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The Sakada Series Wins Award in Impact DOCS Awards Competition

(Honolulu, HI, 1/31/18) – *The Sakada Series* (35min), a short documentary produced and directed by Maribel Apuya, has won a prestigious Award of Merit from *The Impact DOCS Awards Competition* for bringing creativity, grit and determination to topics raising awareness around the globe.

Told through the stories of three individuals, *The Sakada Series* provides a glimpse into the world of the Filipino men, and their families, who immigrated to Hawai‘i between 1906-1946: Cipriano Erice, who worked for the Waialua Sugar Plantation; Angel Ramos, who worked for the Kahuku Sugar Plantation and Apolonia Agonoy Stice, who grew up in Lana‘i City in the 1940s.

Maribel Apuya, Producer and Director of *The Sakada Series*, says about her film, “*The Sakada Series* is a universal story of immigration and pursuing the American dream. While it captures the Filipino-American perspective, it is every immigrant’s story who comes to America, takes initiative, works hard and builds a good life. I think there is also something powerful about learning other people’s heritage and histories; the knowing and sharing bridges understanding and builds respect for one another. I’m truly excited and grateful that *The Sakada Series* has been recognized by Impact DOCS.”

Impact DOCS recognizes film, television, videography and new media professionals who demonstrate exceptional achievement in craft and creativity, and those who produce standout entertainment or contribute to profound social change. Documentaries were received from 30 countries, including veteran award winning filmmakers and fresh new talent. Entries were judged by highly qualified and award winning professionals in the film and television industry.

In winning an Impact DOCS award, Maribel Apuya joins the ranks of other high-profile winners of this internationally respected award including the Oscar winning director Louie Psihoyos for his 2016 Best of Show – *Racing Extinction*, Oscar winner Yael Melamede for *(Dis)Honesty – The Truth About Lies*, and Emmy Award winner Gerald Rafshoon for *Endless Corridors* narrated by Oscar winner Jeremy Irons, and many more.

Rick Prickett, who chairs Impact DOCS, had this to say about the latest winners, “The judges and I were simply blown away by the variety and immensely important documentaries we screened. Impact DOCS is not an easy award to win. Entries are received from around the world from powerhouse companies to remarkable new talent. Impact DOCS helps set the standard for craft and creativity as well as power catalysts for global change. The goal of Impact DOCS is to help winners achieve the recognition they deserve for their dedication and work.”

Impact DOCS Awards is in its second year and is the newest member of the Global Film Awards (GFA) family of competitions who have been hosting competitions for 14 years. As one of the original trend-setting digital online competitions, GFA set the standard for this exciting new breed of film competitions. Often the first stop on the festival circuit, GFA award winners have gone on to

win Oscars like the short doc “*The Lady in Number Six*” and “*Mr Hublot*” as well as countless Emmys, Tellys and more. Information about the Impact DOCS Awards and a list of past and recent winners can be found at <http://www.ImpactDocsAwards.com>

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