GAMABA Awardees

Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan Awards or GAMABA is an award that acknowledges folk and indigenous artists who, despite the modern times, remain true to their traditions. It is administered by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) through Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan Committee.

GAMABA began as a project of the Philippine Rotary Club Makati-Ayala. In 1992, it was adopted by the government and institutionalized through Republic Act No. 7335. This award aims to support and motivate these artists to preserve their artistic heritage for the present and future generations. These artists are also recognized as the country's National Living Treasures.

The Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan (GAMABA) or the National Living Treasures Award gives recognition to Filipino traditional craftsmen or artisans whose skills have reached a high level of technical and artistic excellence and who are tasked to pass on to the present generation knowledge threatened with extinction. NCCA chairman Felipe M. de Leon Jr. spearheaded the institutionalization of the award. The law was authored by senators Edgardo J. Angara, Heherson Alvarez, Leticia Ramos-Shahani, Sotero Laurel and congresswoman Kate Gordon. On April 3, 1992, President Corazon C. Aquino signed Republic Act No. 7355, providing for the recognition of the national living treasures, otherwise known as the Manlilikha ng Bayan, and the promotion and development of traditional folk arts. On December 17, 1993, the first awarding ceremony for the Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan was held at the Malacañan Palace.

Look more about GAMABA here: [www.ArtsCrafts.PhilippineCulture.ph](http://www.ArtsCrafts.PhilippineCulture.ph)