



Guampedia.com

Special Edition

Know our island. Know our history. Click to know! — Volume V, Issue IV.

Guampedia is a non-profit affiliate of the University of Guam with operations funded by the Government of Guam's Tourism Attraction Fund.

Guampedia's 14th Birthday



On April 10, 2008, guampedia.com went online with 350 written entries. Over the past 14 years of serving our island as an educational online resource, through community partnerships and collaborations, we have grown extensively from producing website content, with more than 1200 entries to date, to creating programming opportunities for community engagement. Guampedia is truly a community-based project that has been made possible through public and private partnerships and support! As we commemorate our 14th year online, we are extremely grateful to the local

and global community - our supporters, partners and visitors for making Guampedia what it is today! Si Yu'os ma'ase!

A key value in knowing our history is how it helps us to understand where we are today and how to best navigate our future! In celebration of our 14th year on-line, this special "birthday" edition highlights some of the projects we've just completed and upcoming signature events by our partners that provide more opportunities to learn about our rich history and enduring cultural heritage and help chart our course moving forward!

New Histories On How Guam Modernized After WWII



At the end of World War II, Guam was again placed under the control of the US Navy. Guam remained politically separated from the Northern Mariana Islands, which were placed with Japan's other Micronesian territories of Palau, Yap, Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk and the Marshall Islands under a United Nations trust to form the [US Trust Territory of Pacific Islands](#) (TTPI) to be administered by the US.

By the 1950s, with a new civilian government in place and the end of naval rule, the people of Guam began to forge a new direction towards modernity, urbanization and enjoying the opportunities of an American way of life. The term "[Guamanian](#)" reflected a new kind of identity and outlook for the people



Guam Store in 1946/ Courtesy of the Guam Public Library

of Guam, who had survived the atrocities of war. Civilian governors were appointed by the president of the US. However, Cold War politics after World War II increased the US' strategic and military interest in the region, and so Guam maintained large military bases on different parts of the island.

In 1952, the Territorial College of Guam was established by [Governor Carlton Skinner](#). The college moved to its present location in Mangilao, and became the University of Guam in 1965.

In 1960, [Joseph Flores](#) was appointed the first CHamoru/Chamorro governor of Guam. In 1962 President John F. Kennedy lifted the [security clearance](#) that had restricted entry into Guam since 1941. With this order, the island was opened up for tourism to blossom as an industry. The easing of military restrictions for entering Guam and the establishment of a local, civilian government, made the island an ideal place for people from all over the world to visit, go to school, find jobs or pursue a variety of economic interests.

In 1963, under the second CHamoru/Chamorro Governor [Manuel F. L. Guerrero](#), the Guam Tourism Commission was established. The Guam International Airport opened in 1967, and the first flights from



Photo of Governor Manuel Guerrero/ Courtesy of the MARC

Japan via Pan Am arrived on-island. By the end of the 1960s and into the 1970s, Tumon Bay became the focus of a new wave of construction for numerous high-rise hotels, condominiums and entertainment venues.

Guampedia has committed to researching and writing about this exciting era of Guam history in a multi-year project. The first 16 of the new entries, along with oral histories and source documents, can be found at [Modern Guam Rises from the Destruction of War](#), and was made possible with funding support from the Guam Preservation Trust and the Guam Economic Development Authority's Qualifying Certificate Community Contributions program.

“Fanohge CHamoru Put I Tano’-Ta: Charting Our Collective Future” New Exhibition at the Guam Museum



The Senator Antonio Palomo Guam Museum and CHamoru Educational Facility and the Department of CHamoru Affairs announced the opening of “Fanohge CHamoru Put I Tano’-Ta: Charting Our Collective Future” exhibition from March 29 through May 31, 2022. With curated images, objects and art work from the Museum’s collections and personal collections, the exhibition takes visitors through Guåhan’s (Guam’s) 125-year journey in the island’s quest for self-determination.

The exhibition draws inspiration from the words, “Stand Ye Guamanians,” from the Guam Hymn, the territorial anthem penned by Dr. Ramon Sablan, as well as the Inifresi, Guåhan’s pledge to protect our island’s environment and cultural resources written by Dr. Bernadita C. Dungca. The exhibition also incorporates artwork by CHamoru graphic artist and activist Kie Susuico. “Fanohge CHamoru” highlights the efforts by Guåhan’s leaders to forge a path toward greater self-government and civil rights for the people of Guåhan under

American colonialism. It also encourages visitors to imagine and articulate a future that considers multiple viewpoints, interests, and aspirations of the island community as a whole, and opportunities to “picture” themselves in historic moments and alongside people that helped to chart this collective journey.

Dr. Kevin Escudero, a visiting scholar and Mellon/ACLS Scholars and Society Fellow at the Guam Museum from 2020-2021, coordinated the exhibition alongside Guampedia and other local partners. As part of his fellowship, Dr. Escudero was asked by Melvin Won Pat-Borja, Director of the Commission on Decolonization and President of the Department of CHamoru Affairs, to develop an exhibition on decolonization in Guåhan. The exhibition narrative was co-written by Dr. Kevin Escudero and Dominica Tolentino, the former Executive Director of the Guam Museum. The exhibition’s design was co-developed by Odyessa San Nicolas, a CHamoru and Hawaiian graphic designer from Guåhan, and Rita P. Nauta, the Managing Director of Guampedia. The Guampedia

team responsible for the curation and set-up of the exhibition include Dominica Tolentino, Raymond D. Anderson, Delia C. Cruz, Aerial Dimalanta, Nathalie Pereda, Simon Sanchez III, Jodiann D. Santos, Burt Sardoma and Tom Tanner.

The exhibition is made possible with funding from the Guam Museum, Commission on Decolonization (COD), COD Free Association Task Force, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), Brown University and the Governor’s Education Assistance & Youth Empowerment community grant. Special thanks to our community partners who donated the use of their artwork, including the 4th Grade Summer Reading Class from Wettengel Elementary School and their instructors, Dr. Judy Flores, Julie Benavente, Darren Cruz, and Traditions Affirming Our Seafaring Ancestry (TASI).

For Museum reservations as well as a schedule of events and happenings, please call or email Leona Mendiola Young, Museum Administrator, at (671) 989-4455 or leona.young@dca.guam.gov.

2nd Pacific Preservation Summit

Technology & preservation will be the key focus at the 2nd Pacific Preservation Summit scheduled for May 24-26, 2022 at the Guam Museum and various locations in Hagatña along with tours to cultural sites around the island. The theme for the three-day summit is “Technology Empowering Cultural Heritage” or “TECH2022.” The program will focus on the impact of available technology in preserving our region’s historic sites, treasures, and stories so that our communities can continue to tell the stories of our Pacific heritage.

The Summit coordinators, Guam Preservation Trust, with funding support from the Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, is making this event open and free to the public in an effort to promote historic preservation as a public responsibility. Organizers are inviting the Pacific community to engage, discuss and teach one another islander solutions and technology to both advocate and strengthen preservation work to safeguard our Pacific heritage and way of life. Additional information on the Summit can be found online at www.pacificpreservation.org/2022.



1st Annual Sirena Festival

The Leon Guerrero-Tenorio Administration will be launching the First Annual Sirena Festival in Hagatña. Organized by the Hagatña Restoration and Redevelopment Authority (HARRA), the festival will take place on Saturday, May 7, 2022, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Skinner Plaza and Guam Museum.

The festival is an all ages-inclusive and family-friendly event that will feature cultural demonstrations and performers, music, art exhibits, food trucks. Among the activities are a school art contest, scavenger hunt, Sirena costume contest, Famalão'an Fishing Derby, First Annual Sirena Queen and I Matlina coronation, and walking tour of Hagatña's historic sites and monuments, and more.

The inaugural festival is made possible with support from the Office of the Governor, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA), Department of Chamoru Affairs (DCA), Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA), Guampedia, University of Guam Press and other local partners. Sponsors include Ada's Trust and Investment, Bank of Guam, Cassidy's Insurance, Shut Up and Fish Guam and Southern Mountain Gear. The festival is also supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency, Government of Guam, and Office of the Governor.

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