

Erica Olavario

visual arts & documentary | ericaolavario.com

Erica Olavario (b. 1994, Manila) is a photo-based artist, printmaker, and filmmaker based in Edmonton, AB. Her dedication lies in crafting immersive digital experiences through the art of visual storytelling. Through her personal branding DIWA, she creates pieces that capture the essence of our collective memory and experience. Her work aims to promote empathy, understanding, and acceptance; while also showcasing the beauty and diversity of different cultures. In particular, she uses her skills and talents to identify and represent the lives of her Filipino diaspora, to connect with her rich heritage and explore the current human condition.

Education

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| 2023 | Haliburton School of Art + Design, Diploma in Integrated Design & Certificate in Photo Arts |
| 2016 | University of the Philippines, Bachelor of Arts, Linguistics |

Languages

Tagalog: Native | English: Fluent | Korean: Intermediate

Selected Exhibitions

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| 2023 | <i>Daluyan</i> , Photo Installation (Analogue & Digital, Cyanotypes, Van Dykes, Ambrotypes), Haliburton School of Art + Design, Haliburton, ON.
<i>Ugnayan</i> , Photo & Video Installation (Analogue & Digital), Haliburton School of Art + Design, Haliburton, ON. |
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Selected Public Screenings

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| 2024 | <i>Ugnayan</i> , The Filipino Channel (TFC), iWantTFC streaming, Worldwide. |
| 2023 | <i>Ugnayan</i> , Screening & Artist Talk, Haliburton School of Art + Design, Haliburton, ON.
<i>Ugnayan</i> , Nominee for Best Short Documentary, San Diego Filipino Film Festival, San Diego, CA.
<i>Ugnayan</i> , Limbic Collective, Haliburton, ON. |

Selected Public Talks & Presentations

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| 2023 | <i>Ugnayan</i> , Artist Talk & Presenter, Memoir and Autofiction in the Asian American Diaspora, Brown University, Providence, RI. |
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Ugnayan, Screening & Artist Talk, Haliburton School of Art + Design, Haliburton, ON.

Selected Publications

- 2025 “‘Kambiyó’ Ignites BIPOC Voices in Edmonton Poetry & Music Scene”. Erica Olavario, *Alberta Filipino Journal*, February 2025.
“Renewal: Breathing Life Into Words”. Erica Olavario, *Alberta Filipino Journal*, January 2024.
- 2024 “Filipino-Canadian artist’s ‘kusikus’ showcased at Alberta Craft Gallery”. Erica Olavario, *Alberta Filipino Journal*, October 2024.
“Exploring Afrofuturism in Textile Art: AJA Loudén’s Prairie Star Deck Exhibition.” Shot & Edited by Erica Olavario, *YouTube, Alberta Craft*, July 2024.

Selected Press

- 2024 Pia Lopezbanos-Carrion. “San Diego Filipino Film Festival Showcase to Premiere on TFC Cable and Satellite.” *ABS-CBN News*
- Mike Baker, et al. “Student Film Sheds Light on Adapting to Highlands.” *The Highlander*, 25 Jan. 2024.
- 2023 “20 Short Films You Shouldn’t Miss at the 3rd San Diego Filipino Film Festival (Part 2).” *Asian Film Festivals*, 29 Sept. 2023.

Awards & Distinctions

- 2024 President’s Honour Roll (HSAD)
Photo Arts Certificate Award (HSAD)
- 2023 Nominee for Best Short Documentary, *Ugnayan*, San Diego Filipino Film Festival
Advanced Haliburton Art Bursary (Fall 2023, HSAD)
East Asia Academic Excellence Entry Scholarship (HSAD)
- 2022 Global Merit-based International Student Scholarship (HSAD)
Advanced Haliburton Art Bursary (Fall 2022, HSAD)

Professional Development

Oct 2024 - Dec 2024 *Web Designer & Social Media Coordinator, Kinshi Rinji (formerly MakiMaki)*

Aug 2024 - Nov 2024 *Seasonal Photo Lab Technician, Smart Photography*

Jun 2024 - July 2024 *Graphic Designer & Gallery Assistant, Alberta Craft Gallery*

Sep 2016 - May 2022 *UX Designer & Web Developer, Ernst & Young*

Volunteer Experience

- 2024
- *Assistant, Justice4Reel Film Festival, Migrante Alberta x the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights (JHC)*
 - *Assistant, Print Affair 2024: The Longest Night, Snap Gallery*
 - *Photographer & Exhibit Assistant, Joint reception: Innovative Threads Contemporary Weaving + Drawn, Alberta Craft Gallery*
 - *Photojournalist/Contributing Writer, Alberta Filipino Journal, Edmonton, AB*
 - *Photographer & Exhibit Installation, Cultural & Heritage Zone, YEG Pinoy Fiesta, UP Alumni Association Edmonton x Philippine Edmonton Events and Arts Society (PHIDEAS)*
 - *Studio Maintenance, Film and Video Arts Society of Alberta (FAVA)*
- 2019
- *Lead Organizer, Building a Colorful World 2.0, Ernst & Young & Concordia Children's Services*
- 2018
- *Lead Organizer, Building a Colorful World, Ernst & Young & Concordia Children's Services*
- 2013
- *Korean Language Class Teacher, UP Arirang, University of the Philippines*
 - *Cultural & Academic Affairs Committee Head, UP Arirang, University of the Philippines*