

# Federico Caballero

## The Panay Bukidnon Epic Chanter

*The Voice of Ancient Heroes*

Who he is:

- A Panay Bukidnon elder from Calinog, Iloilo.
- Awarded as a GAMABA in 2000.

Art Form: Epic Chanting (Hinilawod)

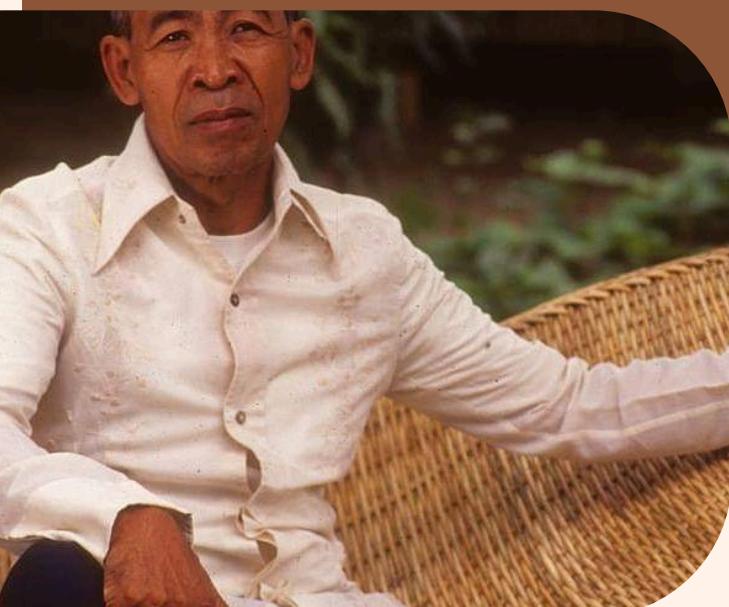
- Hinilawod is a long oral epic that tells stories of ancient heroes, adventures, and moral lessons.
- Passed down orally through generations, it reflects the beliefs, traditions, and values of the Panay Bukidnon people.

His Contribution:

- Caballero worked to record, transcribe, and teach the Hinilawod and other epics to preserve them for future generations.

Meaning:

His chants echo the voices of ancestors — keeping the stories of the past alive in the present.



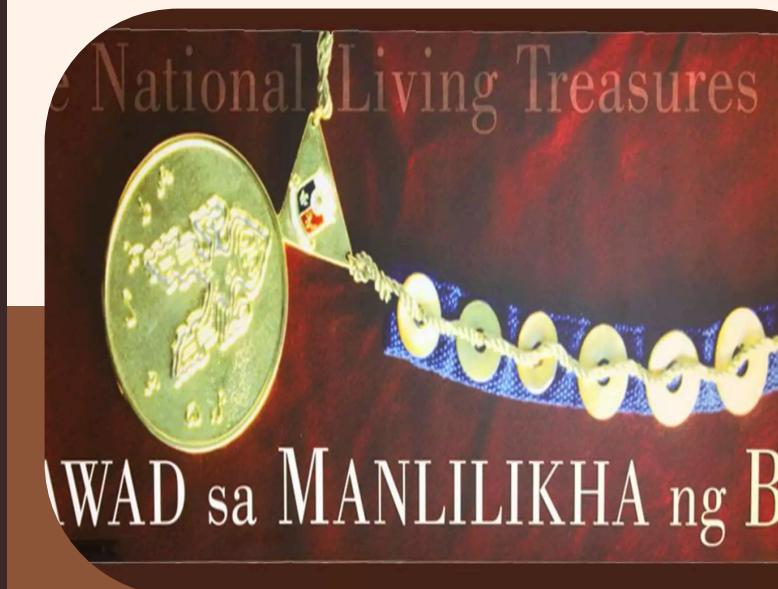
# “ Their Legacy Lives On



- These GAMABA awardees are proof that culture lives through people.
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- Their works remind us to value our roots and appreciate the beauty of indigenous traditions.

**“Let us continue to protect, promote, and pass on our cultural heritage — for it is the soul of our nation.”**

*“Our culture is not just history — it is living art.”*



# The GAMABA Awardees

Honoring Our National Living Treasures

*“Preserving tradition, weaving identity, and chanting our heritage.”*



## What is GAMABA?

GAMABA or National Living Treasures Award is a recognition given by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) to Filipino traditional artists who have preserved and practiced their art forms in a manner that reflects the country's rich cultural heritage.

- Purpose:
  - To honor artists who uphold indigenous traditions
  - To ensure that these art forms are passed on to future generations
- Meaning:
  - "Manlilikha ng Bayan" means "Creator of the Nation."
  - Each awardee represents the living soul of Philippine tradition.



## Lang Dulay – The T'boli Dreamweaver

*The Weaver of Dreams*

### Who she is:

- A T'boli woman from Lake Sebu, South Cotabato.
- Recognized in 1998 as a GAMABA awardee.

### Art Form: T'nalak Weaving

- The T'nalak is a sacred abaca cloth created by T'boli women using designs that come from their dreams.
- Each pattern represents peace, prosperity, and harmony in their culture.

### Her Contribution:

- Lang Dulay preserved over 100 traditional dream patterns.
- She passed down the weaving tradition to younger T'boli women to keep their culture alive.

### Meaning:

The T'nalak is more than a fabric — it's a dream woven into reality, symbolizing the T'boli people's creativity and spirituality.

## Ginaw Bilog The Hanunuo Mangyan Poet

*The Keeper of the Ambahan*

### Who he is:

- A Hanunuo Mangyan from Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro.
- Awarded as a GAMABA in 1993.

### Art Form: Ambahan Poetry

- The Ambahan is a form of poetry with seven-syllable lines, traditionally written on bamboo using Surat Mangyan script.
- It expresses wisdom, emotions, and advice about life, love, and community.
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### His Contribution:

- Ginaw Bilog collected, memorized, and shared hundreds of Ambahan verses.
- He helped preserve the ancient Mangyan script and oral tradition.

### Meaning:

The Ambahan reflects the heart and wisdom of the Mangyan people — a timeless expression of their values and way of life.

