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"MILCO" IS THE OFFICIAL MASCOT OF THE LIMA 2019 XVIII PAN AMERICAN AND SIXTH PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES

* The winner took home PEN 15,000; the second place "Wayqi" won PEN 10,000 and the third place, "Amantis", was awarded PEN 5,000 in an impressive ceremony held at the High Performance Center VIDENA.

* 44,514 people participated in voting process to choose the Mascot, surpassing the Guadalajara 2011 votes and Toronto 2015.

At exactly two years from the opening ceremony of the XVIII Pan American Games, the most important sporting event in Peruvian history, the Lima 2019 Organizing Committee is proud to announce "Milco" as the official mascot of the XVIII Pan American and Sixth Parapan American Games.

The prizewinning design was elected through a closed voting process where over 44,514 people showed their support for the three finalists, who were chosen by a panel of judges. "Milco" won this public contest with over 19,895 votes, surpassing "Wayqi" who ranked second with 17,274 votes. "Amantis" came in third with 7,345 votes.

The unvailing was carried out in an impressive ceremony in presence of the main sports authorities of the country and the Lima 2019 "Sports Ambassadors", who not only are Peru's TOP Athletes but will also compete at the Pan Am and Parapan Am Lima 2019 Games.

Minutes after closing the voting process, the Lima 2019 Organizing Committee President, Carlos Neuhaus, was in charge of presenting the winning Mascot in a ceremony held at the Center of High Performance VIDENA.

"This Mascot will mark a milestone in Peruvian sports history and will be seen worldwide. It will be the image which represents us in every competition of the Pan American and Parapan American Games, as well as in the events prior to the opening of the most important sporting event Peru has ever hosted. We are happy with the results because all contestants participated in a democratic and transparent manner," expressed COPAL President.

The Mascot voting process began on June 19th and, for over a month, we received votes from all over Peru and abroad. The highest amount of votes came from the United States. Over 44,514 votes were registered digitally from the website www.mascota.lima2019.pe, thus surpassing the records set by previous editions of the Games. Leaving behind Guadalajara 2011 and Toronto 2015

About the winning mascot

The winning mascot, "Milco", was designed by Andrea Norka Medrano Moy. Her mascot referred to the "Cuchimilco", a statuette from ancient cultures which developed in Peruvian mid-western cities, such as Lima, Chancay and Chincha.

Second place the is Ayacucho-born Alfredo Vitor Ayala, creator of "Wayqi". His artwork alludes to the Gecko of Lima, a tender and agile lizard only seen in the archaeological sites of the capital. "Wayqi" is a Quechua word which means "brother".

The third place went to "Amantis" was created by the 20-year-old Andy Maverick Alegre Campos. His design is a clear reference to the famous Amancaes flower, which grows in the hills of Lima, especially in winter, and is highly relatable to the host city.

The winner of this contest was awarded a prize of PEN 15,000 and the prestige of seeing his design projected worldwide. The second place received PEN 10,000 and the third place, PEN 5,000. The Mascot will accompany every activity that takes place before, during and after the Lima 2019 Games.

Lima, Tuesday July 25th, 2017 Lima 2019 Organizing Committee, Communications Unit National Sports Village (VIDENA) Avenida del Aire, Cuadra 8, s/n, San Luis Johnny Ayala Valverde

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