

MoneyGram significantly increases money transfer presence in Philippines

Offers Multi-currency Payout in M. Lhuillier locations



Michael Lhuillier (M. Lhuillier VP); Dan O'Malley (MoneyGram President of the Americas)

MINNEAPOLIS—MoneyGram International (NYSE: MGD) announced that close to 1,200 M. Lhuillier locations will begin offering MoneyGram global money transfer services throughout the Philippines. With the addition of M. Lhuillier Financial Services Inc., an established non-bank financial services company, Mon-

eyGram will now offer customers in the Philippines the option to receive transactions in US dollars as well as Philippine pesos, providing more choice and control for consumers.

"The Philippines is a strategic country where we see strong growth potential," said Tony Ryan, president and chief

executive officer of MoneyGram. "Remittances are an essential part of the economy in the Philippines and we believe that our convenient and reliable global money transfer service will provide more control and choice for Filipinos working abroad to send money to their families back home," said Ryan.

The close to 1,200 new M. Lhuillier locations boost MoneyGram's presence in the Philippines to more than 6,000 locations—making it one of the largest money transfer networks in the country. MoneyGram expects continued network growth in the Philippines for the remainder of 2009, including nearly 900 bank branches that will roll out money transfer services in 2009.

"The addition of nearly 2,000 MoneyGram money transfer locations throughout the Philippines demonstrates our ability to deliver a valuable and needed service in response to growing consumer demand throughout the country," said Ryan. "M. Lhuillier's extensive locations, accessible hours and multi-currency payout support MoneyGram's mission to help consumers around the world with more convenient choices for safe and reliable money transfer services."

To receive money via MoneyGram in the Philippines, the receiver can walk into a MoneyGram agent location, complete a Receive Form and show a photo identification to receive funds in as little as 10 minutes. More than 150 M. Lhuillier locations will offer the service 24 hours a day, providing additional convenience and peace of mind for MoneyGram customers particularly in times of emergency.

"With the addition of the M. Lhuillier and additional bank locations, we look forward to growing our customer base in Asia and providing a critical link for those in the Philippines to receive much-needed funds," said Ryan.

'The Face- Time for Change' Cultural Summer Jam starring Indeya, Michael Grimm and RNR at The Plaza Hotel

LAS VEGAS – Xzeyvure LLC, announces the first annual "The Face- Time for Change" Cultural Summer Jam. The extravaganza hits town on Saturday, August 29 at The Plaza Hotel and Casino. A star-studded cast including, Indeya, Michael Grimm and RNR will entertain audiences with a memorable musical experience that will transcend across racial and ethnic boundaries.

The symbol called "The Face" was created to serve as a beacon of empowerment representing all people regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or ethnic

background. "The Face," manifesting all colors and representing all people, is magnificent yet humble in presence. Xzeyvure LLC unveils this world symbol for diversity to Las Vegas.

Vocalist Indeya will captivate audiences with her amazing presence on stage and five-octave vocal range. She has performed for audiences at events worldwide including the Playboy Mansion, Oscar De La Hoya's title fight and Jerry Lewis' telethons. Indeya's incredible voice has been heard opening for headliners such as Anita Baker, Bob James and Lou Rawls.

Joining Indeya is Las Vegas headliner Michael Grimm. Grimm, inspired by his grandmother, began playing piano at a very young age and played his first bar gig at the age of 12. At the age of 13 he learned how to play guitar and started composing his own songs. Grimm has opened for headliners including BB King at the House of Blues, The Doobie Brothers in Phoenix and Heart in Phoenix, San Francisco, Boston and Los Angeles. Currently, he headlines at the Ovation Showroom at Green Valley Ranch Resort.

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Bea goes daring in latest movie outing

by BOY ABUNDA
Philstar.com

BEA Alonzo is the next big dramatic star. Among the young stars today, Bea sparkles like she's ready to sashay into the big league with an indomitable drive. Forces of the universe are working in her favor. As an actor, her evolution is interesting to say the least. From her days in *Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay*, *Maging Sino Ka Man* to *Betty La Fea*, she has showcased her range, her charisma, her sensitivity and her power to hold audiences like putty in her palm.

It was in *Kay Tagal* and *Maging Sino* where her partnership with John Lloyd Cruz bloomed. These television pairings were followed by blockbuster movies, *Close to You*, *It Might Be You*, *One More Chance*.

Lately, Bea is becoming more daring in her cinematic outings. She tackles her most dramatic role in her career in Laurenti Dyogi's *And I Love You So*. She gets to wear a two-piece suit in the movie which is big

deal for the wholesome, sweet teenybopper we saw grow up before our eyes. She pits dramatic talents with Sam Milby and Derek Ramsay. Bea is reunited with Sam who was introduced in *Close To You* which she starred with John Lloyd. She has also worked with Derek in *Maging Sino Ka Man Book 2*.

"To tell you honestly, kinakabahan ako. But there is a tinge of excitement that I feel after seeing the trailer. Somehow, *mas confident ako, mas naniniwala ako doon sa pwede naming i-offer*. I am really excited to show people once again *kung ano ang nagawa namin*," says Bea on her latest movie project.

"I would like to think that every project that I do is something new, that we have something new to offer. I don't want to entertain the thought that this project is big because the last one I did was big. ■

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Why Carlo J. Caparas? Why not!?!?

by RICARDO LO
Philstar.com



IT happens all the time. We choose a Bb. Pilipinas and what follows is a howl of protest — you know, that she's not deserving and somebody else is. On the heels of every awards night comes shouts of "cheating" (envelop-switching?) and lutong-makaw. Have we ever seen a candidate concede so easily after an election?

The latest brouhaha revolves around the selection of Carlo J. Caparas as a National Artist for Visual Arts and Film. They are all ganging up on poor Carlo as if he bestowed the much-coveted honor upon himself, not by a screening committee composed, I like to think, of distinguished minds, one of whom was quoted as saying that Carlo, and Cecile Guidote-Alvarez (National Art-

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A reflection: Cory and colon cancer



DR. NOEL R. FAJARDO

RECENTLY, Pres. Corazon C. Aquino, beloved leader of the original Philippine Power Revolution, succumbed to advanced stages of colon cancer. Colon cancer afflicts ALL races and is a major health problem in the United States. It ranks as a leading cause of cancer death, along with lung and breast

cancer.

The colon is the part of the digestive tract and the major functions are water reabsorption and processing and elimination of waste and toxins. Studies have shown that colon cancer arises from cells that line the colon, commonly known as colon polyp. Recent studies have shown that abnormal genes lead to polyp formation. Due to abnormal control of polyp growth, colon cancer may form.

Although colon cancer is a leading form of cancer death, colon cancer is one of the most preventable and curable forms of colon cancer. The most effective way of preventing colon cancer is by screening through colonoscopy. Colonoscopy

is a procedure that is done to see the insides of the colon and can detect inflammation or abnormal growth in the colon.

Colonoscopy is commonly performed by a gastroenterologist. Gastroenterologists are medical doctors who have undergone extensive training to perform colonoscopies. During colonoscopy, the gastroenterologist uses a flexible scope, that has a camera at the end. The camera allows careful examination of the colon, hence when polyps are found, removal of the polyp is performed. Most colon cancers arise from colon polyps. Therefore, removing colon polyps through colonoscopy, is an effective way of preventing colon cancer.

In the United States, persons above 50 years of age are recommended to undergo colon cancer screening. However, certain persons are at higher risk for colon cancer, and may need to be referred to a gastroenterologist as early as 40 years of age or younger. Certain persons are at higher risk, and is recommended to undergo colonoscopy earlier. These are persons who have a history of colon polyp or colon cancer in their family. Also, if there is a personal history of colon polyp or colon cancer, the risk of developing future colon polyps and/or colon cancer is higher. Likewise, patients who are bleeding from the anus, having bowel habit changes, are anemic or losing weight or is increasingly fatigued, may need to undergo colonoscopy.

To quote the prophetic words of our former great leader: "I would rather die a meaningful death than a meaningless life". Reflecting on the life and dedication of our dear Tita Cory, and the pride that she has restored in the hearts and minds of our Filipino peoples, may we also realize that her death has shed light on a deadly yet preventable disease. Colonoscopy can prevent colon cancer. All races, including Filipinos, are at risk for developing colon cancer. Please ask your healthcare provider to refer you to a gastroenterologist for colonoscopy if you are above 50 years old, or you think you are at risk for colon cancer, or has any alarm symptoms.

Dr Noel R. Fajardo of Las Vegas Gastroenterology, is a practicing gastroenterologist in Las Vegas, NV. He graduated from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, MN, where he was a Clinical Instructor in Medicine. In 2005, he was awarded the Senior Fellow Award from the American College of Gastroenterology. He was a former Chief Resident at Mount Sinai School of Medicine Affiliates in New York, NY. He is an alumnus of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine.



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