

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MAY 11, 2009**

## **Reclaim Guåhan: A Community Rally to Educate, Express and Empower**

The people of Guam have been watching in silence as the future of our island drastically changes before our eyes. Due to our political status and current leadership, we have had little-to-no say in plans for our future.

A collective of youth and grassroots organizations have come together to organize a rally for change entitled **“Reclaim Guåhan: Chule’ Tatte Guåhan.”** The collective aims to break the silence and empower people to express what they envision for our island.

**The rally will take place May 23, 2009 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Skinner’s Plaza** and will feature honored speakers, poetry, local bands, art, film showings, carabao rides and much more. The rally will end with a candle light vigil at 7: 30 p.m.

“Reclaim Guåhan: Chule’ Tatte Guåhan” will be a space for education, expression and empowerment. The people of Guam are invited to:

- Learn about the most critical issues affecting our island, including political status, the military build-up, going green and protecting the land, the threats to Chamorro culture and ways of life, and the importance of uniting as a community during this time.
- Speak out on open mics and express things normally only discussed around the BBQ grill or in the outdoor kitchen (kusinan sanhiyong). Only there will be more people listening and sharing.
- Contribute to the “UNITED art PEACE,” a 12-by-6 foot wall for expression.
- Share and listen to stories from our past, and create stories for our present and future.
- Ask questions and seek answers from each other.
- Come together consciously to be more aware of how we exist as a people.
- Promote and practice unity by being open to different ideas and accepting of people's opinions.
- Take actions that will make a difference.
- Embrace diversity and celebrate the struggles we experience together.

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