

**I MINA'BENTE NUEBE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN**  
**2008 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Executive Committee**  
**Resolution No. 263**

Introduced by:

Edward J.B. Calvo  
James V. Espaldon  
Frank F. Blas, Jr.  
Benjamin J.F. Cruz  
Mark Forbes  
Judith P. Guthertz  
Frank T. Ishizaki  
Jesse A. Lujan  
Tina Rose Muña-Barnes  
vicente "ben" pangelinan  
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.  
Rory J. Respicio  
Ray Tenorio  
David L.G. Shimizu  
Judith T. Won Pat

**Relative to recognizing the accomplishments of the Saint Francis Children's Choir, and to further recognizing the faculty, the staff, the choir director, the travel organizer of the *Journey of Peace* to the birthplace of Saint Francis of Assisi, and all their families, and to commending the Choir for its continued contributions through the gift of music for the betterment of our Island community.**

1           **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I**  
2 ***MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN:***

3           **WHEREAS,** the Saint Francis Children's Choir has been performing  
4 throughout the island since 1982, and consists of fifty (50) students ranging  
5 from ages nine (9) to fourteen (14) years; and

6           **WHEREAS,** the Saint Francis Children's Choir schedule includes a  
7 grueling practice schedule, twice a week for two and a half (2 ½) hours each  
8 day, as well as, maintaining the academic grade that is required for all  
9 members; and

10           **WHEREAS,** the success of the Saint Francis Children's Choir could not  
11 be possible without the direction of Ms. Catherine Calvo Cruz, who has been  
12 with the Saint Francis School faculty for more than twenty (20) years. Ms.  
13 Cruz, having no formal music education, has managed to bring this choir to a  
14 level of professionalism that even the most accomplished music directors  
15 strive for; and

16           **WHEREAS,** Ms. Cruz, who received her piano education from Mr.  
17 Albert Hoffman, an Austrian pianist, and from Mrs. Carmen Dela Cruz with  
18 the Guam Academy of Music and Arts, is the music director of several church  
19 choirs throughout the island, and is a part-time piano instructor; and

20           **WHEREAS,** Ms. Catherine Calvo Cruz was a lyricist and composer of  
21 the songs – *"It's Christmas on Guam"*, *"The Island Rhythm"*, and *"Peace"* - on the  
22 two (2) compact discs recorded by the Saint Francis Children's Choir, which

1 successfully raised funds to help defray the school's financial burdens in 1994  
2 and 1996; and

3       **WHEREAS**, the Saint Francis Children's Choir performances range from  
4 singing at weddings and funeral masses, caroling for the sick and elderly, and  
5 singing for various private companies and non-profit organizations. Ms.  
6 Catherine Calvo Cruz constantly strives to bring out the passion and love for  
7 music from the children of the choir; and

8       **WHEREAS**, the Saint Francis Children's Choir has been featured at the  
9 Sand Castle during the holiday shows, and most recently had the opportunity  
10 to travel to Saipan to spread their gift of song. The choir has also been the  
11 recipient of numerous first place awards, and they were selected to study and  
12 perform under the direction of several nationally acclaimed music conductors,  
13 including, Dr. Scott Anderson, guest conductor for the 2000 "Voices in Praise  
14 Concert" held on Guam; and

15       **WHEREAS**, a dream of the Saint Francis Children's Choir was to travel  
16 to the town of Assisi – the birthplace of Saint Francis, the school's patron saint.  
17 Mr. Bryan Joseph Chennaux Quinata, the school's Theology and Computer  
18 teacher, prepared fundraising efforts and coordinated the travel arrangements  
19 to enable the choir members to travel on a *Journey of Peace*. The school's  
20 faculty, staff, choir members, and their families, assisted Mr. Quinata in  
21 making the *Journey of Peace* a reality; and

1           **WHEREAS**, the thirty (30) member Saint Francis Children’s Choir, Ms.  
2 Catherine Calvo Cruz, Mr. Bryan Quinata, and family members, realized their  
3 dream of traveling to Assisi, to include a tour of the Vatican City in Rome and  
4 an audience with His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, from October 17 - 29, 2008;  
5 and

6           **WHEREAS**, the Saint Francis Children’s Choir shared their gift of song  
7 during the celebration of Mass at the Papal Basilica of Santa Maria degli  
8 Angeli, a sacred place to all Franciscans. The *Journey of Peace* afforded the  
9 delegation an opportunity to receive a spiritual, educational and cultural  
10 experience they will treasure and remember for the rest of their lives; and

11           **WHEREAS**, the Saint Francis Children’s Choir learned and brought  
12 back to their island a gift that will enable them to make their island  
13 community a better place to grow and live in. Equally significant, the Saint  
14 Francis Children’s Choir left behind in Italy a taste of the Chamorro culture  
15 and the peace of Saint Francis through their angelic voices, through their acts  
16 of peace, and through their living word; and

17           **WHEREAS**, God has blessed our island community with the generous  
18 quality of the Saint Francis Children’s Choir, and with the continued sharing  
19 by the director and the children of their gifts and God-given talents of song;  
20 now, therefore, be it

21           **RESOLVED**, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina’Bente Nuebi Na*  
22 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the

1 people of Guam, recognize the accomplishments of the Saint Francis  
2 Children's Choir, and does further recognize the faculty, the choir director,  
3 the travel organizer of the *Journey of Peace* to the birthplace of Saint Francis of  
4 Assisi, and their family members, and does commend them for their  
5 continued contributions through the gift of music for the betterment of our  
6 Island community; and, be it further

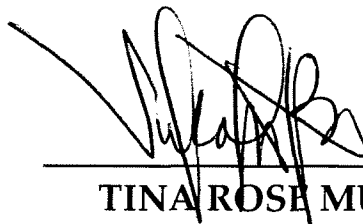
7 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Executive  
8 Committee certify, and the Secretary of the Legislature attest to, the adoption  
9 hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Sister Marsha  
10 Nededog, SSND, Principal, Saint Francis School; to Ms. Catherine Calvo Cruz,  
11 Choir Director, Saint Francis Children's Choir; to Mr. Bryan Joseph Chennaux  
12 Quinata; to Mrs. Cynthia Agbulos, Superintendent of Catholic Schools; and to  
13 the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF I MINA'BENTE NUEBI NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup>  
DAY OF NOVEMBER 2008.**



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**JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED. D.**  
Speaker and  
Chairperson, Executive Committee



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**TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES**  
Senator and  
Secretary of the Legislature