

People and Events

Cora Aragon Soriano, elected as president

Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE)

AT THE Annual Meeting of the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) on Sunday, July 12, Cora Aragon Soriano was elected the association's new president for 2009-2011 term. She succeeds Ruby De Vera, who will take the advisory role of Immediate Past President.

The Board Members elected were: 1st Vice President – Fred Rivera, 2nd Vice-President – Linda Granados, 3rd Vice-President – Amelia Marucut, Recording Secretary –

Nell Dizon, Corresponding Secretary – Harriet Voloso, Treasurer – Mildred Jacla, Asst. Treasurer – Susie Feliciano, Auditor – Yolanda Huang, Asst. Auditor – Noemi Cuevas, PRO – Alex Banares, Webmaster – Josef Isidro, Affirmative Action – Susana Reyes

As President, Cora will direct LAFACE in leading or extending assistance to any organization or movement intended to promote the economic, social, cultural and educational advancement of Filipinos in the community; in striving to foster the advancement of Filipinos and other minorities in City service and in other fields, and in cooperating with other minority groups towards achieving its goals.

LAFACE is the only Filipino-American organization in existence in the City of Los Angeles. It was formed in 1982 as an organization that empowers one of the largest racial group of employees in the City of Los Angeles.

Installation of Officers is scheduled at a Dinner Dance on Friday, September 11, 2009, 6pm – 12:30am, Kyoto Grand Hotel. Proceeds from this event will support LAFACE's scholarships and various activities and outreach programs. Please support LAFACE by attending or advertising at LAFACE Souvenir Program. Tickets are available for \$50.00 per person by sending Cora an email at coraaragon@aol.com

Information about LAFACE can be found on LAFACE website at <http://www.tambuli.org>.

Mending Kids International (MKI) fundraising dance July 18

MENDING Kids International or MKI is an organization based in Santa Clarita, CA that provides life-changing medical and surgical care to children all over the world, who suffer from serious but correctible conditions. In the last 5 years, 22 indigent Filipino children with congenital heart disease, craniofacial, or orthopedic defects have been privileged to undergo treatment at top hospitals here in Southern California. Thru a partnership with the Philippine Air Lines Foundation, these children receive assistance with sending their MKI applications, filing medical treatment visa applications, and free airfare. Some of these kids who have to come with their mothers stay at *Robin's Nest*, the MKI home for its recipients, while some have to live with carefully screened host families who are so generous as to open not only their homes but also their hearts to these children. With the multifold needs that these children have, the MKI Filipino Advisory and Support Group (MKIFASG) was born. MKI provides for the cost of the children's hospitalization and all other medical needs while MKIFASG helps to expand the net-

work of Filipino host families and recruits volunteers who can provide respite care to the host families, visit the children at Robin's Nest, at their host family homes, or in the hospital, bring Filipino meals and phone cards, give toys, clothing, and educational materials, and donate money to the Filipino Children's Fund of MKI which is used for passport and visa applications of the children, taxes and insurance on the free round trip PAL tickets, and medical and nutritional needs of the children after they go back to the Philippines in order to assure continued recovery and complete rehabilitation.

To help achieve these goals, MKIFASG is holding a fundraising dance for outreach, advertising and financial support for our Filipino children. *Dancing for the Children* will take place on July 18, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Santa Clarita United Methodist Church located at 26640 Bouquet Canyon, Santa Clarita, CA, 91350. Tickets are \$25.00 each, including drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and door prizes. For more information, please contact arlene_kamen@yahoo.com, tony.guiao@yahoo.com, or cielly@sbcglobal.net.



BIRTHDAY GIRL. Happy 18th Birthday Kelly Marie Sulat from Mom & Dad

Sponsors of the Historic Filipinotown Festival

LOS ANGELES - The committee for the Historic Filipinotown Festival would like to thank all the sponsors of this year's event. It is through their help and support that makes this annual event possible.

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and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Join the original superstar, Nora Aunor, in this year's 5K Run/Walk and be part of history in the making. To register online, please visit www.active.com or download an application form at www.historicfilipinotown.org.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors! We hope to make this year's event a successful one!

For booth and sponsorship queries, please call (213) 413-3323 or (818) 915-3558. You may also email hifiprods@aol.com or tmtsugay@aol.com.

Visit www.historicfilipinotown.com for information on this year's Historic Filipinotown Festival!

Elaine Valerio's debut

ELAINE Ann Valerio celebrates her 18th birthday with a unique concept of 'Phantom of the Opera'. The debutant dressed fashionably and colorfully with her four different gowns. The guest started the cocktail party at the Tiffany room and later proceeds to the Crystal room for a majestic dinner at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The programs were artfully done with elegance from the entrance of the debutant to the presentations of her talent to sing and dance with her dad, Ariosto Valerio. The immediate family mom Leni and sister Arielle, close relatives, and friends enjoy the party wearing their masks. The presentation is an entire introduction of the celebrant to their guests and society.



Elaine Ann Valerio with her father Ariosto Valerio. Photo by Joe Cobilla

Nationwide Search for 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the US awards

SAN FRANCISCO – July 30 is the deadline to submit nominations for the Filipina Women's Network's (FWN) 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the US Awards. The 100 Awardees will be revealed at a gala awards ceremony during FWN's Filipina Leadership Summit on October 30 thru November 1 at the Claremont Resort Hotel in San Francisco, California.

The 100 Most Influential Filipina Women in the US Awards™ seek to honor women who are changing the face of power in America and who have reached status for outstanding work in their fields and are known for their leadership and achievements.

"We seek dynamic leaders who are influential in their respective fields and local communities. It is important that we find these role models as powerful examples of women conducting extraordinary work to inspire our youth and future leaders," remarked Lieutenant Colonel Shirley Saoit Raguidin of the Arizona National Guard and Chair of the FWN 100 Nationwide Search and Selection Committee. "Since the awards was launched in 2007, participation is expanding, we are hoping that each state in the US is represented."

The judging process begins with a review of the qualified nominees based on six categories and selection criteria. The final judging is completed by a team of 2007 Awardees, which include: Ellen Abellera, Executive Director, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (Washington); Lieutenant Colonel Shirley Saoit Raguidin of the Arizona National Guard (Arizona); Edith Mijares Ardiente, Vice President, Environmental Affairs. Navistar, Inc. (Illinois); Ruth Asmundson, Mayor, City of Davis (California); Jocelyn Bernal, Budget Manager, Carat USA (New York); Thelma Boac, Principal, Silver Creek High School (San Jose, CA); Rose-Ann Ubarra Cunanan, Program Director, FAHSI (New York); Sonia Delen, Senior Vice President, Banc of America Leasing (San Francisco, CA); Dr. Bambi Loricca, Asia America Initiative (Washington DC); Lilia Villanueva, Owner, TAMA Gallery (New York); Dr. Mutya San Agustin, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (New York); and Gloria T. Caoile, Senior Political Director, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (Washington, DC).

Nominations are being accepted via the FWN nomination secure website (<https://filipinawomensnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/100-most-influential-filipina-women-in-the-us/>). The deadline for submitting nominations is July 30, 2009.



IN REUNION THERE IS STRENGTH.

In our continuing efforts to serve the Fil-Am Community, Asian Journal will be featuring profiles of Filipino-American associations here in the United States.



Please submit a brief background of your association, a list of current officers and your contact information for the benefit of our readers who may want to get in touch with you.

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