Present . . .

**Hawai‘i and the University of Hawai‘i’s Ilokano Language and Literature Program 50 Years Later**

**Prof. Prescila L. Espiritu**  
Retired, Associate Professor  
Former Coordinator of the Ilokano Language and Literature Program  
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

**About the Speaker:** Prof. Prescila L. Espiritu is the founder of the University of Hawai‘i Ilokano Language and Literature Program and Nakem Conference, Honolulu, Hawai‘i. She began her career in 1971 and retired in 2007 after nearly 35 years of service.

**Abstract:** This presentation discusses the determined quest for the revitalization and maintenance of a significant regional language in the Philippines and the diaspora – Ilokano - through the educational system of Hawaii, the University of Hawai‘i’s Ilokano Language and Literature Program. It chronicles the various means by which pursuit of this mission was to be attained. It begins from the Filipino farm workers’ arrival to Hawai‘i, leading to their roles in contributing to enduring linguistic preservation and a multi-ethnic population. It warns of attitude-driven policies and behavior and inadvertent linguistic complacency, and advocates for a unified movement to fortify a commitment to keeping it alive for generations to come.

**TUESDAY – OCTOBER 19, 2021**  
11:00 am – 12:30 pm Hawai‘i Standard Time

Lecture is FREE and OPEN to the public.

Zoom Registration:  
[https://hawaii.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAKfuurrjkuG9BviwWTR-hSdI2A9f8W2VXn](https://hawaii.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAKfuurrjkuG9BviwWTR-hSdI2A9f8W2VXn)

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