



People and Events

Wal-Mart Celebrates API American Heritage Month with Donation to Scholarship Fund

Donation part of retailer's year-round commitment to the APIA Community

BENTONVILLE - Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is celebrating Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month 2009 by announcing a \$150,000 contribution to the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF). The contribution is one of many ways the retailer contributes to programs and initiatives that help strengthen Asian and Pacific Islander American communities throughout the year.

In June, 38 APIASF/Wal-Mart Scholars will be designated for the 2009-2010 academic year. Scholars majoring in the areas of business, engineering, logistics and other subject areas will receive scholarships of \$2,500 for use during their freshman year in college. Including this donation, the Wal-Mart Foundation has supported the APIASF with more than \$550,000 since 2005.

"Over the years we have seen how important scholarship funds like these are to students from all walks of life. This support is even more relevant in these tough economic times," said Esther Silver-Parker, senior vice president of Constituent Relations, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. "We are happy to continue supporting the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund and the future leaders it helps nurture and grow."

The APIASF focuses special attention on communities that have historically been underserved and are often economically disadvantaged, as well as those who are the first in their families to attend college.

"Wal-Mart has been a key supporter of our scholarship fund since its inception. Through Wal-Mart's ongoing support, we have been able to provide deserving students access to higher education and expand our programs and services to ensure that our scholars will be successful long-term," said Neil Horikoshi, APIASF President & Executive Director.



Shantu Roychoudhari, Corporate Affairs Constituent Relations Manager, Wal-Mart Stores Inc.; Katie Tran-Lam, Assistant Director of Communications & Marketing, Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund; Bonnie Wong, President, Asian Women in Business; Rob Leggat, Vice President, International Corporate Affairs, Wal-Mart International; and Yong Li, Research Director, Committee of 100.

In addition to scholarships, Wal-Mart supports and partners with several community-based organizations as part of its commitment to the Asian and Pacific Islander American community. This includes Asian Women in Business, Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund, the Committee of 100, the Korean American Coalition and many others.

In an effort to share best practices, Wal-Mart will take part in conferences hosted by organizations, such as Asian Women in Business, during the month of May. Wal-Mart will bring together a panel of experts from the field of sustainability to provide education, insights and solutions to help women- and minority-owned small businesses see the value and relevancy of "going green".

As the nation's largest private employer, Wal-Mart's US workforce is comprised of more than 41,000 Asian-American and 5,900 Pacific Islander-American associates.

Wal-Mart's Home Office based Asian and Pacific Islander American associate resource group will host an event honoring Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month. This year's event, scheduled for May 7, will focus on sustainability and health and wellness in Asia through booth exhibitions, musical and dance performances and supplier booths with a focus on the Asian Market.

Wal-Mart established and supports Associate Resource Groups to promote diversity and inclusion and create a sense of community among associates sharing similar backgrounds and interests.

For more information on the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund and Wal-Mart's commitment to the APIA community, visit www.walmartstores.com.

Showcase of Acclaimed Filipino Films on June 11 at the MOMA

NEW YORK CITY— Merely five months into the year and 2009 is shaping up to be a milestone for Philippine Cinema in the global scene. With no less than four official selections in the Cannes Film Festival – the gold standard of world cinema – Filipino filmmakers are carving a special niche as compelling voices to be reckoned with. To be sure, Quentin Tarantino has been smitten, giving the director of "Kinatay", the Philippines' main competition entry in Cannes – and his own competitor for the Best Director award – a 10-minute standing ovation. Film festivals in Toronto, Venice, Pusan and Bangkok have been heaping awards on Filipino films, but have most Pinoys based in New York – easily the mecca of interesting foreign films in the US – heard of these critically acclaimed films, much less seen them?

Hold your breath for a few more weeks and you will get your chance. Timed to coincide with celebrations of Philippine Independence Day, the IndioBravo Film Festival 2009 will premiere June 11 at New York's Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street between 5th and 6th Avenues, showcasing films which exemplify the resurgence of Filipino cinema on the world's screens.

The festival continues Friday through Sunday, June 12-14 at the Visual Arts Theater in Chelsea, 333 West 23 Street between 8th and 9th Avenues.

Tickets and the full schedule are available at www.indiobravo.org. Advance-purchase tickets (\$12.50) are available until Friday, May 29.

Filipino film is the next wave of Asian cinema to watch. In 2007, a Filipino film showed at Cannes for the first time in 20 years. The celebrated filmmakers Brillante Mendoza (Kinatay and Serbis), Lav Diaz and Francis Pasion are all represented at IndioBravo 2009. The 15-feature lineup encompasses a wide spectrum of genres, styles and regional flavors—from

comedy and drama to horror and animation – from regions such as Metro Manila, Cebu and Davao. Some of the biggest stars topbill these titles as well, like Jericho Rosales, Anne Curtis, Toni Gonzaga, Whong Navarro, Mylene Dizon, Phillip Salvador and Ms. Nora Aunor (in a special screening of the 1983 Ishmael Bernal classic, Himala). Mylene Dizon herself will be at the red-carpet premiere of the Opening Night film, 100, on June 11 at the MOMA.

"It's wonderful to see a new generation of Filipino filmmakers attaining the great levels of artistry and achievement of Lino Brocka, Mike de Leon, and other luminaries of the '70s," says Richard Peña, program director, Film Society of Lincoln Center and associate professor at Columbia University. "Influenced by a wide range of international styles, these filmmakers are deeply engaged with social reality, but more prone to ask questions than provide answers."

The festival is a production of IndioBravo Film Foundation (named after the underground pseudonym used by Jose Rizal). The nonprofit organization was founded in New York City in 2008 to promote Philippine film worldwide, provide technical, marketing and distribution support to Filipino filmmakers and empower indigent communities in the Philippines to produce film and video works that prompt discussion about issues like health and human rights. For more info, visit www.indiobravo.org.

Tickets And Special Events

For all screenings except opening night, tickets are \$12.50 through May 29, \$15 after May 29 and available for online purchase at www.indiobravo.org.

Opening Night

Tickets for opening-night screenings (Baler and 100) at the Museum of Modern Art are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door and include an after-party at Nikki Beach, 151 East 50th Street between Lexington and Third Avenues, with Mylene Dizon, star of 100, and other stars of this year's film lineup. These tickets are also available at www.indiobravo.org.



FILIPINO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS (FAAE) DINNER DANCE AT ASTORIA MANOR, NY. Rey Prego poses with FAAE officers Butch Agapito, Tony Pungot, and Pete Bonus.