

## ABOUT RYAN CAYABYAB



Regarded as one of the pillars and icons of Original Pilipino Music (OPM) Ryan Cayabyab is lovingly called “Mr. C” or “Maestro” by the Filipinos.

- In 2018, Ryan Cayabyab was proclaimed National Artist of the Philippines in Music for his contribution to OPM
- In September 2019, the Ramon Magsaysay Award was presented to Cayabyab – the only Filipino among the honorees – recognizing him for “showing us all that music can indeed instill pride and joy, and unify people across the many barriers that divide them.”
- In 1978, Cayabyab's composition “Kay Ganda Ng Ating Musika” won 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the first Metro Pop Music Festival (Manila). In the same year, “Kay Ganda

Ng Ating Musika” competed in the international Seoul Song Festival. “Kay Ganda Ng Ating Musika” won the Grand Prix.

- His works range from commissioned full-length ballets, theatre musicals, choral pieces, a Mass set to the unaccompanied chorus, and orchestral pieces, to commercial recordings of popular music, film scores and television specials.
- He is one of the judges in the only season of Philippine idol in 2006
- He became the Executive Director of Philippine Pop Music festival, also known as Philpop, in 2012. The PhilPop MusicFest Foundation Inc. is the organization behind the Philippine Popular Music Festival. This songwriting competition for amateurs and professionals puts the spotlight on songwriters and encourages Filipinos to preserve their unique musical identity.
- As music director, conductor and accompanist, Cayabyab has performed in the United States with leading Philippine music figures, at venues including Avery Fisher Hall in the Lincoln Center in New York City; Carnegie Hall (both the Main and Recital halls) in New York; the Kennedy Center and the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.; the Shrine in Los Angeles; the Orpheum in Vancouver; and Circus Maximus of Caesars Palace on the Las Vegas Strip.
- He has performed as music director in command performances for King Hasan II in Rabat, Morocco, King Juan Carlos and Queen Sophia of Spain in Manila, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia in Tangiers, Queen Beatrix at the Noordeinde Palace in the Netherlands, and U.S. President Bill Clinton in Boston, Massachusetts.
- “Ryan Ryan Musikahan” the television show, has won a total of fourteen awards as Best Television Musical Show and for Cayabyab, the Best Show Host in various television award-giving bodies. Likewise, as an artist, producer, arranger, and composer, he has won a total of eighteen awards from the recording industry for various commercial recordings. He has produced albums of the popular Filipino teen group Smokey Mountain, Broadway and West End’s diva, Lea Salonga, and Spain’s internationally acclaimed singer Julio Iglesias.
- Among his many works, his theatre musicals El filibusterismo (1993) and Noli Me Tángere (1995) have won acclaim and have been performed extensively in the cities of Japan in 1994 and 1996. They received a special NHK broadcast in November 1996, and in Kuala Lumpur in the same year. Another musicale, Magnificat, has had nearly 200 performances.

- His other popular musicals include Katy (words by Jose Javier Reyes), Alikabok, Ilustrado and the classic pop-ballet Rama Hari (words by 2006 National Artist for Literature Bienvenido Lumbera). Katy would become Cayabyab's most famous musical in the 1980s
- Cayabyab composed "Mabuhay", the opening song of Miss Universe 1994 pageant, held in Manila, Philippines
- In 2005, Cayabyab composed the official soundtrack for the 23rd edition of the Southeast Asian Games in Manila. In 2019, Cayabyab composed the theme song for the 30th edition of the Southeast Asian Games, "We Win as One"; with lyrics by playwright Floy Quintos, and sung by Lea Salonga.