



Dear Members of the Alberta Magazine Publishers Association,

I am writing as the Marketing and Communications Director of *The Polyglot*, as well as AMPA's 2024 Volunteer of the Year, to offer my enthusiastic support for Mila Bongco-Philipzig's nomination for Editor of the Year.

Working closely with Mila on the Alberta LitFest launch for our special issue celebrating Philippine arts, culture, languages, and heritage was a truly beautiful experience. I witnessed firsthand how her editorial passion and dedication ignited the audience, creating an atmosphere that was celebratory and inclusive, drawing in people of Philippine heritage and many others.

Mila's is a remarkable editor. She curates by bridging art, poetry, stories, and languages with the expertise of someone who is a leader in several communities: art, literature, children's literature, and community activism. At LitFest, her energy and genuine commitment to the magazine resonated with our diverse community, sparking conversations about the preservation of heritage languages and the celebration of multicultural art and literature. Many people remarked that they did not know that the Philippines is rich with so many incredibly different languages and cultures within the archipelago. This is important because Filipinos are Edmonton's largest immigrant group. Editing an issue on arts and culture from that part of the world has opened up a window for our community into their lived experiences. I believe that Mila's ability to connect deeply with both contributors and readers exemplifies the visionary spirit that this AMPA award seeks to honour.

It is with great confidence and admiration that I endorse Mila Bongco-Philipzig for Editor of the Year. Her work not only enriches our magazine but also contributes significantly to cultural dialogue and community building across Edmonton.

Sincerely,

Catalina Morales Vélez
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