



# TAMBULLI

Newsletter of the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
Tampa, Florida

Volume XV, No. 1  
February, 2012



Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. presents

# PhilFest<sup>SM</sup> 2012

*17th Annual Philippine Festival  
Moving onwards for Pinoy Empowerment!*

*Cultural exhibits, non-stop entertainment,  
Philippine art and cuisine and many more!*

**Tawag ng Tanghalan  
Tanghalang Pambata  
Mrs. PhilFest  
Consulate-on-Wheels  
Revolution 2012  
Yugyugan 2012**

Friday, March 30, 2012, 4PM-11PM  
Saturday, March 31, 2012, 10AM - 11PM  
Sunday, April 1, 2012, 10AM - 7PM

PHILIPPINE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT COMPLEX  
BAYANIHAN ARTS AND EVENTS CENTER  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

For more information  
Call (813) 925-1232  
Visit [www.pcfitampana.org](http://www.pcfitampana.org)

Proceeds from this event will benefit PCFI cultural programs

**SEE MORE PHILFEST 2012 DETAILS ON PAGE 3!!!**



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**Roger L. Caculitan**  
PCFI Chairman, 2010-2012

*"... Remembering our past sacrifices since 1995, when we started clearing this swampy land from nowhere the day of Sampaguita Ball that year and the PCFI Board working together as one all these years to build a cultural complex that is the envy of so many and recalling the examples of tenacity, determination and hard work set by all of my predecessors, have helped me to focus my energy in doing what was expected of me. ...."*

**TAMBULI**  
Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
www.pcfitampa.org

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14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, Florida 33626  
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[www.bayanihanartscenter.org](http://www.bayanihanartscenter.org)

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Editor in Chief

**Nhick Ramiro Pacis**  
Design and Layout

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This is my last message to you as chairman of the PCFI Board since my term expires on the 13th of May this year. When I assumed the chairmanship in May of 2010, I was fully aware that this position would be a thankless job- one that would require an endless sense of sacrifice of time, effort and resources for the welfare of this Foundation that we all love. Having been one of those who were there from the very beginning, I knew this firsthand. Remembering our past sacrifices since 1995, when we started clearing this swampy land from nowhere the day of Sampaguita Ball that year and the PCFI Board working together as one all these years to build a cultural complex that is the envy of so many and recalling the examples of tenacity, determination and hard work set by all of my predecessors, have helped me to focus my energy in doing what was expected of me.

In my Tambuli message in the PhilFest 2011 issue, I wrote that the third and final phase of the paving of our festival grounds was yet to be done. Everyone will recall that it was finished before Philfest 2011. Re-paving of the cracked access road between the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center and the Philippine Village has been finished, too, thanks to the initiative of our Business Operations Manager, Rudy Bautista, with the approval of the Board. The Board has also approved the building of a new restroom, now at the permitting stage, at the Finance office.

The Bahay Kubo has been finished and, with the construction of the handicapped ramp required by federal law, is finally open to the public. The offering of free Basic Conversational Tagalog classes has been revived and, depending on public demand, will be continued in the immediate future. A class in Philippine Customs and Traditions will also be taught.

We now have nineteen (19) member organizations, three of which joined during this administration. These are the Fil-Am Club of Pinellas County, the Fil-Am Social Club of Pasco and Hernando County, and our latest one, APO, Florida (Alpha Phi Omega Philippines) Alumni Association of Florida, which

is a service-oriented organization that is actively involved in various community projects. They have volunteered to provide security this PhilFest. The Fil-Am Club of Pinellas pavilion has finally been finished and the Philippine Medical Society is in the final stages of planning to build their own pavilion beside the PAPAG pavilion.

Our PCFI cultural programs are up and running, thanks to our untiring Cultural Affairs chairman, Olivia Santiano, who always emphasizes that PCFI, first and foremost, is a cultural Foundation. The Philippine Performing Arts Company dancers under the direction of talented choreographer, Joey Omila, are rehearsing for their gala, Dances of the Philippines, to be held on May 26, 2012, at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts. Nhick Pacis, PCFI Musical Director and conductor of our Bamboo Orchestra, is now directing the sarzuela, Ana Maria, the premier performance of which will be at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center on Saturday and Sunday this PhilFest. Rehearsals are in full swing.

I would like to reiterate my sincerest thanks to the Board of Directors who have worked with me in making important decisions which have led to our significant achievements. We never lost sight of the fact that we are here to work hand in hand for the ultimate welfare of this Foundation that is so close to our hearts. Let us not forget to continue displaying a track record of service, dedication and support for all the cultural activities of PCFI so that the next generation of Filipinos here in Tampa Bay will be eager to keep up the good work we have started.

We hope to see all of you and your families, friends, and acquaintances this PhilFest having a whale of a grand time. It will be a weekend you won't soon forget!

Sincerely,

**Roger L. Caculitan**  
Chairman of the Board, 2010-2012





## PHILFEST 2012 IS HERE!!

PhilFest 2012 on March 30-April 1, the much-awaited three-day signature festival put on by the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc., is its premier fund-raising event to raise funds for the maintenance and upkeep of the Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex. On this 17th PhilFest the PhilFest committee with Roger Caculitan as chairman and Lucy Bautista, Ross Balderama and Roy Covarrubias as his vice-chairmen, and twenty-three other committees have been busy with their preparations. In the coming weeks they will transform the Philippine Village into a typical Filipino fiesta where Filipinos can mingle with others from the motherland and exchange news and pleasantries.

With about 12,000 expected to attend, PhilFest will be sure to give opportunities for people of all nationalities and ethnic backgrounds to experience Philippine culture firsthand, albeit only for a day or two or all three days. This festival also bridges the apparent cultural gap between Filipinos raised the traditional way and their offspring born here in the United States or elsewhere.

With an expected 11-000-12,000 people attending, PhilFest will be sure to offer to Filipinos and non-Filipinos chances to satisfy all kinds of palates with culinary offerings from vendors and caterers from different parts of the Philippines, all housed in colorful booths with barrio festival themes. Handicrafts, costumes and fashion accessories will be sold by various artists and vendors and different cultural performances and exhibitions will enthrall the audience, both at the Philippine Village and at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center.

Friday, the 30th of March starts at 5:00 with music by Aba Villagomez and the presentation of the Mrs. PhilFest candidates with their association presidents at 7:00 P.M. The cultural extravaganza by our three cultural arms (the Philippine Performing Arts Company, the Philippine Choral Group and the Bamboo Orchestra) will follow. The G.A. Hour at 8:00 will be presented by G.A.

Pinky, exclusive media sponsor, highlighted by the performance by Jay-R., Prince of Pop. R & B of the Philippines, who is also a dancer and actor. TAWAG NG TANGHALAN, the Filipino counterpart of American Idol, will follow, after which the festival closes for the night.

Saturday, the 31st of March, is our busiest day and will offer a variety of song and dance performances, as well as exhibitions by various groups and individuals. From 10:00-5:00 the cultural exhibits may be at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center. Then at 2:00 visitors may watch the premier performance of the Tagalog sarzuela, Ana Maria. If you miss it on Saturday you will have another chance to see it if you consult the entertainment schedule. Meanwhile, at the Sinagtala stage different performances of song, dance, Arnis Karate, etc., will be presented.

At 1:00 P.M. TFC (The Filipino Channel) will present the TFC Hour, exclusive media sponsor, featuring Sheryn Regis, Monette Rivera of Adobo Nation, and Don Tagala, exclusive TFC correspondent. The public will also witness the presentation of certitudes to the graduated of the Conversational Tagalog class offered through the auspices of PCFI. Following will be the talent portion of the Mrs. PhilFest contest, after which the Mrs. PhilFest/Grand Flores de PhilFest parade will follow. This will feature beautiful women and young girls in their most exquisite Filipino costumes and long gowns, escorted by dashing young boys and men in their Barong Tagalog, all in colorful arcs parading around the festival grounds.

For years now the highlight of the evening which involves the youth, our promise of tomorrow, is REVOLUTION 2012. This is a hip-hop competition of young Fil-Ams from different schools and colleges, which has for its able chairs, the effervescent Melissa Barrido and Michelle Lebrías. It is so

satisfying to see our young people coming in droves to root for their choices of winners.

Sunday will open later than the day before (11:00), but after musical performances on the stage, TANGHALANG PAMBATA, the children's version of TAWAG NG TANGHALAN will be presented. Another cultural crowd getter is YUGYUGAN 2012, street dancing participated in by various associations, individuals and even the public, all in colorful costume and marching to a beat unique to the dance steps. Then the coronation of the Mrs. PhilFest winners will follow, after which will follow the presentation sure to please all fashionistas, the Philippine fashion show. After that the Grand Raffle Drawing will follow.

Again this year we are very fortunate to have the Consulate-on-Wheels team headed by our Philippine Consul General, Ding Nolasco, to provide consular services to the public, culminating in a Dual Citizenship Oath taking at Sampaguita Grand Hall of the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday.

PhilFest officially closes at 7:00 P.M.

**PhilFest 2012**  
17th Annual Philippine Festival  
Moving onwards for Pinoy Empowerment!  
Cultural exhibits, non-stop entertainment, raffle drawings, Philippine art and cuisine and many more!  
**Tawag ng Tanghalan**  
**Tanghalang Pambata**  
**Mrs. PhilFest**  
**Consulate-on-Wheels**  
**Revolution 2012**  
**Yugyugan 2012**

Brought to you by proud PCFI member organizations:  
Aba Villagomez, Florida  
Ana Ballina del Amo in Florida  
Association of Filipino Students  
Bisaya Association of Southern Florida  
Fil-Am Club of Florida County  
Fil-Am Social Club of Pasco and Berwyn County  
Kappa Phi Kappa  
Kappa Phi Kappa  
Philippine American Association of Tampa  
Philippine American Chapter of Commerce  
Philippine American Medical Professionals Group  
Philippine Career Group  
Philippine Medical Society South Coast  
Philippine Medical Society Auxiliary  
Philippine Nurses Association of Tampa Bay  
Philippine Performing Arts Company Inc.  
Tampa Bay Sports Club

Friday, March 30, 2012, 4PM-11PM  
Saturday, March 31, 2012, 10AM - 11PM  
Sunday, April 1, 2012, 10AM - 7PM  
Advance Tickets: \$5.00  
At the Gate: \$6.00  
Children 5 years and under, FREE

PHILIPPINE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT COMPLEX  
BAYANIHAN ARTS AND EVENTS CENTER  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

For more information  
Call (813) 925-1232  
Visit [www.pcfiltampa.org](http://www.pcfiltampa.org)

Buy your tickets at the following outlets:  
ST. PETERSBURG: ST. PETRO/CLEAN WATER, 12000 Highway 192, Suite 300, St. Petersburg, FL 34784, 727-544-8833  
TAMPA: Philippine Oriental Store 4811 TAMPA, 4811 TAMPA, TAMPA, FL 33613, 813-854-4544  
SEVEN HILLS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB: 14000 Seven Hills Blvd., Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33613, 813-982-1042  
Proceeds from this event will benefit PCFI cultural programs.

TFC, GMA Pinoy TV, LIFE TV, ONE PHILIPPINES, arts tampa bay, Pasta Pinoy NEWS, St. Petersburg Times, NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, ARTS COUNCIL HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, Hillsborough County, PHILIPPINE CULTURAL FOUNDATION





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Mon - Fri  
7:40pm - 8:10pm

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Mon - Fri  
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Anchored by Mike Enriquez and Mel Tiangco



The longest-running gag show

Sundays  
6:50pm - 7:45pm

With Michael V., Ogie Alcasid and the gang.



Watch the special GMA Hour featuring **JAY-R**  
Friday, March 30 at 8:00 PM  
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[www.gmanetwork.com/international](http://www.gmanetwork.com/international)





# PhilFest 2012 TAWAG NG TANGHALAN 2012

Singing Competition 2012



### CONTEST INFORMATION

1. "Tawag ng Tanghalan" is solo vocal competition to be held on Friday, March 30, 2012 at 8:00PM at the Sinagtala Theater, 14301 Nine Eagles Drive, Tampa, Florida 33626. It is open to any Filipino-American, 16 years or older. Each contestant may or may not represent a Filipino-American organization, county or state and must not have won first prize in any past "Tawag ng Tanghalan" competition at PhilFest.
2. Each contestant may have a live accompanist or a recorded accompaniment (CD only). If using a live accompanist, please inform the contest coordinators beforehand to arrange for proper sound amplification if needed. If using a CD accompaniment, please indicate your name and the track number that is to be played. CD accompaniments must be submitted prior to the contest proper.
3. Computation of scores will be according to criteria set by a panel of judges. Winners will be announced at the end of the competition. The decision of the panel of judges is final. Cash and other valuable prizes will be awarded to the winners and runner-ups:
  - First Prize: \$500\*
  - 2nd Prize: \$300
  - 3rd Prize: \$200

*\*The first prize winner may be invited to perform at the succeeding festival days.*
4. Contestants and winners will NOT be provided with complimentary passes or any special privileges to the festival.
5. All interested contestants MUST complete the Contest Entry Form in order to be eligible for the competition. This must be sent by mail to: Tawag ng Tanghalan, Bayanihan Arts and Events Center, 14301 Nine Eagles Drive, Tampa, FL 33626 or via fax at (813) 818-9599 by Friday, March 23, 2012 at 5:00PM. Only the first 12 applicants will be eligible to participate due to competition time constraints. Please call (813) 925-1232 or email info@pcfifamp.org to receive the form via fax. It can also be downloaded from our website at www.pcfifamp.org.

Friday, March 30, 2012  
8:00 PM

Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
Sinagtala Theater  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

Entrance Fee: \$6.00

Tel. (813) 925-1232  
www.pcfifamp.org

# PhilFest 2012 TANGHALANG PAMBATA 2012



### Children's Talent Contest

Sunday, April 1, 2012  
1:00 PM

Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
Sinagtala Theater  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

Open to all Filipino-American children ages 5 to 15 years old with talents in singing, dancing, drama, acrobatics or other.

Interested participants must submit application form before Friday, March 23, 2012 at 5:00 PM via fax at (813) 818-9599 or via snail mail to

Tanghalang pambata  
Bayanihan Arts and Events Center  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive, Tampa, FL 33626.

Application form is available for download at [www.pcfifamp.org](http://www.pcfifamp.org).

If applicable, each contestant must provide his/her own music accompaniment preferably on a CD bearing his/her name and indicating which track is to be played.

All contestants must be present at the Sinagtala Theater backstage an hour before the competition.

For more information about this competition, please contact  
Lucy Bautista: (727) 392-4374 / (727) 647-2209  
Bayanihan Arts and Events Center: (813) 925-1232  
or visit us at  
[www.pcfifamp.org](http://www.pcfifamp.org)

## CONSULATE-ON-WHEELS: NEW APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PHILFEST 2012

We have finally received a confirmation from the Consular office that it will indeed send a team to serve you during PhilFest 2012. However, the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. and the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center are no longer part of the application process aside from the fact that we will be providing the venue for the event. The Consular office decided that all applications and scheduling for the Consulate-on-Wheels in Tampa will only be processed through their office in Washington DC.

Also, reservations and schedules will only start when they will issue an announcement online though their site at <http://www.philippineembassy-usa.org/philippines-dc/consular-services-dc/faq-dc/#outreach>

This means that all submissions made through Bayanihan Arts and Events Center or [pcfifamp.org](http://pcfifamp.org) will not be honored and you have to inquire directly from the Philippine Consulate.

Please visit the above link often or call the Philippine Consular Office at 202-467-9300 during their office hours for more updated information.



## CONSULATE ON WHEELS





Watch the special TFC Presentation featuring  
**SHERYN REGIS, DON TAGALA and MONETTE RIVERA**  
Saturday, March 31 at 1:00 PM  
Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
Brought to you by TFC Channel  
only at





**PHILFEST 2012**

**PHILFEST**  
17th Annual Philippine Festival  
2012

**HIP-HOP DANCE COMPETITION AND YOUTH NIGHT**

**PHILIPPINE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT COMPLEX**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012**  
**8:00 PM**

Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
Sinagtala Theater  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

PhilFest Advance tickets: \$5.00  
At the gate: \$6.00  
Children 5 and under, FREE

Buy your tickets at the following outlets:  
ST. PETER/CLEARWATER: Melissa Barrido 727.459.6413  
MIRAGE/ROSELAND: Michelle Lebrias 727.235.1350  
TINDAHANG PINAY 727.544.8026

TAMPA: Philippine Oriental Store (813) 971-4211  
Philippine Grocery/Tampa Occidental (813) 854-4546  
TEPHYRHILLS/LAKELAND: Jon's Gourmet Foods (813) 716-7042  
Proceeds from this event will benefit PCFC cultural programs.

For more information contact:  
Melissa Barrido 727.459.6413  
Michelle Lebrias 727.235.1350  
philfest.revolution@gmail.com  
Lucy Bautista 727.392.4376

[www.pcfitampana.org](http://www.pcfitampana.org)

**PHILFEST**  
17th Annual Philippine Festival  
2012

**YUGYUGAN**

**PHILIPPINE STREET CARNIVAL**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2012**  
**2:30 PM**

Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
14301 Nine Eagles Drive  
Tampa, FL 33626

PhilFest Advance tickets: \$5.00  
At the Gate: \$6.00  
Children 5 and under, FREE

If your organization would like to join, please contact:  
Olive Santiano 727.734.7022  
Bing Curioso: 813.454.4060  
Bayanihan Arts and Events Center 813.925.1232  
or visit us at:  
[www.pcfitampana.org](http://www.pcfitampana.org)

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Catering service, either buffet or formal sit down dinner, for your private parties at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center that will surely impress your Filipino and American friends. Up-class setting for your discriminating guests. Have a worry-free party. Let us do the professional help for you.

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PhilFest 2012  
17th Annual Philippine Festival  
Moving onwards for Pinoy Empowerment

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Schedule may change without prior notice. Please check for updates at [www.pcfitampa.org](http://www.pcfitampa.org)

### FRIDAY, MARCH 30

9:30 am - 12 noon	Consulate-on-Wheels (Bayanihan Arts and Events Center)
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Consulate-on-Wheels (Bayanihan Arts and Events Center)
5:00 PM	Music by ABA
6:30 PM	Tallahassee Community College Dance Company
6:55 PM	Welcome speech by PCFI Chairman and PhilFest Chairman
7:00 PM	Presentation of Mrs. PhilFest 2012 Candidates
7:30 PM	Opening Cultural Show by Musikong Kawayan Bamboo Ensemble, Philippine Choral Group, Indak Pambata and Philippine Performing Arts Company, Inc.
8:00 PM	GMA Hour with Jay-R
9:00 PM	TAWAG NG TANGHALAN 2012
11:00 PM	PhilFest Closes

### SATURDAY, MARCH 31

9:00 am - 12 noon	Consulate-on-Wheels (BAEC)
10:00 AM	Music by ABA
10:00 AM	Cultural Exhibit at Bayanihan Arts and Events Center opens
10:30 AM	Amis Karate
11:00 AM	All Sets Aside
11:30 AM	Adelina Band
12:00 Noon	Tallahassee Community College Dance Company (BAEC)
12:30 PM	Allan Rivera Manuel Performs Manny Pacquiao
12:45 PM	Denice Almuerte
12:50 PM	Noel Kunz, Yo-yo Master
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Consulate-on-Wheels (BAEC)
1:00 PM	TFC Hour featuring Sheryn Regis, Don Tagala and Monette Rivera
2:00 PM	Fil-Am Social Club of Hernando and Pasco Dancers
2:00 PM	"Ana Maria" (BAEC)
2:15 PM	Philippine Creative Dancers
2:30 PM	Florida State University Indak Dance Troupe
2:45 PM	Tropical Rhythms Dance Troupe from Houston, TX
3:00 PM	Philippine Performing Arts Company, Inc.
3:15 PM	Harvey Igbughay and Friends
3:30 PM	Presentation of Tagalog Class Graduates
3:45 PM	Presentation and Talent Portion of Mrs. PhilFest 2012 Candidates
4:15 PM	Tallahassee Community College Dance Company
5:00 PM	Cultural Exhibit at Bayanihan Arts and Events Center closes
4:45 PM	GRAND FLORES DE PHILFEST PARADE
5:30 PM	Philippine Performing Arts Company, Inc.
6:00 PM	Philippine Choral Group
6:30 PM	Musikong Kawayan Bamboo Ensemble
7:00 PM	Philip Mahoney, Saxophonist
7:15 PM	Kristoffer Campos
7:30 PM	REVOLUTION 2012
11:00 PM	PhilFest closes

### SUNDAY, APRIL 1

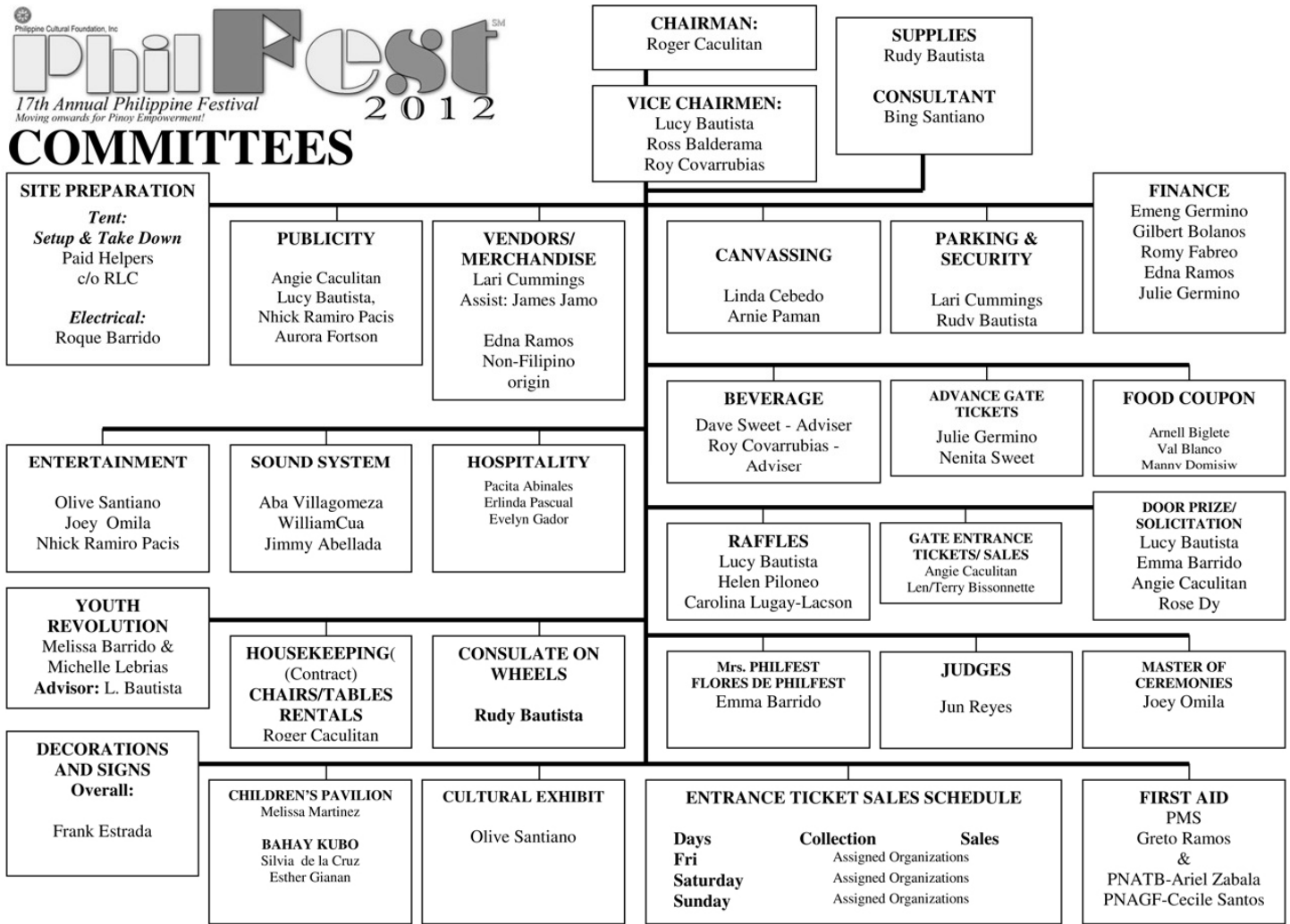
9:00 AM	Holy Mass
9:30 am - 12 noon	Consulate-on-Wheels (BAEC)
11:00 AM	Music by ABA
12:00 Noon	Allan Rivera Manuel Performs Manny Pacquiao
12:30 PM	20 Years North (Youth Band)
1:00 PM	TANGHALANG PAMBATA 2012
1:00 PM	"Ana Maria" (BAEC)
2:00 PM	Announcement of Ms. PhilFest 2012
2:30 PM	Dual Citizenship Ceremony (BAEC)
2:30 PM	Yugyugan 2012
3:00 PM	Philippine Fashion Show
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Consulate-on-Wheels (BAEC)
3:30 PM	Philippine Performing Arts Company, Inc.
4:00 PM	GRAND RAFFLE DRAWING
4:30 PM	GRAND FLORES DE PHILFEST PARADE
7:00 PM	PhilFest officially closes







Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
**PhilFest**  
 17th Annual Philippine Festival  
 Moving onwards for Pinoy Empowerment!  
**2012**  
**COMMITTEES**



**Regina's**  
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 We specialize in authentic Philippine and international cuisine,  
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Now moving to a new location!  
 Bread, pastries and native desserts  
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 Your bakery at PhilFest 2012!

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Email: [mdkyle@gte.net](mailto:mdkyle@gte.net)  
 Hours: 9am - 6pm, Monday to Saturday

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 Halo-halo, Buko, Sago at gulaman

Delia and Ellen Mata & family  
 (727) 535-1573



## ANA MARIA: A FILIPINO SARZUELA PRODUCTION AT PHILFEST

The Philippine Cultural Foundation is proud to present "Ana Maria", a Filipino Sarzuela, at PhilFest 2012 at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center on Saturday, March 31 at 2:00 PM and Sunday, April 1 at 1:00 PM. This comic Philippine musicale which premiered in the 1920's was collaboration by Filipino composer and national artist Antonio Molina (1894-1980) and playwright Severino Reyes (1861-1942), aka Lola Basyang.

"Ana Maria" is making its way to the Tampa audience on PhilFest by Rhovi Anne Allado and Jeanette Pangilinan as Anang, Vic Omila as Timo, James Jamo as Don Pedro, Rose Demille as Dona Doray and Aga Villagomez as Menggoy. This production is directed by Nnick Ramiro Pacis with pianist David Martinez, costume designer Joey Omila, stage managers Anne Bartlett and Catherine Alcivar and project chairmen Dr. Patsy Abinales and Olive Santiano.

"Ana Maria" revolves around the disintegrating marriage of a husband and wife as put to the test by the obsession to "sabong" or cockfighting which is a popular gambling game in the Philippines.

The Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. presents

**Ana Maria**  
A Filipino Sarzuela  
Libretto by Severino Reyes  
Music by Antonio Molina

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Project Chairman: Patsy Abinales, MD / Olive Santiano  
 Director / Music Director: Nnick Ramiro Pacis  
 Stage Manager: Anne Bartlett / Catherine Alcivar  
 Costume Designer / Lighting Director: Joey Omila  
 Rehearsal and Accompanist: David Martinez III

**Show Dates:**  
 Saturday, March 31, 2012, 2PM  
 Sunday, April 1, 2012, 1PM

Bayanihan Arts and Events Center  
 #301 NINE Eagles Drive  
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## FREE CONVERSATIONAL TAGALOG CLASS NOW UNDERWAY



*Conversational Tagalog Classes at the bahay Kubo*

In 2003 the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc., started giving cultural education classes through the initiative of then PCFI Board secretary and legal counsel, Bob Ruelo, and the untiring efforts of Mr. Rey Aquino, who volunteered his services as Tagalog class teacher and Mrs. Unidad Bonoan, as the volunteer Philippine Customs and Traditions teacher. In 2006 the teaching of Tagalog to interested students was revived, again with Mr. Rey Aquino as the volunteer teacher.

In keeping up with PCFI's goal of presenting opportunities for the public to increase their knowledge of Philippine language and culture, a free Basic Conversational Tagalog class was started on January 21, 2012, through the efforts of Angie Caculitan, chairman for PCFI cultural classes, in the Bahay Kubo at the Philippine Village. Mrs. Janet Trinidad Weglarz has graciously volunteered her services as the Conversational Tagalog

class teacher, with Noel and Soccoro Pulido as volunteer helpers. The students vary in ages and backgrounds. Some are teens and young adults born in the United States of Filipino parents or of mixed marriages with one Filipino parent, while some students are couples. Others are Americans married to Filipinos, while

some were born in the Philippines of Filipino parents or mixed marriages with one Filipino parent and who grew up here in the United States. It is indeed a delight to observe this Tagalog class in action, with Mrs. Weglarz communicating only in Tagalog to teach the students how to communicate in Tagalog in different settings and learn Philippine songs.

Certificates will be awarded to these hardworking students at PhilFest on Saturday, March 31, at the Sinagtala stage. Expect the graduates to show the audience some things they have learned.



## PHILIPPINE MADRIGAL SINGERS VISIT THE TAMPA BAY AREA

PCFI would like to thank the Philippine Madrigal Singers for a successful concert at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center on August 2, 2011. Led by its choirmaster, Mark Anthony Carpio, the 20-member Madz per-

*The Philippine Madrigal Singers*



formed a mixed repertoire of light classics like the "William Tell Overture" by Gioacchino Rossini, popular tunes like "in The Mood" by Joe Graland and songs from "Mamma Mia" and a whole section of Filipino songs ranging from traditional to pop. They ended with a medley of nationalistic songs, "Isang Bansang Mapayapa", arranged by Chris Borela and Lion King's "The Circle of Life" for an encore. Many thanks to the Madz and to the Filipino-Americans of Tampa Bay for such a memorable evening of exquisite choral music!

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## THE PHILIPPINE CHORAL GROUP

The Philippine Choral Group is the resident choir of the Philippine Cultural Foundation Inc. It has been performing in the Tampa Bay area for more than 18 years. The choir has come a long way and is proud of what it has accomplished for the past years. It has been under the continued leadership of Olive Santiano and music director Connie Chanrasmi. The group consists of individuals from different professions who joined together because of their love for music. Their rendition of songs ranges from Broadway tunes, hymns, folk songs to original Pilipino music. Most of their music has been arranged for the group by Nhick Pacis.



*Above: The Philippine Choral Group*

*Below: PCG members with members of the Philippine Madrigal Singers*

The group continues to support all Philippine festivities such as PhilFest, Barrio Fiesta, Feast of Penafraancia and Feast of Sto Nino. For years, the choir has sung at the yearly Baccalaureate Mass for St Petersburg Catholic High School. Catholic priests, as well as Bishop Robert Lynch of the Diocese of St Petersburg compliment on the beautiful music that choir provides in the church services.

Last year, the group helped arranged the concert of the UP Madrigal Singers, a premier choir ensemble of the Philippines where Connie Chanrasmi was former member.

For anyone interested in joining the group, they can get in touch with Olive Santiano (727-734-7022) or Connie Chanrasmi (727-541-1568).



## SUMMER RECITAL 2012 A SUCCESS!



The 5th Annual Summer Recital 2011 chaired by Melissa (Santiano) Martinez was a great success with over 60 performers! On a beautiful day in August, children from the ages of 5-18 were able to share their talents to the community in a supportive environment that was appreciated by all who attended. We had a variety of performances; from singing to dancing to playing the piano, flute, and violin. We also had the Philippine Performing Arts Company Youth Crew join us this year to perform their award winning dance number from Philfest Revolutions! We celebrated those children who have participated since the beginning 5 years ago, as well as those who joined us for the first time. If any child aged 3 and up is interested in sharing their talents at this year's recital, please contact Melissa at 727-642-6228 or [Melissa\\_6581@yahoo.com](mailto:Melissa_6581@yahoo.com). We will be limiting the number of performers so please sign up by the end of July! Thanks to all for 5 fantastic years!

 **Be a fan at Facebook!**

Yes, the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. and Bayanihan Arts and Events Center have Facebook fan pages! Be a fan and leave us messages, photos and videos of your visit to PhilFest. Please visit [www.pcf.tampa.org](http://www.pcf.tampa.org) and [www.bayanihanartscenter.org](http://www.bayanihanartscenter.org) for the direct links.



# PHILIPPINE PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY, INC. CELEBRATES 20th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT AT THE STRAZ

The Philippine Performing Arts Company, Inc. (PPAC) is celebrating its 20th year anniversary with a major show entitled "Dances of the Philippines" on Saturday, May 26, 2012 at 7:30PM at the Fergusson Hall of the Straz Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Tampa. This performance will highlight major ethnic and folk dances from the Philippines as directed and choreographed by the company's artistic director, Joey Omila.

PPAC is one of the major cultural arms of the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. (PCFI) at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center in Tampa. The organization is focused on the performance, teaching and appreciation of Philippine dances to the Filipino-American community in the Tampa Bay Area and Florida as a whole. It has traveled to and performed at various cities in the US and Canada and boasts several awards like the International World Folk Dance Competition at the Azalea International Folk Fair in Valdosta, Georgia.

Tickets to "Dances of the Philippines" range from \$15 - \$50. To buy, contact the Straz Center Box Office at (813) 229-STAR or visit [www.strazcenter.org](http://www.strazcenter.org). The Straz is located at 1010 N Macinnes Pl Tampa, FL 33602.

To avoid box office fees, contact Judy Sibayan (813) 833-1867, Liberty Galloway (727) 647-8127, Aurora Fortson (813) 390-8476 or Lucy Bautista (727) 639-7980 for tickets.

**The Philippine Performing Arts Company**  
in cooperation with the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc.  
presents

**Saturday,  
May 26, 2012  
7:30 pm**

**Straz Center for the  
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*20th Anniversary*

Directed and Choreographed by  
Jose 'Joey' Omila

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## MUSIKONG KAWAYAN BAMBOO ENSEMBLE TURNS TEN

**M**usikong Kawayan Bamboo Ensemble is now on its tenth year at the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. in Tampa, Florida! After its first public performance in 2002, the ensemble has represented the Filipino community in concerts, various festivals, television shows and exhibits in the Tampa Bay Area and other notable Floridian venues including the Florida Folk Festival, Kaleidoscope Festival, AsiaFest, CTTV Friday Extra Concert Series and others. These endeavors have been made possible through the Philippine Cultural Foundation's thrust in its Music Instrumental Program and with the support of the



*Musikong Kawayan Bamboo Ensemble at Sampaguita Ball 2011*

Arts Council of Hillsborough County and the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners. The Ensemble is directed by Nhick Ramiro Pacis, PCFI's in-house Music Director.

Musikong Kawayan is selling its first CD recording entitled "Musikong Kawayan" with guest performers baritone Vic Omila and the Philippine Choral Group conducted by Connie Chanrasmi. This recording is a collection of Philippine folk and ethnic music as well as original compositions by Nhick Ramiro Pacis. The CD can be purchased at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center for \$12.00.

Interested individuals of all ages who want to join the ensemble and can dedicate Saturday mornings for rehearsals are most welcome. For more information, please contact Nhick Ramiro Pacis at (813) 317-5319, visit PCFI's website at [www.pcfitampa.org](http://www.pcfitampa.org) under Music Instrumental Program or email us at [info@pcfifitampa.org](mailto:info@pcfifitampa.org).

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Carissa Chanrasmi  
Carmelita Chanrasmi  
Mirope Cleek  
Amy Estrada  
Francisco "Nino" Estrada  
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Carmelita Gonzales  
Ryan Gonzales  
Becy Jamo  
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Puyot, Janela  
Wivent Puyot  
Malisa Reyes  
Michael Reyes  
Allison Sumilang  
Cynthia Sumilang  
Brent Taghap  
Lella Taghap  
Ivan Villegasmea  
Nhick Ramiro Pacis, conductor

### with guests Vic Omila, baritone Philippine Choral Group

Pearl Miranda  
Mirope Cleek  
Evelyn Misay  
Choleing Napoli  
Melissa Santillano  
Olivia Santillano  
Rose Tena  
Arlene Chanrasmi  
Rudy Concepcion  
Adolfo Mancel  
David Martinez  
Tom Cayetano  
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Wivent Puyot  
Bing Santillano  
Rabiele Abraham  
Alina Anjacion  
Chi Chi Beavers  
Loli Devera  
Chi Korfmacher  
Felix Abinales  
Yoly Kuperman  
Betty Miranda  
Janela Puyot  
Vilma Tizon  
Connie Chanrasmi, Conductor

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## CONSULATE-ON-WHEELS: THE BAYANIHAN EXPERIENCE

By Mel Allego



Consulate-on-Wheels sponsored by the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce

Having arrived five minutes early, I took a stroll through the lobby of the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center and glanced over the crowd of Filipino faces silent with smiles of anticipation for their names to be called. Eager to rush forward and finally unload the emotional burden and anxiety of the passport renewal process, their eyes were focused towards Bayanihan Director Rudy Bautista and the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce (PACC) volunteers, gathered around the check-in desk, for some sense of guidance or direction. Filipino-time need not apply to them, for they were required to book their appointments several months in advance. Silently moving past them, between the Library and Ann Bartlett's Office, various Filipino dialects bounced in echo off of neutral-painted walls and crisp floor tiles as the Garden Veranda awaited me just beyond the glass door at the end of the hallway.

As the crisp cool morning gave way to the warmth of the rising sun, I sat amongst the black iron tables along Plaza Barrido facing the parking lot, while observing passport renewal candidates walking hastily from their cars to the Bayanihan. A young Filipino boy, about the age of 5, was playing with his green toy monster truck atop a table when his Lolo, a distinguished and proud looking man dressed in traditional Barong Tagalog, called for him to return. A man, whom I presumed was the boy's father, quickly ran up to join them carrying a small blue jacket and an armful of government documents. Wrestling the jacket onto his son and over his tightly clenched toy, he ushered them all towards the entrance, where his wife waited anxiously at the door.

Looking down at my watch, the time read 9:05. I stood from my seat, grabbed one more breath of fresh air and walked back into the Bayanihan. Inside, I found a seat next to

PACC President Renato Boac at a neatly arranged check-in desk with stacks of passport application forms, voting forms, two appointment lists and a cash box. Suddenly a wave of people came forward with questions regarding forms, priority mail envelopes, walk-in availabilities, and appointment times. Handing each issue without a hitch, we received the go-ahead from the Consul to begin accepting applicants. Philippine Nationals came from all across Florida, including Miami, Orlando, Kissimmee, Jacksonville and Tampa, for this opportunity to renew their passports locally and forego the hassle and expense of traveling to Washington, D.C. With each passing candidate, I could see the gratitude and relief in their faces as they hurried passed me towards the Consulate stations.

Over the course of two days, the 26th and 27th of November, volunteers from the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc., The Philippine-American Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay and members of the Philippine Consulate were able to process and approve 180 passport renewal candidates, which included 20 unscheduled walk-ins, before having to close their doors at 6:00 pm on Sunday. Consider their efforts a testament to Filipino efficiency, and willingness to serve and assist their fellow Kababayans through this passport renewal process, which could have been fraught with various pressures, anxieties, emotions and uncertainties. With over five years of experience in the Philippine Consulate-On-Wheels program, local Tampa Bay volunteers have been able to accommodate and serve their fellow Filipinos with compassion, patience, a positive attitude and a welcoming smile.

For those of you interested in ePassport renewal, application for a new ePassport, and applications for Report of Birth and Report of Marriage at the next Consulate-On-Wheels program in Tampa Bay, visit the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. website for information and appointments. Please, make sure to schedule with the Philippine Consulate months in advance in order to maintain a quick and efficient passport renewal process, and to assure a pleasant and enjoyable experience for everyone. The Philippine Consulate is located at 1617 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, DC 20036 and can be reached at (202) 467-9300.



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## BAHAY KUBO PROJECT UPDATES



Above: The new Bahay Kubo at the Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex  
Below: Handicapped ramp at the Bahay Kubo

bridge with steel railing over the pond. The latest addition to the Bahay Kubo is the handicapped ramp required by federal law. This was made possible through the donations of generous donors. Also started is the beautification of the building interior. Another magnanimous donor made possible the installation of sawali, (woven bamboo) on one of the walls and wainscoting on another wall. There are plans to furnish the interior with authentic Philippine furniture and accessories.



The Bahay Kubo has become an interesting and attention-grabbing focal point in our Philippine Village as a cultural monument and a venue for educational tours by students and the general public, as well as tourists. It is currently being used for the free Tagalog class, which started last January. This PhilFest the Bahay Kubo will finally be open to the public.

For more information about the Bahay Kubo or if you would like to make a donation, please call Sylvia de la Cruz, chairman of the project, at (813) 835-0202.


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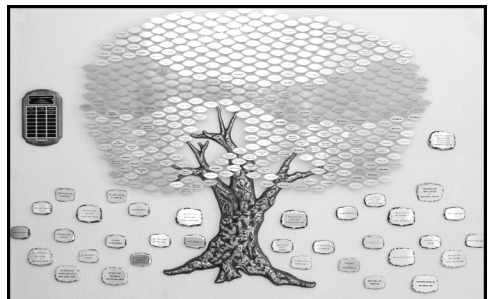
**Kinamot**



Philippine crafts, jewelry and other merchandise at PhilFest 2012

At last the longtime dream of replicating the Bahay Kubo, (a typical Philippine house made of bamboo and coconut) at the Philippine Cultural Enrichment Complex has gone into fruition. The dream and concept was started during the term of then PCFI president Claire Ick, visualized by and artistically rendered by PCFI Board member Robert Enriquez, and the fund-raising for which enthusiastic PCFI board member Sylvia de la Cruz eagerly started. With funds raised through various fund-raising events and donations of Tampa Bay community members, construction was started during the term of Bing Santiano as PCFI Chairman and finished during current PCFI Chairman Roger Caculitan's term.

Before PhilFest 2011 beautiful landscaping was started, and still is being continued, around the Bahay Kubo. This has been made possible through very generous monetary and in-kind donations from different community members. A very civic-minded Tampa family gave a donation for the construction of a beautiful



### Are your names on the Donor Tree at the lobby of the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center ?

For your tax deductible donation made out to PCFI, your name will be imprinted on one of the leaves of the Donor Tree to be seen and appreciated by anyone who visits our Center for many years to come.

Please send your donations to: Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. 14301 Nine Eagles Drive, Tampa, Florida 33626 and mark your checks "FOR DONOR TREE"



# PNAGF SHINES: A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

By Orpha Ale Mineque, BSN, RN, CCRN

The Philippine Nurses Association of Gulf Coast Florida Inc. (PNAGF) inducts its newly elected officers for 2012-2013 with Cecile M. Santos-Medenilla, BSN,RN,TNCC,ENPC from Osceola Regional Medical Center in Kissimmee, Florida as president. During her presidential address she thanked all of PNAGF's membership for taking a chance on her and asked everyone to renew their commitment for the good of PNAGF and its constituents and to keep its legacy. She believes that PNAGF has a great team and it will take everyone to move the organization forward to the next level.



PNAGF officers for 2012-2013 were inducted to their oath of duty by Leigh Masengill, CEO Community Hospital, future Medical Center of Trinity with over three hundred guests in attendance from various professional and civic organizations, friends, families and professional colleagues from numerous hospitals in the community. It was an honor to have Nancy Maysilles, RN, MSHA, CNO, Community Hospital, future Medical Center of Trinity as guest speaker who shared the three fundamental concepts of leadership that had stood the test of times.

First, she spoke about Worthwhile Work, secondly, People need to feel In Control of Achieving the Goal and thirdly, Cheering Each Other On Along The Way. The guests were entertained by eight year old Marydin Santos Llanto, daughter of Merly and Ding who dedicated her song to PNAGF's EB "One Moment in Time". A colorful dance number "Bulaklakan" was rendered by the Philippine Creative Dancers depicting the beautiful celebration of Flores de Mayo (May Flower Festival) in the Philippines. The captivating voice of Adonis Bronto was truly a delight.

PNAGF's 2011 scholars were chosen from applicants who best qualify for its set criteria and were awarded \$1000.00 each. Congratulations to the following: Sheila Crisostomo, USF, Tampa Florida, BSN program, Marian Santos, BSN,RN, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando Florida, Nurse Anesthesia program, Suzzette Seril, BSN,RN,CCRN Saint Xavier University Illinois (on-line) Graduate Nursing Program, Clinical Leadership, Bay Pines VAHCS, MICU staff nurse.

Everyone's attention was caught when a surprise dance number was performed by Julia and John from the First Dance Studio.

The C.A.R.E (Clinical, Community Services, Administration, Research, Entrepreneur, and Education) Nursing Excellence program recognizes the exemplary achievements and contributions of our nursing colleagues in their fields of nursing practice. We are proud and honored to celebrate PNAGF's 2011 Outstanding Nurse Entrepreneur, Joy Barlaan, ARNP, CEO/Owner of Ace Homecare and University of the Philippines Alumnus Nursing Excellence Awardee and Outstanding Nurse for Community Services, Liwanag "Anna" Santos, RN, who is actively involve with Faith Community Nurse-Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Pinellas Park, Parish Nurse, member of Christ Renews His Parish, treasurer of League of Mercy, and had been past president of the Filipino-American Social Club of Pinellas County, Inc.

PNAGF continued to shine through the night in celebration of its "Proud Moments." The PNAGF's Scholarship and Awards Committee was awarded first place for the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNA) South Central Region (SCR) Teamwork Recognition Award during the 11th SCR Conference in Brownsville Texas last March 2011.

It was an honor to have Diane Johnston, Chief Nurse, Education Department, Bay Pines VAHCS who assisted during the Award Ceremony together with Mrs. Beatriz Miranda, RN, MSN, FAAN, PNAGF advisor.

Thank you PNAGF Scholarship and Awards Committee headed by Adonis Bronto, MSN, CRRN,RN-BC as chair person and Orpha Ale Mineque, BSN, RN, CCRN as co chair.

**PNAGF**  
Nursing Scholars of the year 2011

<p><b>Sheila Crisostomo</b> University of South Florida (USF) Tampa Florida BSN program 2010 to present</p>	<p><b>Marian Santos</b> BSN, RN Florida Hospital College Of Health Sciences Orlando, Florida Masters of Science In Nurse Anesthesia Program Currently enrolled</p>	<p><b>Suzzette Seril</b> BSN, RN, CCRN Saint Xavier University Illinois (on-line) Graduate Nursing Program Clinical Leadership, currently enrolled Bay Pines VAHCS, MICU nurse</p>
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**PNAGF C.A.R.E Awards 2011**

<p><b>Joy Barlaan, ARNP</b> Entrepreneur Nurse of the Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ C.E.O/owner Ace Homecare</li> <li>◆ University of the Philippines Alumnus</li> <li>◆ Awardee for Nursing Excellence</li> <li>◆ Summa Cum Laude, University of South Florida, Masters of Science In Nursing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Liwanag "Anna" Santos, RN</b> Community Nurse of the Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Faith Community Nurse-Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Pinellas Park, Parish Nurse</li> <li>◆ Christ Renews His Parish - Member</li> <li>◆ Legion Of Mary - Treasurer</li> <li>◆ St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SIFFS) - former vice president, board member</li> <li>◆ Filipino-American Club of Pinellas, Lifetime membership awardee</li> <li>◆ Women of the year awardee of Fr-Am Club of Pinellas</li> </ul>
---	--



## PCFI RALLIES WITH TAMPA BAY COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT PHILIPPINE DRAGON BOAT TEAM

The week of August 4 to 9, 2011 will forever be etched in the memories of both the Pinoy Dragon Boat Warriors and the Tampa Bay community. The 2011 World Dragon Boat Championship Races were held in Tampa Bay and, being the current defending champions of the sport, our Pinoy Dragon Boat Warriors defied all odds to come and defend their title. Little did they know that in the hearts of the Filipino community of the area, the bayanihan spirit and a strong sense of unity, which Filipinos are well known for, is deeply and unconditionally ingrained in the hearts of us all.

On Tuesday, August 2, 2011, the Opening Ceremonies for the races were held and a handful of Filipinos and Filipino-Americans, including Roger L. Caculitan, Chairman of the Board of PCFI, were in attendance. It was here where everyone learned of the Warriors' pathetic story-how they came here with lack of support from the Philippine government, with absolutely no budget for their meals and snacks. That same evening young Filipino-Americans went to work, buying groceries, taking rice cookers and other cooking utensils to the delegates' hotel and providing meals for them that evening and the following day, Wednesday.

Roger Caculitan committed to work together with Gail Hernandez Gutierrez, the Warriors' local contact person.. He immediately mobilized the PCFI Board and asked for commitment from some of PCFI 's 14 member organizations. As expected an overwhelming show of support came from members of the Tampa Bay Sports Club, Ilocano USA, Bicol Association of South Florida, the Sampaguita Ladies, Pilipino American Association of Tampa, Ang Kaliwat Bolanon sa Florida, Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Tampa Bay, the Philippine Choral Group, the Philippine Nurses Associations of both Tampa Bay and Gulf Coast, the Philippine Medical Society and the Philippine Medical Society Auxiliary. Members for these organizations donated meals (which always included rice, per request of our athletes ), cases of soft drinks, Gatorade and other sports drinks, energy bars, fruit and native desserts. The Pinoy Warriors were the most well-fed delegation and undoubtedly the envy of the other participating

Dragon Boat Teams. Some other groups and individuals from outside the PCFI Board also came to show their support, bringing food, contributing cash to the grassroots drive, " Support the Philippine Dragon Boat Team Federation Trip to Busch Gardens and Training Support Funds " initiated by Gail Gutierrez. Members of Sto. Nino passed the hat during their First Friday fellowship at St. Paul's Church on August 5; Joey Omila led an impassioned call for cash and PDBT shirt purchases for the Warriors' trip to Busch Gardens on Tuesday, August 9 during the PAAT Barrio Fiesta held at the Bayanihan Arts and Events Center and meals and cash contributions were solicited at the ABS- CBN Fiesta in Kissimmee on Saturday, August 6. A separate account of this event appears in this issue.

Everyday during the races throngs of Filipinos, sporting the very colorful PDBT shirts they bought to benefit the Philippine Dragon Boat Team Federation, proudly waving Filipino flags and banners and braving the sizzling summer heat and occasion drizzle, filled the game stands. Emcees for the races kept repeating the fact that there was an unmistakably huge support team of Filipinos for our Warriors among the crowd and this undeniably bolstered the Pinoy Warriors' morale a hundred fold.

The closing ceremonies on Sunday, August 7, was an emotional one, filled with pride for being a Filipino, for both our athletes and the Filipinos and Filipino Americans in attendance. As the title of the 2011 World Dragon Boat Races Champion was announced and everyone was asked to stand at attention for the raising of the Filipino flag to the wonderful rendition of our Philippine National Anthem by Cara Gutierrez, 10-year old Filipino-American, many Pinoys in the crowd shed a tear or two, in jubilation for and pride in our athletes.

On Monday, August 8, Ann Bartlett and Ferdian Jap, led a group of young Fil-Ams in honoring the World Champions with a sumptuous luncheon buffet at the Bayanihan Arts and Events. On hand were members of the PCFI Board, as well as supporters from the Tampa Bay Filipino community. Plaques were awarded by Roger Caculitan to the members of the Philippine Dragon Boat Team, to Gail Gutierrez for her incredible work of meticulously tending to the athletes' daily needs, leaving no distraction on their part and devoting 100% concentration on their races, and to Ann Bartlett and company for the luncheon buffet in honor of our athletes. The luncheon was followed by a short program. PAAT presented a check for the team's trip to Busch Gardens the



next day, Tuesday, and Gail Gutierrez presented the team her cash collection from groups and individuals , which provided for cash of \$200 for each athlete for their shopping and pocket money. After the luncheon and a brief tour of the Philippine Village at PCFI , Roland and Clem Lazaro, took the athletes shopping in their ALF bus , together with some PCFI Board members. The athletes immensely enjoyed shopping for themselves and buying pasalubong for their families back home. That evening Roland and Clem Lazaro hosted, together with help from nine couples from within and from outside the PCFI Board, a celebration steak dinner at their residence. A small group was hosted the same time by Jon Amador and friends at Hooters and it was here where this group pledged to each athlete a custom carbon fiber paddle! The following day, Tuesday, was the very much awaited trip to Busch Gardens graciously paid for by PAAT and their lunch donated by Rocky and Emma Barrido, with help from Lucy Bautista. Again, the Lazaros provided their transportation. After getting rained out at Busch Gardens, the group went to the International Mall for more shopping and were later treated to a delicious dinner at the Yummy House, courtesy of Dr. Jonathan and Cynthia Alvir.

The team's extra day stay at their hotel was paid for by local and out of town members of APO ( Alpha Phi Omega ). After ten days of experiencing first hand the memorable hospitality and bayanihan shown by the people of Tampa Bay and the Philippine Cultural Foundation, Inc. our Pinoy Dragon Boat Warriors boarded their flight home. Show of support from various groups, the president of the Philippines, and the Philippine Congress, among others, have been showering on our PDBT since their arrival. In the words of Roger Caculitan, in his letter of gratitude to the PCFI Board and the Tampa Bay community, "I hope that the support for the Philippine Dragon Boat Team will continue indefinitely. I would like to think that our impressive show of support and unity here in Tampa Bay started the ball rolling and that this cascaded into the Philippines . . . We did it again, Tampa Bay, and we should be proud of ourselves!"





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Photo by Bill Smith

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 Soloists Competition

CONTEST INFORMATION

1. Open to all Filipino-Americans aged 18 and above. Open to all ethnicities.
2. Open to all Filipino-Americans aged 18 and above. Open to all ethnicities.
3. Open to all Filipino-Americans aged 18 and above. Open to all ethnicities.
4. Open to all Filipino-Americans aged 18 and above. Open to all ethnicities.

Friday, March 30, 2012  
 7:00 PM

**Phil Fest REVOLUTION 2012**  
 HIP-HOP DANCE CONTEST AND YOUTH NIGHT

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2012  
 8:00 PM

**Phil Fest TANGHALANG PAMBATA 2012**  
 Children's Song Contest

Sunday, April 1, 2012  
 1:00 PM

**Phil Fest YUGYUGAN**  
 Senior Citizens Contest

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2012  
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Friday, March 30, 2012, 4PM-11PM  
 Saturday, March 31, 2012, 10AM - 11PM  
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