

Filipino-American Historical Society of Hawai'i

Knowledge of history and culture for respect and understanding.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A Preview of Two New Filipino Documentaries

***Hawaii Eskrima Masters* and *Living Treasure* to be shown at October's FilCom Sunday**

Sunday, October 30, 2016, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Filipino Community Center, 94-428 Mokuola Street, Waipahu

As part of October's Filipino History Month celebration, FilCom Sunday at Waipahu's Filipino Community Center will feature preview screenings of two ongoing documentary projects. Both projects are presented by the Filipino-American Historical Society of Hawaii.

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Hawaii Masters of Eskrima is a project documenting several of Hawaii's masters who laid the foundations for and have been influential in today's practice of eskrima in Hawaii and abroad. While eskrima -- a Filipino martial arts also known as kali or arnis -- has gained popularity in the U.S. and around the world, Hawaii's contribution has often been neglected.

Nine Oahu eskrima schools from Beretania, Ewa, Halawa, Kalihi and Waipahu are featured in *Hawaii Masters of Eskrima*. In this screening, a 45-minute preview of selections from the final cut will be presented. The final product will be a DVD with each school articulating their own history, philosophy and approach to the martial arts. This project is funded in part by the Hawaii Council for the Humanities and the UHM Office of Multicultural Student Affairs.

Living Treasure, is the second film in *The Sakada Series*, a series of three short documentaries capturing the personal stories and successes of Hawaii's sakadas. Sakadas are Filipino contract workers who immigrated to Hawaii between 1906-1946 to work in Hawaii's sugar and pineapple plantations. *Living Treasure* highlights the life of Angel Ramos, a sakada who immigrated to Hawaii in 1946 to work for the Kahuku Sugar Plantation.

Angel Ramos was honored as a "Living Treasure" in 1998 by the Honolulu City Council for his lifetime of diligence in keeping the history of the Filipino plantation worker in Hawaii alive by sharing his stories, artifacts and photographs. *Living Treasure* will feature some of Angel's artifacts and photographs, as well as anecdotes from one of his entertaining "Plantation Talk Story" events at the Kahuku Public Library. This project is funded in part by the Honolulu Mayor's Office for Culture and the Arts, the Atherton Family Foundation and Boutique de Voile.

For more information, send email to: fahsoh808@gmail.com.

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