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Headlines: ends proponents of leadership courtyard project Green flag on Managaha, Tinian

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Micronesia December icons and the best of 2016

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IN Micronesia, islanders continue to celebrate their cultural independence through the performing arts — vocals, instrumental music and dance.

These include numerous cultural expressions that reflect human creativity and are also found, to some extent, in many other intangible cultural heritage domains including rituals, festive events or oral traditions.

The following individuals help promote the importance of Micronesia's balanced environmental culture and traditional lifestyle.

Best of 2016

Best cultural lifestyle: Bryson Kim, Kambes Kesolei, Bibbie Ileberang Kumangai, Bryan Manabat and Harry R. Fritz

Best environmental lifestyle: Richard Brooks, Fran Castro, Douglas Nelper and Umiich Sengebau

Best films: "Chamorro Dance" by Bryson Kim, "Soudelor Saipan Strong" by Sveta Hunter, "Kids from Chuuk" by Sarah Filush, Under Water Film by Lightning Strikes Production with Richard Brooks, Island Entertainment by Ongnung Kambes Kesolei a.k.a. "okk"

Best Underwater photo: Ben Clark

Best art and creations: Scott Weers fashion design, Tribe Marianas, 670 Rock Steady Shop and Michael Pablo Design, MegaVision El Drako Tattoo, Rey Sablan fashion design, Aliikai Concepcion, Guam Trees and Totts Otei

Nutrition icons: Nora Glasby, Barney Anotonio Jr. Brandon

Best athletes: Zarinae Spong, Salofi Welch, Felisa Brel, Frank "The Crank" Camacho

Best photo-journalists: Kambes Kesolei & Bryan Manabat

Best writers: Chad Blair, Jaime Vergara, Zaldy Dandan, Greg Borja, Jack O. Romolor, Ambrose M. Bennett and Barak Cook

Best sports journalists: Jim Tobin, Vicent "Ben" Salas II, Roselyn Monroyo, Emmanuel T. Edriano, Bill Jaynes and James Sablan

Best of Dec. 2016

Culture and lifestyle: Totts Otei, Alan R. Seid, Chamorro culture by Bryan Manabat, Palau culture by Kambes Kesolei, Saipan culture by Junhan B. Todino, FSM by Bill Jaynes

Environment and lifestyle: Guam Sunset and Sunrise by Gino Bais and Richard Santos, Saipan nature scenery by Antonio Cabrera, Palau nature by Harry Rubasch Fritz, Palau underwater by Richard Brooks

Sports and lifestyle: PDN's Nathaniel Olaguer, MV's Vicente "Ben" Salas II and James Sablan

Best films: "Palau National Sanctuary Day" by Tets Emesiochel, Island Entertainment by Ongrung Kambes Kesolei a.k.a. "okk."

Best underwater photo: Ben Clark, Richard Brooks and John Nolan

Art and creation: Joseph Blascruz, Ric Castro, Scott Weers fashion design, Tribe Marianas, 670 Rock Steady Shop and Michael Pablo Design, MegaVision El Drako Tattoo, Rey Sablan fashion design, Aliikai Concepcion, Guam Trees and Totts Otei

Cultural traditional beauty: Tally Nakamura, Leah Moses, Theola Mikel, Singe Hideos, Visia Ise and Veronice Trolii

Culture Icons: Visit Guam Chamorro Culture and History, Liana Hofschneider, Kambes Kesolei, Dr. Takuya Nagaoka, Uduch Sengebau Senior, Alan R. Seid, Tina Sablan and Sayun Marumoto

Cultural Advocacy and Preservation: Mereuir Rechucher, Chaloma Trolii, Bill Jaynes, Ezekiel Etioi, Gino Bais, Kambes Kesolei, Liana Hofschneider, Akiko Udui, Nancy Rengiil, Peggy Hanser, Santy Asanuma, Faye Bennet and Kiko Cruz

Nutrition Icons: Chris Tenorio, Joanna Camacho Reed, Maryann Calvo, Jeffrey Alfonso, Barii Ngiraikelau, Barney Antonio, Williander Jones Orak and Chaelene Sherrie

Advocates: Kenny Susuico, Nora Glasby and Palau Fitness Group with Clint Wachi, Josy Termeteet, Julia Lieb Sage, Elgin Lo Elwais and CJ Morros, writers Daisy Iekar, Elaine Cramer, Ellen Toribiong Marcia, Roxenn RTC, Telael Kinsman, Violet Ngirabiang, Tacia Dawson and Willa Melilt

Local diet advocates: Jewel Ngiraikelau, Robinson Reimers, Patrice Santos, Chris Tenorio, Lora Benhart, Joylei Asanuma Isaac, Barney Antonio Jr., Prekei Mers, Aliikai Concepcion, Telael Kinsman, Peggy Hanser, Wilhelmina Brock, Joan Oliverio, Gloria Hunter, Stephanie Obak and Joseph Pablo

Environmental advocacy and preservation icons: FSM's Samson Pretrick and Francis Morales, an environmental activist and advocate of sustainable agriculture who died in Nov. 2015.

Advocates: Will Kruger, Shana Hallowell, Joe Love and wife, Sayuri Marumoto, Berlinda Elilai Ngiraungil, Gordon Glasby, Delia Mariur Kotlaris, Scarlet Wilhence, Shigekazu Hayashi, Ben Clark and Ivan Takamine Mereb

Athlete of the Month: Baby Joe Taimanglo

Advocate: Felisha Brel

Entertainment beauty of the month: Kendall Titiml, Kimie Ueki and Oderai Meluat Stol

Musicals artists of the month: Kendall Titiml, Wilbur Ngirngeterang, Malo Paulis Oderai Meluat Stol, Balty Kitalong Sikyang, Milla Milz Obeketang, Halley Eriich, Sheldon Eich, Fredrick Olsudong and Wayway Elbelau

Comedians of the month: Keeping It 100% Micronesians, Pohnpei Tahitian Men Dancers, Celebrating Kawika & Lukes, Sachie Ngiraungil, Marino Kintaro, Jeff Kintoki, Leompwei Roiie, Leona Leong, Chuukese Vine, Paul Ueki, Merv Melatk, Bernie Ngiralmu, Dee Masang, Lenny Rubak Neal and Scarlet Wilhence

Youth and community: Agape Christian Schools, Voces Youth Choir, Koblerville Youth Learning Center, PEC Youth with Bradley Kumangai and Motherread/Fatherread.

Humanitarian and social work: Lions, Taga Riders, Huangsun, Team Exotic, MPLT, GPPC, Best Sunshine and Empty Vessel

Journalists: Pasifika Renaissance and Dr. Takuya Nagaoka, Civil Beat Hawaii, Pacific Daily News lifestyle, Raquel Bagnol's crime journalism, Tia Belau Culture Belau Photo 101 with Kambes Kesolei and Harry R. Fritz, Kaselehlle Press Pohnpei with Bill Jaynes, MV editor Zaldy Dandan and MV sports reporter James Sablan, Palau 2013, Marilyn Rideb of Hawaii, Chuuk News Update Dan Suda, Belau Photo Group by Harry Fritz, Belau Useful Information with Merv Melatk, Olilai Ikesiil, Palau Fitness by Nora Glasby, Chamorro People on Facebook David Atalig, Chuuk Youth, PEC Youth Bradley Kumangai, MV reporters Bryan Manabat, Junhan Todino, Emmanuel Erediano, Guam Daily Post reporter Jacqueline de Guzman, Island Times' Phillip & Leilani Reklai, Merirei Media LLC Sha Merirei, Palau 2014, '15, '16 News Work Oloik Kazuo

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