

2009 Most Influential Filipina Women in the US

(Source: Filipina Women's Network)

Behind the Scenes Leaders

Aileen Suzara; Belle Santos; Cherie Querol Moreno; Daisy Magalit Rodriguez; Dolly Pangan-Specht; Elsie Rose; Helen Marte Bautista; Jian Zapata; Kathleen Davenport; Lorie V. Reynoso; Lottie T. Buhain; Lovette Rosales Llantos; Dr. Lydia Castillo Fontan; Lina Larcia-Calvario; Mady Rivera RN; Maria Concepcion Banatao; Naomi Tacuyan Underwood; Nerissa M. Fernandez; Nida L. Recabo MSW; Dr. Priscilla Magante Quinn; Roselyn Estepa Ibanez; Shirley Orille Brazis; Sunny Dykwel; Tess Ricafort Alarcon; Dr. Valerie de Leon

Builders & Emerging Leaders

Cielo Martinez; LTC Cynthia Aloom RN, MN; Denise Castaneda Miles; Gel Santos Relos; Gertrude Gregorio; Jannah Arivan Manansala; Dr. Jennifer Ong; Dr. Katherine Abriam-Yago; Katrina R. Abarcas; Lita M. Abele; Maria (Mimi) Amutan; Mivic Hirose; CAPT Raquel Cruz Bono; Rebecca Delgado Rottman

Founders & Pioneers

Alice Bulos; Dr. Adelamar Alcantara; Analisa Balares; Carina Castaneda; Cora Oriol; Delle Sering Fojas; Ethel Luzario; Evelyn Bunoan; Fe

Martinez; Fe Punzalan, RNBC, PHN, MSN; Fely Guzman; Imelda "Emmie" Ortega Anderson; Judy Arteche-Carr; Maryles Casto; Mona Lisa Yuchengco; Nana Luz; Nelsie Parrado; Dr. Nini RB Bautista de Garcia; Norma Calderon-Panahon MD; Dr. Patricia Espiritu Halagao; Raquel Redondiez; Regina "Nanette" de Dios Alcaro; Rosie Abriam; Ruthe Catolico Ashley; Sherri Burke; Tessie Guillermo; Zenaida Cunanan

Innovators and Thought Leaders

Alelie Fucell; Ana Julaton; Brenda Buenviaje; Cora Tellez; Dr. Esmenia "Mia" Luluquisen; Hazel Sanchez; Dr. Jei Africa; Julina E. Togonon; Lenore RS Lim; Marlina Feleo Gonzales; Marissa Aroy; Nana Luz; Norma P. Edar; Rachel Buenviaje; Ma Rowena Verdan-Beduya; Robyn Rodriguez Canham PhD; Sokie Paulin; "Nicole" Jessica Cox

Policymakers & Visionaries

Carmelyn Malalis; Carmen Lagdameo Stull; Faith Bautista; Hydra B. Mendoza; Joanne F. del Rosario; Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal; Lorraine Rodero Inouye; Lynn Finnegan (Representative); Marissa Garcia Bailey; Myrna L. De Vera; Noella Tabladillo; Rose Zimmerman; Dr. Rozzana Verder-Aliga; Stephanie Ong Stillman

100 Most Influential Filipina Women...

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sionaries, behind the scenes leaders, emerging leaders and builders and the "Nicole" category.

Founders and Pioneers honor Filipina women in their capacities as the chief executive, president, executive director or founder of a company, community organization, non-profit, or business venture that they helped start, build or significantly grow.

Innovators and Thought Leaders recognize women who have broken new ground through vibrant, energetic presentations of critical ideas, transforming the way people think, in the fields of arts and letters, performing arts or through pop culture, or have improved the lives of others by helping develop a product or service in the fields of science, technology, biotechnology or medicine.

Policymakers and Visionaries recognize Filipina women leaders who have made or are making a difference in government policies or laws that impact business, industry, and society and who enrich the lives and careers of others by sharing the benefits of their wealth, experience, and knowledge.

Behind-the-scenes Leaders recognize Filipina women who, though they may not have the

big title or corner office, are a driving force behind the success of their employer or community organization and who have gone beyond the call to devote time, energy, and resources to support their community.

Emerging Leaders and Builders are making their mark in a large workplace environment, displaying high energy and skill in a leadership role at a nonprofit institution, government agency, or organization in any field.

The Nicole Category honors Filipina women whose words, actions, and activism, inspire others to act and revolutionize our society's way of understanding traditional beliefs and customs. A Filipina rape victim, simply known as "Nicole," inspired this category. She sparked an international dialogue about women's rights, national sovereignty, and international law as she steadfastly pursued justice against her rapists.

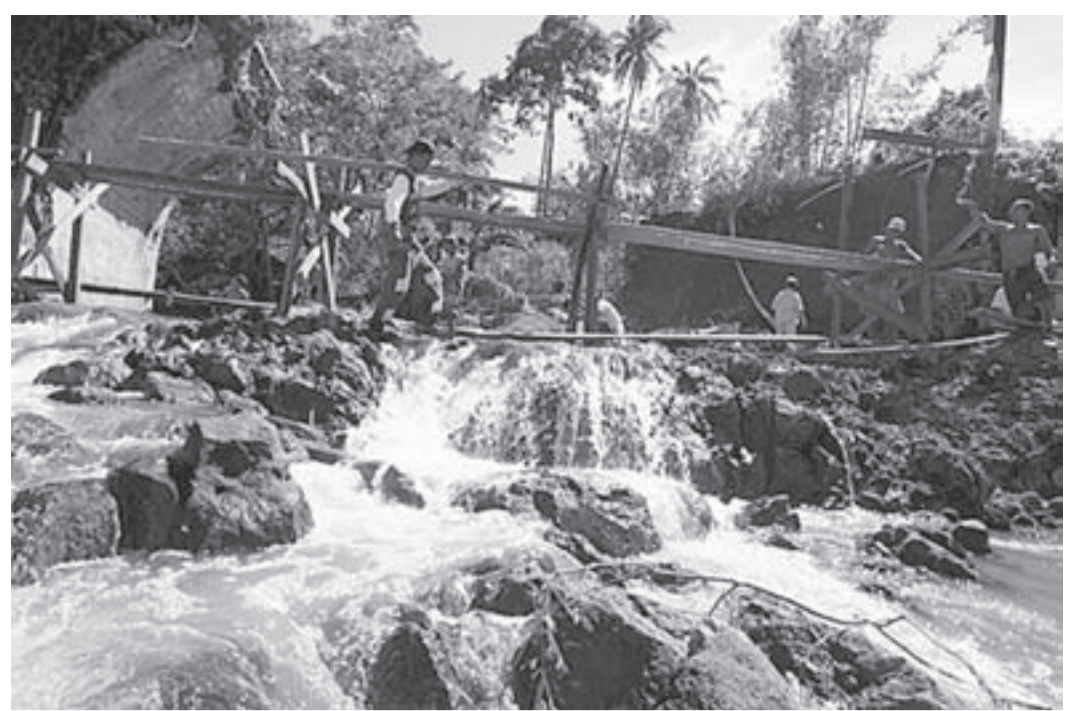
Perhaps the most inspiring awardee this year is Jessica Cox, recipient of the Nicole Category award. Jessica is an extraordinary individual, being born without arms, yet she has achieved far more than what people born with two arms have done in their lifetime.

Jessica flies airplanes, drives cars and lives a normal life, using

her feet as hands. She holds the title of the first person without arms in the American Tae Kwon-Do Association to get a black belt and the first woman pilot in aviation history to fly with her feet. Jessica has been featured in the popular afternoon program *Ellen*, hosted by Ellen Degeneres, *Inside Edition*, and TV networks like CNN and Fox News. Videos showing her flying a plane, demonstrating martial arts stunts and replays of her television and public speaking appearances are proliferating in YouTube and the Internet. Many of the videos and inspiring emails are posted by Filipinos who are proud of her extraordinary accomplishments.

Now an in demand motivational speaker before various groups such as students, teachers, and corporate audiences, Jessica is changing lives as she digs deep into her experiences living armless in a two-handed world. She believes that by combining creativity, persistence, and fearlessness, nothing is impossible. She shows how these three qualities helped her disarm the impossible.

Asian Journal President and Co-Publisher, Cora Oriol, is one of the winners under the Founders and Pioneers category. (For the complete list of winners, refer to sidebar above.) (AJP/Press)



IMPROVISATION. Residents of Mahayhay, Laguna make a temporary bridge after the Atilo Bridge collapsed last Saturday due to typhoon Santi. Philstar.com Photo by Jonjon Vicencio

Nograles, 20 other congressmen to watch...

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on vacation.

Before Nograles and three or four congressmen-companions left for the US, a group of four or five House members traveled to Geneva, Switzerland for an International Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference.

An equal number of secretariat officials led by Secretary General Marilyn Yap accompanied the IPU delegation.

From Geneva, Yap was scheduled to make a side trip to Paris, France and Los Angeles, California.

Sorsogon Bishop: Just watch on TV

Some religious leaders are opposed to lawmakers and government officials traveling to the US to watch Pacquiao's fights.

In fact, a Catholic bishop on November 2 urged politicians, who intend to go to Las Vegas and watch the fight on Nov. 15, to scrap such plans as the country is still reeling from the devastation brought about by the successive severe weather disturbances.

Sorsogon Bishop Arturo Bastes suggested that government officials should just watch the Pacquiao-Cotto fight on television.

"What are they going to do there, enjoy themselves? To think that many of their constituents are hungry and impoverished because of the recent calamities. That's an immoral thing. These politicians have no conscience," Bastes said in an interview over Church-run Radio Veritas.

"Why do they have to go to America when they can just watch the fight on TV. The money that will be used for their travel will be coming from public funds. They should keep themselves busy on helping those who were affected by the calamities," Bastes stressed. ■

Cotto's key to winning: Capitalize on Manny's...

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Sugar, Pacquiao has a tendency to drop his hands when he steps back after he throws a left cross.

The last person who came close to defeating Pacquiao, Juan Manuel Marquez, executed this strategy to near perfection in their last match in March 2008. Marquez lost but he set the blueprint on how to beat the Filipino champion.

Cotto's trainer, Joe Santiago, said they've been watching tapes of the Pacquiao vs. Marquez match and others.

"We've been watching all of the videos of Pacquiao's opponents," said Santiago through an interpreter. "We're not really worried. We feel confident in our game plan heading into this fight."

Santiago did not divulge their exact game plan against Pacquiao. He only said, that they're "approaching this fight openly and have a lot of different strategies" and that "they are going to adapt as the fight goes on."

But by the way Santiago and Cotto were catch-

ing mitts, it appears that Cotto will not try to muscle or brawl with Pacquiao as many boxing experts predict. It seems that he would rather counterpunch and look for openings.

"He beat Ricky Hatton, he beat Oscar De La Hoya but [now] he's going to face Miguel Cotto," said Cotto. "There is nothing to compare with the last two fighters because I'm not Oscar De La Hoya or Hatton."

9th Round KO

Cotto seemed miffed when a reporter asked him about Freddie Roach's prediction that the Puerto Rican would go down in the 9th round.

"That's the problem here," said Cotto. "Freddie Roach is not the guy that's going to climb inside the ring. He can say everything, whatever he wants, but if he's prepared Manny for just nine rounds, he has three more rounds after."

"I'm preparing the right way for this fight," he added. "And I'm pretty sure I'm going to beat Manny." (Joseph Pimentel/AJP/Press)



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