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# THE COVER STORY

**The Man  
with the  
Golden  
Touch and  
a Heart to  
Match** ▶

## Publisher's Note

**E**very now and then an event of magnanimous proportions makes headlines that make me wonder how and who could have been so influential as to effect such a “sit up and take notice” upon me?

When a man of humble origins whose phenomenal rise over his colorful life happens to be that power behind the throne (literally speaking, the Miss Universe throne) it is nothing short of imperative to dig a bit deeper. The focus of this month’s “Manila Up” cover and main subject, Luis Chavit Singson, stands out as a giant despite odds stacked against him to make “it” happen. There were Goliaths to be slain.

What began with the honor of winning the coveted title evolved into an epic journey of Herculean magnitude. Pia Wurtzbach (2015 Miss Universe) was the pivotal reason for the project to be hosted by her native country. The last ever held in the Philippines happened some 23 years ago. With that as a starting point, the next and even more vital matter came in with that basic but ‘uber’ requisite of spearheading the multi million dollar endeavor.

Enter Luis “Chavit” Singson. He with the self made fortune and a political leader of note in his country, with his typical style and courage went ahead to take the reins to not only spend the money to pursue the project but to do so with the passion of a knight in a shining armor. And that he did without the least bit of hesitation. Details of his travails, adventures and misadventures

throughout this exciting story is told within the pages of the magazine you now hold in your hands.

His inspirational aspirations to determinedly thrust the country’s image as a beautiful landscape with an enormous potential for global business investors was risky business, but, nothing fazed the intrepid visionary. Transformation for the betterment of life is within reach for millions of Filipinos and this was that once in a lifetime opportunity to showcase the place and the people. He has redefined giving as a “flow” by becoming an instrument of God for good showing forth a progressive image to present to the rest of the world. As the saying goes, Luis “Chavit” Singson” is one who “comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable”. Read all about it...

Another man of note, Dr. Steve Maraboli, who lives and breathes the mantra of how to live a purpose filled life is world renowned and recognized as a guru of gurus. His approach to the philosophy of living is emulated and tapped into as a resource for guiding life coaches themselves. His humble beginnings are parallel to that of our featured cover, Luis Chavit Singson. You may glean similarities in their stories and this is what makes our magazine so universal. We all have unique tales of our own, but in the end, we have bonds that link our experiences and times when we have that “Aha!” moment, theirs gave me one, that is, after I did a “sit up and take notice” moment.

*Sonia*