

The Crow

Lights, Camera, Advocacy: Honoring Excellence in the 2nd MIS-SHS DocuFest

By Bian Macabiog



2nd MIS-SHS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

Lights, camera, action! The 2nd MIS-SHS DocuFest Awards returned with great enthusiasm, showcasing the creativity and talent of our senior high students in a day that celebrated the art of storytelling through film. Held on November 5, 2024, this gathering was more than just an awards ceremony; it was a powerful acknowledgment of the impact that youth-led documentaries can have in inspiring, educating, and entertaining viewers.

Building on the success of the first online DocuFest, this year featured an impressive collection of 50 unique entries competing for top honors. Each documentary revealed a distinct narrative, emphasizing the diverse voices and innovative ideas of our young filmmakers. This event reminded us of the hard work, creativity, and dedication that went into each film, and it provided a fantastic platform for our students to shine.



Sir. Ellis in Opening Remarks (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

Sir Ellis opened the event with encouraging words, fostering a spirit of unity and inspiration among all participants. The atmosphere was filled with excitement as winners in various categories were announced, each one deserving recognition for their remarkable contributions.

The atmosphere was charged with excitement as the winners for various categories were announced. The title of Best Teaser was awarded to *Likod ng Pisara*, produced by the talented team of United Nations Productions, which includes Cairo Miguel Carillo, Felix Banaag III, Martha Filart, Jesseca Antonia Salangsang, and Claire Honesty Tolentino. Their captivating teaser set the stage for a mesmerizing experience.



United Nations Productions, winner for Best Teaser (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

Following this, the Best Poster award went to *Magkaibang Mundo*, skillfully crafted by Hermoine Baligod. A well-designed poster captures the essence of the film, and Hermoine's work truly encapsulated the theme and spirit of her project.



Hermoine Baligod, winner for Best Poster (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

In the realm of sound, the award for Best Musical Scoring was presented to Rafael Andrei Tolentino for his work on *Inbetween Days*. Music is a vital part of storytelling, enhancing emotions and deepening the audience's connection to the narrative.



Rafael Andrei Tolentino, winner for Best Musical Scoring (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The editing that shapes a film's final form was recognized in the Best Editor category, where Alejandro Encabo took home the award for *I Don't*. His editing skills have undoubtedly added rhythm and coherence, bringing the film to life in a way that is both engaging and poignant.



Alejandro Encabo, winner for Best Editor (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

Cinematography, which transforms scripts into visual spectacles, is crucial in filmmaking. Felix Banaag III and Miguel Carillo received the award for Best Cinematographer for their stunning work on *Likod ng Pisara*. Their ability to frame scenes artistically has left a lasting impression.



Felix Banag III and Miguel Carillo, winners for Best Cinematographer (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The importance of a strong narrative was emphasized when Jesseca Antonia Salangsang and Claire Honesty Tolentino's screenplay for *Likod ng Pisara* won the Best Screenplay award. Screenwriting is an intricate craft that lays the foundation for storytelling, and their talent shines brightly in this category.



Jesseca Antonia Salangsang and Claire Honesty Tolentino, winners for Best Screenplay (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The winner for Best Director, announced by Veronica Claro (previous Best Director winner), was *Likod ng Pisara* by Claire Honesty Tolentino.



Claire Honesty Tolentino, winner for Best Director (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The winner for Best Reporter, announced by Ms. Gee, was Adrian Judaeo Baquero for *Screenagers*.



Adrian Judaeo Baquero, winner for Best Reporter (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The competition for Best Picture was intense, with notable rankings announced by Ms. Gee. In 3rd place was *I Don't* by Sayonatsi Productions, followed closely by *Screenagers* in 2nd place by Jvr Films. The coveted 1st place award for Best Picture went to *Likod ng Pisara*, a testament to its exceptional storytelling and production quality.



I Don't by Sayonatsi Productions, 3rd place winner for Best Picture (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)



Screenagers by Jvr Films, 2nd place winner for Best Picture (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The triumph of *Likod ng Pisara*, collecting awards for Best Teaser, Best Cinematographer, Best Screenplay, Best Director, and ultimately, Best Picture, is a brilliant reflection of the dedication and talent within our school. This event not only showcased individual accomplishments but also highlighted the collective spirit of the MIS-SHS community.



Likod ng Pisara by United Nations Productions, 1st place winner for Best Picture (Photo Credit: Yuan Tabor)

The 2nd MIS-SHS DocuFest Awards was not merely a celebration of victories but also a heartfelt tribute to the filmmaking journey of every participant. Each entry contributed to a vibrant collection of ideas and stories, reflecting the heart and soul of our younger generation. The creativity and passion exhibited by these aspiring filmmakers leave an inspiring mark on our community. The MIS-SHS community celebrates the artistic expressions that will undoubtedly emerge, eager to witness the next wave of creativity that our students will bring forth.

Congratulations to all the winners, participants, and organizers for making this event a success. Let us keep the spirit of creativity alive and continue to explore the world through our lenses. Until we meet again at the 3rd MIS-SHS DocuFest, may our creative sparks continue to ignite brilliance in every story we choose to tell!