

**IMMIGRANT LIVING:  
101 AND BEYOND**



MONETTE ADEVA MAGLAYA

**Making Time for the Things that Matter**

“*Capre diem! Seize the day!*”  
—Horace

much as could be squeezed out of spending an hour or two or an afternoon with his children once in a great while. While spending limited quality time was definitely better than being an absentee parent altogether, there is still no substitute for spending real “quantity time” with children, even if it means merely hanging out with them.

There is a vast array of things that children are offered to learn outside of school—activities that by themselves are intended to prime and prepare them for success in their adult lives, to make them more intelligent, more artistic, more poised with greater self-esteem, more athletic and basically more well-rounded supposedly to be able to compete in the real world. The focus of these activities is on the future rather than the present moment. Try not to rob them of the joy of the moment in the name of the future.

Well-meaning but basically misguided immigrant parents tend to overcompensate and stretch themselves to give their children the advantage they themselves did not have. Some push their children onto

too many activities to give them an edge for the outside world at some future date. As promising as these activities may seem, one needs to achieve a sense of balance and understand if the tendency to do so is a personal response to a sense of insecurity. It could be that parents are merely sublimating their inadequacies and imposing these on the lives of their own children. It is not necessary to enlist children in each and every activity that promises to give them an edge.

Spending real time with children and kicking back can yield even more tangible results in improved relationships and a better quality of family life.

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Nota Bene: My views are my own and do not necessarily reflect the views of AJPI. I encourage you to read my book, “The Complete Success Guide for the Immigrant Life: How to Survive, How to Thrive, How to be Fully Alive.” If you have very little time to read, browse through “The Immigrant’s Little Quote Book for Success.” Your local public library might have these books available or you can request your librarian to purchase copies. These are also available at Amazon.com or immigrantsuccess.com. Past articles are on the internet at www.asianjournal.com To ask questions, send feedback and requests, e-mail: monette.maglaya@sbcglobal.net or monette.maglaya@asianjournalinc.com

(Advertising Supplement)

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Political empowerment is still a treasure that eludes us as a community here in America. While we are the second largest Asian American community in the United States, we have yet to harvest the power that comes from our numbers. The Voice of FilAmerica features elected and appointed officials—regardless of political affiliation—in the different US states who are of Filipino ancestry. As your Filipino American community newspaper, the Asian Journal recognizes the fact that we all have a responsibility towards bringing political empowerment to fruition, especially for our future generations. It is our hope to have our voices heard all over America.

**Kevin Acebo**

Former Los Angeles Deputy Mayor  
Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

by CYNTHIA DE CASTRO  
AJPress



IN 2005, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announced that in continuing to build a results-orientated administration inclusive of the best and brightest, he has chosen key senior people with a breadth and depth of experience and talent and a commitment to innovative, results-oriented and ethical work. One of these is Filipino-American Kevin Acebo whom he appointed Deputy Mayor for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.

“In selecting my team, I looked for people who brought with them a passion for public service, the highest ethical standards and a commitment to improving the quality of life for all Angelenos,” said Mayor Villaraigosa.

For over 20 years Kevin Acebo has worked in the areas of public policy, public affairs and politics. Since 2004, Acebo launched KMA Strategies, Inc., a political-communications strategy and business development firm with clients including the California Democratic Party and Bedrock Strategies, Inc.

From 2000 to 2004, Acebo has worked as the Statewide Political Director for the California Democratic Party responsible for developing the Party’s strategic year-around political agenda that includes generating and implementing issue-oriented media events, interfacing with the state’s Democratic elected leadership and allied interest groups including organized labor, the environmental, senior and disabled movements, community-based organizations, the faith community, women’s organizations and communities of color. During general election cycles, Acebo would assume the duties of Director of the California Coordinated Campaign, the Democratic Party’s statewide campaign organization.

From 1994 to 2000, Acebo served as Assistant Chief of Staff to Los Angeles County Supervisor

Zev Yaroslavsky. While working for Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Acebo’s primary policy and budget responsibilities included oversight of the nation’s largest criminal justice system and elections operation, the state’s largest in-home supportive services authority serving over 100,000 seniors and caregivers, the County’s labor unions and local, state and federal inter-governmental issues.

From 1989 to 1994, Acebo owned KMA Associates, a political campaign and public affairs consulting firm. His clients included: Los Angeles City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky, Assembly Members Terry Friedman, Barbara Friedman, Congressmen Xavier Becerra and Mel Levine, and Monrovia Mayor Lara Larra-mendi Blakely.

From 1981 to 1989, Acebo worked for Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr., as a principal Legislative Consultant developing district-based legislation and communications initiatives for Members of the Assembly Democratic Caucus. In 1979

Acebo worked as a Research Assistant for the White House Commission on the Review of the Federal Impact Aid Program and the Office for Civil Rights within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He has served as the Chair of the Asian Pacific Caucus of the California Democratic Party, President of the Asian Pacific Democratic Club and National Committee Member for the California Young Democrats. Acebo was also selected as a social work fellow under the auspices of the Asian American Mental Health Training Center in Los Angeles and interned at Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, Inc., a non-profit agency focused on Pilipino American youth issues and services.

Acebo studied at the Bishop O’ Dowd High School in Oakland California and graduated Cum Laude from the University of Southern California.

Last year, in 2008, Acebo left the Mayor’s Office to pursue teaching and opportunities in the private sector.

“Kevin Acebo has been a creative leader for a strong team working on behalf of this City,” Mayor Villaraigosa said. “His energy, enthusiasm and skill will be greatly missed.”



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**Desert Green XII set for October 22-23, 2009**

THE premier turf and landscape event for landscape professionals in the Southwest—Desert Green—will be held on October 22-23, 2009. Sam’s Town Hotel & Gambling Hall is the venue for the event. “Green Industry Crossroads—Sharpening the Blade” features two days of four concurrent seminar tracks, including one on pest management with pesticide CEUs as well as the Nevada Certified Applicators Exam offered on October 23. Tracks covering landscape architecture, arboriculture, irrigation and water conservation and golf and sports turf management will be offered.

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For more information, or to register, please contact M.L. Robinson at 702-257-5529, e-mail robinsonm@unce.unr.edu or register on-line at http://www.desert-green.org. For exhibitor and booth information for the trade show, please contact Helen Stone at 702-454-3057 or e-mail helen@swtreesandturf.com.

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