

Adow ne Domaget 2020 KKK Radio Festival – Episode 4

Transcript translated to English

[Program jingle: Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK! Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK!]

James

An energetic day to all our Dumagat mates, Dingaleños, and to all our listeners at the Dumagat Day 2020 Stories, Culture, and Health, only here at Radyo Kaedup 102.9 GM. I am James Renante.

Janine V.

And I am Janine Vargas,

James

And we will be your hosts today in this episode. Janine and I are from the collective, Karilyo. Karilyo is a shadow play group comprised of students from the De La Salle College of Saint Benilde under the Office of Culture and Arts.

Janine V.

Today's program will again be a collaboration between Karilyo and the United Dumagat Youth. Let's get to know our Dumagat youth guests in this episode.

Janine M.

[speaks in Dumagat] I am Janine Magdaong, a member of the United Dumagat Youth, and I will be your co-host, from the town of Dingalan.

James

Good morning, Janine! It's wonderful to have two Janines with us today. We've certainly gained a lot of knowledge from the previous episodes, and we're excited to learn even more today. In addition to expanding our understanding, we'll also be

exploring an essential sector that makes up a significant portion of any community: the youth.

Janine V.

Aside from the vigour and joy brought by us the youth, it is said that the youth is the hope of the nation. So today, the Dumagat youth will be the start of our episode entitled...

Janine and James

The youth is the key to progressing the community!

James

Here are some news these past week that gravely affected the youth especially now at the height of lockdown. Here's the news from [Balitang Tribo stinger]

Salve

Good day to all of you. This is Salve Dagnalan, bringing you the news.

State-sponsored assaults on Lumad schools persist during the COVID-19 lockdown, as reported in an online seminar hosted by Sabukuhan IP Woman on indigenous people's issues. According to teacher Generosa Hayahay, there have been nearly 14 cases of mistreatment against parents, students, and instructors at these schools from July 2016 to February 2023. 671 incidents of attacks and abuse were recorded before the community quarantine was imposed. The education sector has also been affected by COVID-19, with nationwide class cancellations due to the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon and other high-risk provinces. Currently, the Department of Education is grappling with the challenge of providing continued education for students while also ensuring salaries for teachers, staff, and other school workers like security guards and janitors.

One of the proposed solutions is to have online classes, with the aim of continuing classes via the internet. However, many oppose this idea, and there has been

widespread condemnation because not all students have internet access or devices such as smartphones, laptops, or tablets necessary for online classes. The Department of Education (DepEd) conducted a survey on the feasibility of online classes. Most respondents claimed to have access to the internet and sufficient devices for online learning, but many also criticized the survey's reliability, as it could not reach students and teachers who lack internet access.

The Commission on Higher Education or CHED stated that flexible learning includes not just online classes but also self-studying with parents and providing study materials for home use. They are also exploring the use of mass media such as TV and radio to reach students who cannot attend online classes. With the current COVID-19 situation in the country, it is important to be vigilant and critical of news and information we receive. Again, this is Salve Dagnalan, reporting for Tribal News.

Janine V.

Thank you, Salve, for sharing news that affect not just the youth and the community but the entire nation. In Health Talk, how do we contribute to eradicating the COVID-19 pandemic. Let's listen to some advice from Doc Gene Nisperos.

Doc Gene

Good day, I am Dr. Gene Nisperos from the Community Medicine Development Foundation. Today, we will delve deeper into the basics of COVID-19 and how the youth can combat it. As a refresher, COVID-19, also known as coronavirus disease 2019, is a highly infectious disease that has affected not only the Philippines but also the rest of the world. Its symptoms include fever, cough, and breathing difficulties. COVID-19 can cause severe illness and even death, but many people have recovered from it. How is it prevented? Contracting the virus can be prevented by regular handwashing, maintaining physical distancing, and wearing a face mask. Another crucial method to control the spread of COVID-19 is through contact tracing, as some individuals may not exhibit symptoms but can still transmit the virus. PCR testing is a reliable way to identify infected individuals by obtaining a sample from their nasal and throat passages. This test allows us to determine who needs to

isolate or seek treatment. Testing also provides valuable data on where the virus is spreading, enabling policymakers to create effective programs and policies to combat the disease. At present, we are calling for mass testing. The call for mass testing does not imply that all Filipinos should be tested. The first ones that should be tested are those with symptoms. Second are those who have been exposed to infected individuals, whether symptomatic or not. Third are the health workers who care for COVID-19 patients. Testing is important to determine which ones have the virus, and once we've identified them, we can proceed to find out the people they've come into contact. Contact tracing enables us to investigate, test, and isolate those individuals to prevent further transmission of the virus.

In all of these, what is the role of the youth? As I have mentioned previously, young people possess two distinctive characteristics. Firstly, they have a strong resistance to illnesses, making it less likely for them to contract or become severely ill from diseases. Even if they do contract an illness, their symptoms are usually limited to the common flu, body aches, and fever. Secondly, young people are adept at using technology and can easily access information online. So, how can they contribute? They can aid our community health committees, barangay health emergency response teams, and community health workers in our barangay. Their responsibilities could include disseminating accurate information about COVID-19 through various means such as creative presentations, songs, and poems. Additionally, they can assist in contact tracing efforts due to their ability to move around our community quickly, identifying potential COVID-19 cases and helping to isolate them.

However, it's crucial to provide young people with proper orientation and training before mobilizing them to assist. This training will equip them with the necessary information to share and disseminate accurately. Furthermore, it's essential to provide them with adequate protection such as masks and other necessary tools for their tasks. Most importantly, we must offer them support, not just moral but sometimes financial support as well. For example, they may need assistance with food and transportation while working in our community. All of these measures will

encourage our youth to take an active role in combating COVID-19. That's all for now. Remember, correct information is a powerful tool in fighting this pandemic. Have a great day!

Janine M.

Thanks a lot, Doc Gene, for sharing your insights. The youth, indeed, plays a crucial role in spreading accurate information about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Janine V.

I think we should also consider the significance of our role in promoting the cultural heritage and artistic traditions of our roots, isn't it, Janine?

Janine M.

Yes. Even us, the Dumagat youth, bear the responsibility of preserving especially our dying culture and traditional stories.

James

Today in Art Jamming, we are highlighting a traditional story that we collected last year when Karilyo visited Dingalan. We held a workshop together with some members of NKD to translate and draw stories, and one of the tales we created came from Andre Fajardo. In the past, his family would hear footsteps wandering around their house, but upon searching, they found nothing except for the footprints of large boots. Join us on Art Jamming as we listen to the radio drama entitled "Boots."

[Bota]

Janine M.

Through our continued communication and play with our Dumagat youth peers, we have created a diverse range of artworks.

James

Janine, at Karilyo, we have gained valuable insights and experiences through our collaborative workshops and play activities. Our learning extends beyond creating stories to understanding and appreciating our fellow youth in indigenous communities. That's why we decided to showcase "Boots," given its various meanings and relevance to our current situation. Your story has truly captivated and inspired us.

Janine V.

That's true, Janine, your rich cultural heritage as Dumagat youth serves as a constant source of inspiration for us. In fact, during one of our visits to Dingalan, we came across a song by Jessabel Friginal that deeply resonated with us. We will have the opportunity to interview her today on Dumagat Culture.

Janine V.

Hello Jessa, good day to you.

Jessabel

Good morning to everyone. I am Jessabel Friginal, from Matawe. I'm the president of the United Dumagat Youth here in Cabog.

Janine V.

Please tell us more about the title of the song you composed and what it is about.

Jessabel

The song is "Diola Di Kami," which means here in our place. I created the song because I realized that as our youth grows, we do not have a distinct song that represents us. So, I composed a song in our language that has a modern touch and can be easily sung by our youth. This is important because singing this song allows us to acknowledge and appreciate that we have something that is truly ours. It highlights our ability to create something that's uniquely our own.

Janine V.

You were able to let your parents and elders listen to this song, right? How did they respond to it?

Jessabel

Initially, I played the song for them. At first, they didn't have much to say about it. However, when I wrote the lyrics on the blackboard, there were certain words that sparked a debate between us. I told them that we were open to receiving their feedback, so I listened to their explanations and shared my perspective as well. Eventually, we came to an understanding and there were no further issues.

Janine V.

After that, did you try to modify the song?

Jessabel

I opted not to modify the song as it was meant to be, but I clarified to them my reasons for choosing certain words. They were satisfied and expressed their delight that we were able to create a song that resonates with our culture.

Janine V.

It's really important to be receptive to feedback from our elders while also encouraging them to listen to the perspectives of the youth, as demonstrated by your experience with your song. Before we end this interview, is there anything you would like to share or say to fellow youth, or perhaps express gratitude to someone?

Jessabel

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to showcase our culture and traditions. I am also thankful to my fellow youth who have helped me. We will stay together no matter what life brings and face any challenges with strength. That's all I wanted to share.

Janine V.

Very well! Thank you very much, Jessa, for being part of Dumagat Day Festival 2020 KKK. We hope that you can compose more songs with NKD, who knows, perhaps we can jam next time. Without further ado, let's listen to "Diola Di Kami" brought to us by the United Dumagat Youth.

["Diola Di Kami"] [AnD 2020 KKK stinger].

James

That's impressive! It's touching that the Dumagat youth has created their own song in their own dialect. Because of this they are able to express their voice and talent.

Janine M.

So fellow Dumagats, let us not be shy, but show our beautiful culture, our songs, our poems and plays, because culture is our root, the culture of the tribe and the community identifies us as a society and as a person. So, we should be proud of it.

Janine V.

To our listeners, we will proceed to the last part of our episode this Saturday, the **Community Stories**. Janine, what is the **Community Stories**?

Janine M.

This gathering is part of the annual Dumagat Day Festival, a gathering of our elders and leaders wherein they talk about their knowledge and experiences. But in this case, not the elders but the youth will have a discussion.

James

Our discussions will be plenty and rich, so let's listen to Community Stories

James

We cordially introduce our guest for today, Renelyn Domer, and Alysa Curioso, who used to be the president of NKD.

Alysa

First of all, I greet everyone, all our listeners, a good day. I am Alysa, a representative of the indigenous youth here.

Renelyn

Greeting all Dingaleños listening here. I am Renelyn Domer, presently residing here in Cabog, Barangay Matawe, in Dingalan, Aurora.

Janine V.

Great to have both of you today, Alysa and Renelyn. We have some questions for you. First, what is the understanding of the Dumagat youth of the COVID-19 crisis situation?

Alysa

From my understanding, the origins and transmission of this pandemic, COVID-19, remain unknown to me. Based on what I have seen on TV, it causes severe illness.

Renelyn

In my opinion, the current state of events justifies referring to this illness as a pest. Its widespread presence and impact, not only in the Philippines but also globally, make it clear that this is not a mere illness or crisis that we are currently facing.

James

How are you affected by COVID-19?

Alysa

I have been significantly impacted because a lot of things unfolded, various activities needed to halt, my work and the festival that we had planned. However, through media channels, we were able to broadcast the Dumagat Day Festival.

Janine V.

Previously, indigenous people enjoyed unrestricted freedom to pursue their interests without any hindrance or restriction. Some used to work outside of our town, but they're now unable to do so. They fear being caught and prohibited from doing so. What we could only do now is comply with rules that prohibit leaving our area.

James

How do you earn your living? Are you able to receive government aid or harvest some crops?

Janine V.

We don't really harvest enough from our farm to sustain ourselves. At present, we are reliant on government aid. While the current situation is not ideal, one positive outcome is that indigenous people have returned to traditional methods of farming such as slash-and-burn techniques to grow plants and vegetables. They now spend more time on it since people have moved to the mountains to avoid wasting time due to their inability to work.

Janine V.

Apart from staying at home, what measures do you take to protect yourself from COVID-19?

Alysa

What we do to prevent these diseases is consume root crops to boost our immunity and prevent illnesses. That's been a part of our Dumagat cultural beliefs for generations. That and chewing betel nut, which is another thing we believe in to combat COVID. Also consuming root crops such as sweet potatoes and bananas strengthens our bodies. Leaves, we boil them and drink the tea, which we believe

helps to protect us from illnesses. These practices have been passed down to us by our elders.

James

I agree, we should strengthen our body resistance. That's important.

Renelyn

We also adhere to the regulations for personal hygiene, such as handwashing and using alcohol. As indigenous people, we have our traditional medicinal practices, but we now comply with modern medical treatments, like tablets, etc.

Janine V.

Yes, that's also correct.

James

What do you plan to do after this lockdown? When the coronavirus is gone?

Renelyn

When the lockdown is lifted, we'll continue studying. What I want after this lockdown is to graduate from school.

Alysa

I have a strong desire to pursue my studies and return to school, especially since as young people, we are already at a disadvantage. Despite the current lockdown, I urge indigenous youth to stay motivated to study, as I can see they are already heavily involved in supporting their families through work. We should be studying now, but circumstances in the world have left us with no choice but to wait and remain resilient. I sincerely hope that our Dumagat youth will continue to study.

Renelyn

Some of us may have discontinued going to school, but it is evident that many of us still aspire to graduate. Education is a constant reminder from our parents, especially as indigenous youth, as it is one of the few **things** they can pass on to us. Completing our education means we can avoid the struggles they currently face in life.

Alysa

It is the most valuable wealth and inheritance that our parents can give us.

James

What you said was beautiful, Alysa and Renelyn. You know what, I really hope this COVID-19 pandemic ends so we all can go back to school.

Janine V.

As Dumagat youth, how do you think you can achieve your dreams?

Renelyn

Facing challenges is an inevitable part of life, and it's important to remain resilient despite any difficulties we encounter. Even if we're experiencing financial hardship, it's crucial to maintain hope in God and not lose our faith.

Alysa

As a young person, I understand that obstacles will arise on the path to achieving our goals. As an indigenous youth, I must strive to cultivate perseverance, resilience, and determination, and focus on the future rather than dwelling on the past. As an indigenous youth, it's important to stay present and focus on what's ahead, envisioning what we want to achieve, and working towards making it a reality.

Janine V.

Thank you for all that you shared with us, Alysa and Renelyn. We hope and believe that you will reach your aspirations.

James

To all the young listeners out there, let us hold on to hope and not give up. As Alysa and Renelyn have demonstrated, we can achieve our dreams by putting in hard work, determination, and keeping our focus on the future. [Adow Ne Dumaget stinger].

Janine V.

Alysa and Renelyn's insightful messages show that the younger generation indeed holds the key to community development. They truly value indigenous knowledge, particularly in the field of and traditional healing practices.

James

We also learned that despite being impacted by the pandemic, the Dumagat youth remain committed to their education and strive to complete their studies.

Janine V.

At this point, we extend again our gratitude to our guests in this episode of Dumagat Day 2020 KKK including Doc Gene Nisperos, for sharing his valuable knowledge on health, which will undoubtedly assist us in navigating through the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

James

We'd also like to thank the members of the United Dumagat Youth whom we interviewed today, Jessabel Friginal, Alysa Curioso, and Renelyn Domer, for sharing their perspectives and aspirations to continuously strengthen the indigenous community. We can truly say that once our eyes have been opened to the realities of our surroundings, it would be a disservice to ourselves and others to turn a blind eye and not take action.

Janine M.

Indeed, James. One responsibility of the youth to raise awareness. Mobilize others and mobilize the community, especially if we can empower others by sharing our

knowledge and experiences. Next Saturday will be another exciting episode focused on the importance of culture and arts in community development.

James

Until next time, this is James Renante

Janine V.

And I am Janine Vargas from Karilyo,

Janine M.

And I'm Janine Magdaong from the United Dumagat Youth

James

Always keep in mind to clean up and show respect towards nature.

Janine V.

Regular handwashing is crucial for cleanliness.

Janine M.

And the youth is the key to progressing the community!

James, Janine V., and Janine M.

Long Live!

[Program jingle: Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK! Stories, Culture, and Health! KKK!]