Nelson Castillo is an internationally renowned Filipino-American artist who was born in Alaminos Laguna on April 11, 1944.

Castillo showed his potential in arts at the age of four. He would be immersed in his world drawing on walls and pavements of the little town of his youth, using broken pieces of plaster of paris as his chalk.

At the age of six, he started first grade and discovered that the subjects taught were not of interest to him, lost in day dreams, he would then cover all his notebooks with drawings.

He further improved his skills while in high school and earned him the distinct honor of being the “artist of the year” from Luzonian Institute, Tiaong Quezon, in 1956-1957; Likewise from Marcelino Fule Memorial Academy, Alaminos Laguna, in 1957-1960 for four consecutive years.

In 1964, Castillo received his bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. He began painting miniatures in 1968 and was noted as the “father of miniature painting” in the Philippines in 1979. In the same year February 6, his first one-man show of miniature paintings at the Manila Peninsula Hotel fine arts gallery was amazingly sold out.

From that point onward, he head numerous solo group invitational shows and has acted as a judge in many art competitions both in the United States and in the Philippines.

Castillo migrated in America in 1981 and continued his painting career. He joined several Asian and American art associations in Southern California. He teaches art lessons and painting demonstrations in different art associations in the South Bay area that led to his election as Vice President of the San Pedro Art by the Sea Art Association in 1995.

His long time interest in miniatures led to his acceptance into the Florida Georgia North Carolina miniature art societies. Castillo attended a course of “how to market your arts and crafts” and “interior design” at the Los Angeles city college in 1983.

His paintings are in the collection of Hollywood celebrities like Persis Khambatta, the former Miss India who starred in the box office hit film “Star Trek the motion picture”, singer Al Stewart (“year of the cat”), Bob Parkinson and Andrew Friendly (top rated Hollywood Producers and Writers), and Bernie Wayne (composer of the song “Miss America”)
In the Philippines include celebrity Boots Anson Roa, General Alfredo Montoya, Manuel Duldulao, Linda Panlilio and Dr. Rogelio Mandiola.

His paintings grace prestigious hotels like the Manila Peninsula, Philippine Village, Holiday Inn, Hilton and the Silahis Hotel.

This multi-awarded and talented artist is being honoured with the “artist of the year” award at the virgo awards last November 2000, Paman Awards last October 2002 and Reflections XIV on November 2002 in California.

Currently he has more than 100 awards and recognitions from different local and national art competitions.

ART EXHIBIT

2012 January 19 to February 2 - C3G, Castillo Three Generation Art Exhibit, at the Philamlife Lobby, UN Manila, CLICK HERE.