

FILIPINO TEACHERS ARE SAYING YES! TO THE COMMUNITY

'Each One Teach One' Program to honor Filipino afterschool teachers in Los Angeles

ENGLEWOOD, CO – Western Union (NYSE:WU) in conjunction with Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA), the largest Filipino community based organization in Los Angeles, designed the Each One Teach One program to recognize Filipino afterschool teachers who go above and beyond to inspire and encourage progress within the community.

This program was created as part of Western Union's global yes! campaign – the first-ever global brand initiative for Western Union that creates an emotional connection with consumers worldwide. This campaign shines a spotlight on people who embrace their hopes and dreams and who say yes! to the world and their community.

The Each One Teach One Program identified Filipino teachers who say yes! in three different categories; Academics, Arts & Culture and Athletics.

As a special education teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and a tutor with SIPA, Amado M. Ponce de Leon III, the Academic honoree, says yes! to the community. He first got involved with SIPA eight years ago as a way of not only getting in touch with his culture, but also to give back to the community, lending his expertise in Math and English to the afterschool program. "I appreciate that I am able to educate kids and help others in a time where other teachers are getting laid off due to the bad economy," says Ponce de Leon III.

Barbara Jane Ele, the Arts & Culture honoree, says yes! to the community as a 2nd grade LAUSD elementary school teacher and a Filipino culture teacher at SIPA through the Cultural Enrichment Language Program (KELP). "On my days off and during summer vacation I miss all my students," Ele says. The heartwarming teacher, who also teaches dance through SIPA, is a lead choreographer for Kayamanan Ng Lahi Folks Arts in the community.

With twin brothers you get double the yes! Emmanuel and Eristheo Raif, the Athletics honorees, are former SIPA youth clients and have been team coaches and program assistant coordinators for the annual Temple Gateway Youth & Sports League for the past three years. They currently are furthering their education at Los Angeles City College and continue to help with SIPA afterschool athletic activities.

In celebration of their honorable achievements and to help build the SIPA Afterschool Enrichment Program, Western Union presented a grant of \$10,000 on behalf of these honorees to SIPA. ■



THE TOTAL ENTERTAINER JOINS THE ATTORNEY-TO-THE-STARSON CITIZEN PINOY! Popular pop singer and one of the pioneers of OPM (Original Pilipino Music) Rico J. Puno (left) joins Atty. Michael J. Gurfinkel (right) for an entertaining episode that tackles viewers' US immigration questions and concerns on the most popular immigration show on television. Citizen Pinoy – airs this Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Tuesday, at 11:35 pm (PST) on TFC. Citizen Pinoy also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 1 am with replays on Sunday at 9 am and Thursday at 8 pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 midnight on Monday and Friday at 11 am (Manila time).

[Showbitz!]

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pine Entertainment Portal. The new show will be a romantic-comedy and will be an original concept, after the network's series of adapted shows. ■

Maricel Soriano is back on the big screen after a long break

AFTER a long hiatus from movies, Maricel Soriano comes back with a big bang via the upcoming horror flick *T2* under Star Cinema. The film is directed by Chito Roño and is in the same vein as with Roño's other film, the blockbuster hits *Feng Shui* and *Sukob*. Maricel is ecstatic to be back to doing what she loves doing and shares that Dolphy has always been an inspiration to her. Maricel played Dolphy's daughter in the long-running TV series *John En Marsha*.

"Kasi unique siya, magical, different, walang katulad. Mayroon siyang magandang puso. Ibang klase ang taong ito," Maricel says in a recent guest appearance in *The Buzz*. ■

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