, and all the elements in nature that cause a quickening of man's rhythmic and musical impulses.

TRIBAL TAPESTRY
Woven into a many-colored tapestry are strands of rhythm and color: young girls gracefully simulating birds in flight, maidens preening flirtatiously, and a Tiboli-Bagobo mix of rhythmic footwork accentuated by the sound of bells.

HISPANIC PAST REMEMBERED
Four centuries of Spanish-European influence evoke memories of the jota, mazurka, polka, and valse danced in the Filipino style, defined by Filipino grace. A bustling trading scene with Chinese, Spanish, Indian, Mexican and Filipino merchants vending precious gems, ancient jars and silken wares, recreates the multi-faceted cultural ambience of times not too long past.

INTERMISSION

MINDANAO SPLENDOR
The clamor of gongs, a flash of weaponry as warriors prime for battle, a bevy of girls frolicking with colorful food baskets, maidens demonstrating the varied ways of wearing the tubular garment called malong, dusky divers pearling the orient seas and finally the "Voyage for Love and Peace", a royal tale of love lost and regained.*

* This original Bayanihan dance piece won the Gold Temple Award for over-all excellence in dance, music, costumes and production at the 47th International Folklore Festival in Agrigento, Sicily in February 2002. Three years later on the 50th Anniversary of the same festival, this piece again won the coveted Gold Temple Award in a competition among all previous Gold Temple awardees.

PEOPLE UNDER THE SUN
A kaleidoscope in dance of a village pista or fiesta with all the fun and flurry. It starts with a dance of supplication for a successful fiesta followed by a dance of lights, dawn music from a bamboo band, a friendly competition of skill dances: intricate rhythms from coconut shells, clashing bamboo poles, breath-taking dance on benches piled on benches, a fast-stepping chase and run number, exuberant laughter and joyous singing build up to a rousing festival climax.

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE