


I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÁHAN
RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No.	Sponsor	Title	Date Intro	Date of Presentation	Date Adopted	Date Referred	Referred to	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE AUTHORS REPORT FILED	NOTES
174-37 (LS)	Roy A. B. Quinata	Relative to recognizing Guma' Râsan A'cho' Latte for their continued efforts in preserving, promoting, and perpetuating the CHamoru culture for the people of Guam; and commending them for participation and achievements in the International Invitational festivities.	8/16/23 1:54 p.m.	TBA						

I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2023 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 174-37 (LS)

Introduced by:

Roy A. B. Quinata 

Relative to recognizing *Guma' Råsan Åcho' Latte* for their continued efforts in preserving, promoting, and perpetuating the CHamoru culture for the people of Guam; and commending them for participation and achievements in the International Invitational festivities.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY *I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN***
2 ***GUÅHAN*:**

3 **WHEREAS**, on February 15, 1999, Saina Brian “BJ” Terlaje initiated hula
4 classes, extending an invitation to all who aspired to learn the art of Hawaiian Hula
5 dances, especially for the youth of *Yona*; and

6 **WHEREAS**, *Saina* Brian “BJ” Terlaje created the Hui Ohana dance group which
7 later merged with Natibu Dance Academy to form the Mañe'lon Natibu Cultural Dance
8 Group. Their performances showcased Hawaiian, Tahitian, and CHamoru dances, and
9 the group honed their skills and achieved success in various competitions; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in 2004, Saina BJ entered and began teaching within the Guam
11 Public School System. Saina BJ’s instructional approach was rooted in preserving the
12 essence of CHamoru culture through dynamic forms of expression, including dance,
13 weaving, traditional songs, and revered chants; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in 2006 Mañe’lon Natibu evolved into *Guma' Råsan Åcho' Latte*,
15 Descendants of the Latte Stone. This transformation marked an extension of *Guma'*

1 *Taotao Tãno'* led by the guidance of Saina Frank Rabon, a distinguished Master of
2 CHamoru Dance. Additionally, in 2008, Saina Brian “BJ” Terlaje was granted the
3 esteemed title of “*Fafa'nã'gue*,” denoting his role as a respected instructor of
4 Traditional CHamoru Dance. This honor was shared with six (6) other distinguished
5 teachers within the realm of *Guma' Råsan Åcho' Latte*; and

6 **WHEREAS**, today, *Guma' Råsan Åcho' Latte* the community-based dance group
7 was then opened to other villages around the island. has an established program that is
8 going twelve (12) years strong; they created “Sister-Cities” between the village of *Yona*
9 and the Municipalities of Kapangan and Tagudin, Ilocos Sur in the Philippines with the
10 help of former Mayor Jesse Blas; and established “Sister-Schools” with GBDIAS High
11 School in Kapangan, Philippines, Benguet State University in La Trinidad, Philippines,
12 Kansai Chuo High School in Asuka, Japan, and Takatori Kokusai High School in Nara,
13 Japan; and

14 **WHEREAS**, throughout its twenty-four (24) year history, *Guma' Råsan Åcho'*
15 *Latte* has received many awards and has participated in many activities on the island
16 and abroad. These activities include the Saipan Flame Tree Festival; the *Dinanña*
17 *Minagof CHamoru* Cultural Dance Competition; the World Hula in Honolulu, Hawaii;
18 Guam Hula Competition; promotions in Tokyo, Japan; the 10th, 11th, and 12th Annual
19 Festival of Pacific Arts in American Samoa, Honiara, Solomon Islands; the 18th Pacific
20 Islander Festival in San Diego California; the 4th *CHamoru* Cultural Festival in Market
21 Creek Plaza, San Diego; and the Pacific Educator’s Conference in Majuro, Marshall
22 Islands, and Koror, Palau; and

23 **WHEREAS**, *Råsan Åcho' Latte* recently represented Guam in Europe for the
24 2023 Vitosha International Folkdance Competition in Sofia, Bulgaria; the Magic of
25 Mezdra International Invitational Folkdance Festival; and the 24th International Istanbul
26 Büyükçekmece Culture and Art Festival in Istanbul, Turkey; and

27 **WHEREAS**, *Guma' Råsan Åcho' Latte* garnered the overall 2nd Place prize and
28 Best in Music Award for the Vitosha International Folkdance Competition. *Guma*

1 *Råsan Acho' Latte* happened to be the only Pacific Islander group to participate in these
2 competitions, not only representing Guam, but the whole Pacific region as well; now
3 therefore, be it

4 **RESOLVED**, that *I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby,
5 on behalf of the people of Guam, recognize *Guma' Råsan Acho' Latte* for their continued
6 efforts in preserving, promoting, and perpetuating the CHamoru culture for the people
7 of Guam; and commend them for participation and achievements in the International
8 Invitational festivities; and be it further

9 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the
10 adoption hereof, and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to the *Saina Brian*
11 “BJ” Terlaje, *Guma' Råsan Acho' Latte*; and to the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon
12 Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE DAY OF 2023.

THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker

AMANDA L. SHELTON
Legislative Secretary