

# RE:UNION

Filipino-American Associations in America

Searching for a kababata from your hometown, a college buddy or a Pinoy colleague? Your search is finally over. The Asian Journal brings you Re:Union, Filipino American Associations in America -- your link to a network of kababayan associations here in the United States. As your Filipino-American community newspaper, the Asian Journal recognizes your need to nourish and maintain ties with the people and the culture you were born with. This is our way of connecting our kababayans to the past, of creating new opportunities for the present and of inspiring you to pay it forward by becoming active members of your association and the FilAm community at large in the future.

## Peoples Community Organization for Reform and Empowerment

People's CORE TEAM project gears up for a New Year

1610 Beverly Blvd., Ste. 2, Los Angeles, CA 90026  
 Phone: (213) 241-0995; Fax: (213) 241-0944  
 Contact for this media release: Arturo Garcia

LOS ANGELES – The People's CORE Telecommunications Education and Assistance for Multiple Languages (TEAM) project for the year 2009-2010 is up and running.

This was confirmed by People's CORE TEAM Project Coordinator, Arturo P. Garcia, this year. People's CORE has been assisting seniors, low-income people as well as newly arrived immigrants and monolingual immigrants in the Filipino American community on telecommunications issues for the last four years.

On the larger level, the TEAM Project funded by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) last year confirmed that it has given community education to more than 24,000 clients, has resolved more than 946 complaints against telephone companies and has reached out to more than 2 million people in its media and pub-

lic outreaches.

People's CORE specifically has helped out-reached to more than 1,000 people and facilitated resolution of more than 20 complaints. It also helped in the public outreach of more than a million in media and public fairs and events like the annual Festival of Filipino Arts and Culture (FPAC) and the Asian Lotus Festival in Echo Park.

The TEAM project in California also found out that more than 85% of the people of California use wireless phone (or cell phones) and there is a decline in the use of landlines of about 9%. This is a very significant trend for the last two years.

For those who have complaints and problems about their phones bills, cell phones or any telecom lines you can contact Arturo P. Garcia at (213)241-0995 at People's CORE or emailagarcia@peoplescore.net. ■

## Will Obama's...

PAGE B2 ◀

how second mortgages can be paid off although the government is also offering incentives to second lien holders to work with homeowners in addressing this problem. This applies to home equity loans and home equity lines of credit.

Whether or not the Obama plan will work for qualified homeowners still remains to be seen. In the meantime, the lenders' phones are already ringing off the hook with inquiries from homeowners all over the country. Again, remember that this is a voluntary program on the part of the lender and your lender may choose not to participate. If they do not participate, it doesn't mean that the lender is not willing to work out a loan modification. Your lender may still have their own loan modification program for which you can apply if you meet the lender's eligibility requirements.

If you or someone you know are facing foreclosure, let us evaluate your situation and help you explore all possibilities. For a free consultation, call Toll-Free 1-866-477-7772. We have offices in Glendale, Cerritos and West Covina.

\*\*\*

None of the information herein is intended to give legal advice for any specific situation. Atty. Ray Bulaon has successfully helped more than 4,000 clients in finding solutions to their debt problems. To schedule a free attorney consultation, please call Ray Bulaon Law Offices at TOLL FREE 1-866-477-7772.

(Advertising Supplement)

## People and Events

### USC Troy Philippines conquers 17th annual Pilipino American culture night

ON a sunny April afternoon at the University of Southern California, the booming of drums, ringing of gongs and clacking of bamboo sticks emanated from the school's renowned Bovard Auditorium. Before an audience of approximately 650, USC Troy Philippines took the stage for its 17th Annual Pilipino American Culture Night, performing cultural and contemporary dances and showcasing its members' dramatic and musical talents.



Titled "Daddy's Getting Married," the show, which premiered April 4, centered on the story of two sisters faced with the challenge of accepting their father's decision to remarry. Filled with humor and lessons about love and family, PACN's dramatic portion intertwined with several cultural dance suites, whose blending of light, sound and storytelling provided a visual feast for the audience.

The Muslim and mountain suites received some of the loudest cheers of the night, while the final dance of the show, the Filipino national dance Tinikling, invited spectators to clap along with the beat. PACN also featured multiple performances from Troy Philippines Voices, the organization's resident singing group.

PACN Coordinators Vince Mejia and Bruce Cabanayan, along with other members of Troy Philippines, counted the night as an unprecedented success. But the sense of pride and accomplishment raging throughout the organization wasn't just the result of a job well done: the new look and quality of this year's PACN didn't hurt either.

With support and training from members of a professional Filipino dance troupe, Sining Ginto, Troy Philippines was able to reinvent its PACN. More complex dances, new costumes and a revitalized energy among the cast and crew allowed Troy Philippines to strive for a bigger and better culture show.

Judging from the enthusiastic applause following every scene and dance—and the smiles on members' faces once the lights dimmed—it's clear: Troy Philippines reached new heights. ■

### 2000 Fil-Ams expected

## A grand 111th RP Freedom Day

LOS ANGELES – A huge attendance of up to 2000 Filipino Americans are expected at the 111th Philippine Independence Day Grand Ball on June 13, Saturday, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel where senior officials of the Philippine government and those from the City of Los Angeles are also expected to attend.

This was announced at the March 28 meeting of the 111-member Executive Committee of the 111th Philippine Independence Day celebrations at the community hall of the Philippine Consulate General here.

Out of the 2,500 tickets distributed, thus far, 1,300 have been paid from the 1,750 that have confirmed to attend, according to Darna Umayam, Grand Chairwoman of the Executive Committee, also called the "Dream Team."

"The Dream Team committee will no longer accept confirmation without payments because if we reach the 1,955 bracket of paid tickets, we will stop selling tickets to assure that all who have paid for their tickets get seats," Umayam said.

She appealed to all the Executive Committee members to sell more tickets and solicit ads and sponsors to meet the committee's goal of raising funds for the less fortunate Filipinos in the homeland. The net revenue of the event will be donated to hospitals and foundations in the Philippines, most especially the children suffering from cancer and leukemia, Umayam announced.

Senator Francis "Chiz" Escudero and Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes have already accepted the committee's invitation and confirmed their attendance at the Independence Day grand ball, Umayam said. In the meantime, top representatives from the LA Philippine Consulate General office are following up the invitation to Vice President Noli de Castro to grace the occasion.

"We're happy with these developments and I'm thankful to the chairpersons and members of the different committees that have been working hard to make our commemoration and celebration of the 111th Philippine Independence Day truly an affair to remember among us Filipinos in this part of the world," Umayam exhorted the group.

It was on June 12, 1898, that General Emilio Aguinaldo, first president of the First Philippine Republic, declared in the balcony of his official mansion in Kawit, Cavite the independence of the Philippines from the more than 400 years of Spanish colonization, following the success of the 1898 Philippine revolution against Spain.

"The first-pay-basis and the no-dinner-stub-no-entry rule will be followed to assure a smooth flow of our grand ball activities," Umayam said. "Dinner stubs have been color-coded to prevent switching of tables. Those who have confirmed and paid for their tickets," she added, "have assured me of their strict compliance to the rule to assure a wonderful night at our celebration."

Umayam also announced that there will be a red carpet welcome for all dignitaries and event sponsors. Chairperson of the Greet & Meet Committee is Virginia Vivas, 2007 Mrs. Kalyaan USA, with Violet Mislagn as her co-chair. Umayam guaranteed a fool-proof registration and seating arrangement. "I also guarantee a short program for our guests so they'll have more hours of dancing and rekindling of the Filipino spirit." There will be a live band and a DJ until 2 am.

"We expect our honored VIPs to outreach and mingle with the Filipino American community," Umayam said.

During the meeting, Umayam briefed the committee about the ballroom layout for 2,000 seats, the guaranteed nine-course Chinese lauriat dinner and a complimentary drink.

Tickets for the grand ball are available at \$59.00. Parking will be at Arco and City Parking for \$10; \$16 for valet parking at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. For those who wish to stay, overnight room rates are \$154.25 per night all inclusive.

There will be a sports festival, which is a joint venture between the Department of Tourism and the 111th Philippine Independence Committee. This includes a golf tournament on July 7, and a 2-day invitational shoot fest on June 13 & 14.

For tickets and sponsorship, interested parties can call (323) 258-4879 or inquire from the Philippine Consulate. ■



## PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY 2009



Saturday, June 6, 2009  
 HMPC Complex

- A chance to win a FREE Trip to the Philippines for Seniors
- Entertainment shows for the entire Family
- Swap Meet

For more Information, call or contact the following:

- General Information.....Errol Santos  
 818.621.2912  
 mpegerrrol@yahoo.com
- Vendor's Booth.....Mel Reyes  
 818.281.8267  
 demo321@sbcglobal.net

- Barong Tagalog Contest.... Julieta Padilla  
 Julieta.Padilla@HPMEDCENTER.com
- Variety Show..... Errol Santos  
 818.621.2912  
 mpegerrrol@yahoo.com
- Swap Meet..... Mel Reyes  
 818.281.8267  
 demo321@sbcglobal.net

Hundreds of Raffles Prizes  
 to be drawn every  
 20 minutes



1300 N. Vermont Avenue  
 Los Angeles, CA 90027  
 www.hollywoodpresbyterian.com

