

### 3 Metro cities bag Galing Pook Awards

HREE cities in Metro Manila were among this year's recipients of the prestigious Galing Pook Awards, the Department of the Interior and Local Government announced on Thursday.

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The awards were given to San Juan City, Valenzuela City and Quezon City.

San Juan City was cited for its Kalingap Program or Kaagapay, Lingkod and Gabay sa Pandemic.

“To all who make up our city government and the 21 barangay, thank you very much for your good service and dedication to our people. To my dear San Juaneños, thank you so much for your continued trust and support of our leadership. It will serve as additional inspiration for us in order to carry out all our projects and programs under Modern San Juan to raise the standard of living of everyone. Long live our great city.” Mayor Francis Zamora said on his social media account.

Quezon City was lauded for its GrowQC project, the **QC Human Milk Bank** and Kabahagi Center for Children with Disabilities.

“Congratulations to GROWQC: You are part of Food, Livelihood, and Health Development as one of the ten Awesome Place Awardees in 2021! This is a testament to the local government's efforts to make the city self-sufficient and sustainable through urban farming,” a post on the **Quezon City Government** social media page said.

“We also recognize two other city programs: Quezon City Human Milk Bank, and QC Kabahagi Center for Children with Disabilities who were finalists of this contest. Your city government will continue to improve service delivery to every QCitizen!” It added.

The Human Milk Bank project at the **Quezon City General Hospital** was rolled out during the administration of former mayor Herbert Bautista while the GrowQC and Kabahagi Center projects were introduced by **Mayor Josefina “Joy” Belmonte**.

Valenzuela City, on the other hand, was cited for its Tagalag Fishing Village project, Valenzuela Live: The Valenzuela City Streaming School and Paspas permit.

The Galing Pook Awards is a nationwide search for innovative practices and initiatives by local government units. Beyond showcasing outstanding programs, the awards provide a model for good governance that can be replicated by other local government units.