

Family Appointment with Yahweh El Shaddai

EVERYONE is invited to join a family appointment with Yahweh El Shaddai, the God who is more than enough where Jesus Christ is Lord, on the first, second and third Saturdays of the month from 6:30-9pm at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in 2020 East San Antonio Street, San Jose CA 95116. For more information, please contact Ann Pascua at (408) 987-9610. ■

'Alay Sa Inyo' at Phil Center present Talented Dance Artists from Manila and New York



Ambassador Hilario Davide and Consul General Cecilia Rebong with the Akin, Amin, Atin Artists



Ambassador Hilario Davide and Consul General Cecilia Rebong with the Effie Nana Dance Company

Photos by Jude Tan

TO celebrate May as Philippine National Arts Month, the Philippine Consulate General and the Philippine Mission to the United Nations presented the dance concert *ALAY SA INYO* at the Kalayaan Hall on 28 May 2009. Performing were the Effie Nanas Dance Company of Manila and the Akin, Amin, Atin Dance Group of New York.

The Effie Nanas Dance Company presented *Philippine Suites in stylized ballet movements*. Choreographed by well-known Filipina Ballerina Effie Nanas, the Suites featured ballet interpretations of the popular *Itik-Itik* and *Tinikling*, and the internationally renowned song *Dahil Sa Yo*. The girls also demonstrated in ballet form the various uses of the *Malong*. Young ballet dancers from the Philippines wowed the audience with their skillful and graceful movements. These ballerinas ranged from 11 to 15 years of age; they were Katrene San Miguel, Kimberly Lim, Tiffany Ong, Eunice, Aclan, Angela Tan, Cassandra Chan, Judy Miano, Christel Chongson, Jana Negre, and Courtney Ong. Adding to the attraction of the dance segments were the colorful costumes worn for each dance. There were also video presentations to complement the description on the dances.

The Akin, Amin, Atin (AAA) dance group of New York, on the other hand, presented contemporary dance interpretations of life experiences. Opening number was *Songs from a New World*, sung by Fil-Ams Devin Ilaw, Loresa Lanceta, Jonelle Margallo, Juan Paolo Valerio Moraga.

This was followed by *Sarili*, choreography by Kendra Isobel Samson and performed by Selena Elaine Chau, and Kendra Isobel Samson. They danced to the music of *Paggising ng Bundok* by Joey Ayala and Ang Bagong Lumad. The dance piece was a study of mirror image reflection, and explored the use of impulse or sudden and involuntary stimuli to give impetus to movements.

Mirror was choreographed by Leonides D. Arpon. Music was by Raymund Golamco. The dance showed the ability to form strong bonds with others whom we would normally have conflicts with because of our own fundamental darkness," said Leo D. Arpon about the dance number performed in duet with Bennyroyce Royon.

Flux: Mixes was choreographed by Bennyroyce Royon and performed by Billy Bell, Leslie Hubilla, Kendra Isobel Samson; music was by Bennyroyce Royon. The dance was a "a techno-contemporary dance illustrating the constantly changing flow of the modern human experience."

Alay Sa Inyo aptly presented the National Arts theme this year *Awit at Sayaw* as spelled out by the Philippines' National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA). It was also the first time in many years that a dance concert was performed at the Philippine Center.

"The girls prepared themselves well for this concert and were very excited to come to New York to perform," said Julie Miano, the group's coordinator.

Alay Sa Inyo was indeed an offering. We wanted to offer to all our Filipino-American kababayans this dance concert as a way of showing our appreciation to the help they give the county..." said Andy Miano, the Dance Company's public relations officer.

Leo Arpon of AAA noted the struggle of many Filipino dance artists and presented his mission for Akin, Amin, Atin. It is "dedicated to developing the cultivation, education and presentation of Filipino Contemporary Artists and their multicultural diversity in order to unite communities with fragmented identities. Its goal is to reach out to people through dialogue, performances in mixed media and curriculum based education..."

Arpon added, "We believe that by continuing to integrate and share our rich culture in communities with similar values, we will be able to grow, nurture and educate each other and the youth, who are our future."

"Song and dance are integral elements of our country's rich culture. For our Philippine National Arts Month, we joined the NCCA in celebrating our rich heritage when we proudly presented these two elements through *Alay Sa Inyo*. Our talented Filipino choreographers and dancers presented modern dance interpretations of original Filipino music..." noted Consul General Cecilia Rebong.

Earlier, in his opening message, Ambassador Hilario Davide reiterated that "our culture showcases not only our rich historical past and who we were, - it is also the link to the future for our new generation of Filipinos..." ■

Three Asian Pacific American community-based organizations raise over \$120,000 at the Inaugural Asian American Golf Classic

NEW YORK, NY—Last Monday, June 22nd, three Asian Pacific American community based organizations collaborated to host a day of golf and leisure at the Inaugural Asian American Golf Classic. Held at the Manhattan Woods Golf Club, one of the finest private 18-hole designs in New York State, the event raised over \$120,000. Sponsored by the Ong Family Foundation, over 100 individuals came to support:

- Asian American Federation
- Chinatown YMCA
- Coalition for Asian American Children and Families. (CACF)

The Inaugural Asian American Golf Classic was the first fundraising collaborative among the three non-profit organizations to address the increasing needs but decreasing funding for the Asian Pacific American community. This event would have not been possible without the support of long-time advocate for the Asian Pacific American community, Nelson Louis, Executive Director of the Ong Family Foundation. Mr. Louis encouraged the three community organizations to work together on this golf outing and leveraged the resources of the Ong Family Foundation by becoming the event sponsor.

Impressed by the success of the Inaugural Asian American Golf Classic, Dave Kaplan, Executive Director of the Chinatown YMCA, stated, "It was terrific to see such a diverse group of supporters



get behind the Ong Family Foundation's initiative to make this event a great success for our three agencies. So many Asian Americans benefit from the programs and services offered by AAF, Chinatown YMCA and CACF, and the golf outing at Manhattan Woods was a fun, creative, and engaging way for everyone to support the community."

With similar sentiments, Hong Shing Lee, Chief Operations Officer of the Asian American Federation, said, "The golf outing proved to be a success, generating significant contributions from the community, while raising awareness among the audience of issues that Asian Americans face. With the money raised, we can continue to support youth programs, child welfare advocacy, and work to build community capacity."

Thrilled to have been a part of this collaboration, Wayne Ho, Executive Director of the



Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, stated, "This was a landmark event. I am honored that CACF was a part of the Inaugural Asian American Gold Classic and grateful for the participation of such diverse supporters. Despite the tough economy, their support for community based organizations not only allows us to continue advocating for Asian Pacific American children and families in New York City but also encourages others to get behind similar collaborations."

The Asian American Federation, Chinatown YMCA, and Coalition for Asian American Children and Families would like to acknowledge the corporate support of: HSBC, TD Bank, Elite Laundry & Ace Cleaning Total Commercial Laundry and Cleaning Solution, First American International Bank, Magna Carta Companies, Answer Vending, and Ernst & Young LLP. The emcee for the event was Ernabel Demillo, columnist of BettyConfidential.com and former anchor/reporter of Fox 5 News. ■

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The 1st People's Ball...

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Secaucus, NJ. The Rev. Dr. Joseph G. Marabe, JSD spearheads the seemingly ambitious project with Ludi de Asis-Hughes and Cora Rivera as co-chairwomen.

Incidentally, this year's Simbang Gabi Sa Katedral is slated on Saturday, December 5 at 7pm at the St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

For more details and information or to donate or join the People's Ball, please call Fr. Marabe

at (212) 753-2261, Ludi Hughes at (201) 841-3070, Cora Rivera at (917) 751-8851, Mila Mendez at (212) 682-6610, Nanding Mendez at (917) 612-8861, Cora Reyes at (917) 821-4101, Vicky Baxa at (646) 945-2771, Aida Gamolo at (917) 816-0530, Linda Bolano at (347) 224-2996, Aida Bartolome at (646) 415-1853, Nonong Torres at (121) 961-6375, Nory Teruel at (917) 860-4987 and Cely Medrano at (917) 502-5907 or visit www.simbanggabiny.com ■