



COLUMBIA MARRIOTT HOTEL
1200 HAMPTON ST
COLUMBIA, SC 29201

★ 22ND ANNUAL GALA ★
FILIPINO - AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER COLUMBIA, SC

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 15, 2012
6 PM — 12 MN



FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia, SC
2011-2013 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MARJ PEÑA

First Vice-President



CARMELISA EDWARDS

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*"Together We
 Make A Difference"*

P.O. Box 24112, Columbia, SC 29224
 e-mail: FAAGC@hotmail.com or FilAmSC@yahoo.com
 website: www.FilAmSC.org



FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia, SC

21ST ANNIVERSARY

22ND ANNUAL GALA



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2012
COLUMBIA MARRIOTT HOTEL, COLUMBIA, SC



6:00 Reception (*cocktails at the Sports Bar near the ballroom*)

6:45 National Anthems: **FAAGC Officers and Executive Board Members 2011-13**

Invocation **Dr. Daniel Adcock**
FAAGC Asst. Treasurer 2003-05, 2005-07; Exec. Board Member 2009-11

7:00 Dinner

FAAGC & Philippine Video Showcase **Carlton & Carmelisa Edwards, Marj Peña**

8:00 Program

◆ Welcome Remarks *Emcees.* **Faye Colley** & **Alan Matienzo**
& Recognition of Attendees FAAGC Asst. Secretary, 2011-13 FAAGC First Vice-President, 2005-07



◆ Opening Remarks **Marj Peña**
FAAGC President, 2009-2013



CULTURAL SHOW

◆ *Kariñosa* **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Children Group

◆ *Kalatong* **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Teen Group

◆ *Silong sa Ganding* **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Adult Group

◆ *Pili-in Ang Pilipino* Showcase **Filipino American Community of Western North Carolina**
(FAC-WNC — Asheville, NC)

◆ *Bulaklakan* **Hiyas-Min** (The Philippine Cultural Society of Charleston, SC)

◆ *Tinikling* **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Children Group

◆ *Fast Tinikling* **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Teen Group

◆ Recognition of 2012 *Columbia Fil-Am*. . . . **Nieves McNulty**
Scholarship Recipients FAAGC President 1997-2001; Treasurer 2009--2013;
Scholarship Committee chair



◆ Recognition of 2012 Lifetime Members. . . **Marj Peña**
Benefactors/Sponsors/Donors FAAGC President, 2009-2013

◆ Hip Hop Dance **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Teen Group

◆ Modern Dance. **Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe** — Adult Group

9:00 ~ 12:00 Gala Ball *Music by DJ MIKE LAMB*



◆ **Don't forget to purchase your FAAGC Raffle Tickets and FAAGC Pens** ◆
Proceeds will benefit our **Columbia Fil-Am Youth Scholarship Fund** and **Cultural Dance Troupe**



PASUGUAN NG PILIPINAS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

EMBASSY OF THE PHILIPPINES

I extend my warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia (FAAGC) who are gathered today on the occasion of your 22nd Annual Gala and 21st Anniversary Ba

I am pleased to note that for over two decades, FAAGC has been at the forefront in keeping the Philippine traditions alive in Columbia, South Carolina. Your presence here tonight is a manifestation of your desire to see our heritage flourish and your support in further strengthening the bonds between Filipinos and Americans in your community.

I commend your organization for responding to the needs of the less fortunate through the provision of scholarship opportunities, donations to charities and other humanitarian efforts. Your initiatives are a true display of generosity and reflection of the Filipino *bayanihan* spirit.

As you look towards another year of fellowship, I urge you to continue to share your time, energy and resources for the benefit of our less privileged countrymen. It is my hope that this gala inspires all of you to make a renewed commitment in promoting the beauty and richness of our traditions, and in making the Filipino-American community of Columbia, South Carolina an instrument that contributes to the progress of the Philippines.



In the spirit of nationalism, I encourage those qualified to register as overseas absentee voters so you may have the opportunity to cast your ballot for the 2013 Philippine national elections and help mold our country's future by choosing the leaders of our nation.

Mabuhay ang Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia!
Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!

Sincerely,

JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
Ambassador

1600 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel: (202) 467-9300 / (202) 467-9363, Fax: (202) 467-9417, E-mail: phembassyusa@verizon.net, washingtonpe@gmail.com
Consular Affairs: Passport/Visa/Authentication/Legal Matters: (202) 467-9312



NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the people of South Carolina, I am pleased to welcome you to the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia's 22nd Annual Gala and 21st Anniversary Ball.

Tonight promises to be a fun and meaningful event for all, featuring performances by the Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe, dancing, and, of course, great food and fellowship. The Annual Gala and Ball also offers an opportunity to celebrate your accomplishments while looking forward to future endeavors. Please know that your commitment to promoting inter-cultural awareness and understanding, along with your generous support of educational, cultural, and humanitarian causes, both in America and in the Philippines, are making a positive difference in countless lives and are greatly appreciated.

Michael and I wish you well for a memorable evening.

My very best,

Nikki R. Haley



LINDSEY O. GRAHAM
SOUTH CAROLINA

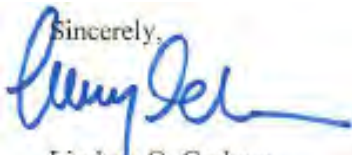
September 6, 2012

Dear Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia:

I am pleased to welcome supporters and guests to The Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia's (FAAGC) 22nd Annual Gala. This event once again demonstrates the importance of the FAAGC within the community.

The FAAGC seeks to promote inter-cultural awareness and understanding of the Filipino culture throughout the Columbia community. Events such as this Gala make a positive impact on South Carolinians, and are made possible by the hard work of members and supporters. I wish you continued success in the coming year as you carry on the mission of the FAAGC.

Again, welcome to tonight's event, and I offer everyone in attendance my warmest regards. If I may ever be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator



JIM DEMINT
SOUTH CAROLINA

August 10, 2012

CHAIRMAN
SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES:
SENATE RANKING MEMBER, JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION
BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN RELATIONS

1901 MAIN STREET
SUITE 1475
COLUMBIA, SC 29201
(803)771-6112

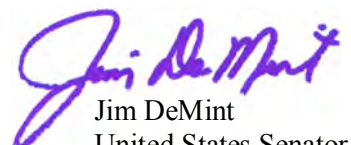
Dear Friends,

As your United States Senator, it is my pleasure to congratulate your non-profit organization on your 21st anniversary as an association. It is wonderful that you have been actively spreading inter-cultural awareness and understanding through educational and cultural activities, student scholarships, and charitable assistance.

As you celebrate this special occasion on September 15th as an established association in Columbia, South Carolina, please know that I am grateful for the commitment you have shown to your community over the years. I look forward to hearing more about the future success of the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia.

My best wishes to you all in your future endeavors, and I hope that you will not hesitate to contact me in the future if I can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,


Jim DeMint
United States Senator





HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 15, 2012

JOE WILSON
2ND DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES
CHAIRMAN, PERSONNEL SUBCOMMITTEE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
EDUCATION & THE WORKFORCE
HOUSE POLICY

1700 SUNSET BLVD. (U.S. 378)
SUITE 1
WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169
(803) 939-0041
(803) 939-0078 FAX
TOLL FREE: 1-888-381-1442



Congratulations on the twenty-first anniversary of the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia.

This will be a remarkable event which will celebrate and showcase the many great achievements made by Filipino Americans across the Midlands.

I am proud of all that Filipino Americans within the Greater Columbia area have done for the community, and I look forward to hearing of many more successes in the years to come.

It is an honor serve the people of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina.

If I may ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

September 15, 2012

JAMES E. CLYBURN
6TH DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA

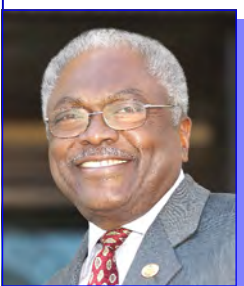
ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

CHAIR
FAITH WORKING GROUP

COMMITTEE:
DEMOCRATIC STEERING
AND POLICY COMMITTEE

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

1225 LADY STREET, SUITE 200
COLUMBIA, SC 29201
(803) 799-1100
(803) 799-9060 FAX



Dear Members of the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia (FAAGC):

I write to congratulate you on the anniversary of the FAAGC and wish you a successful annual gala and ball. Over the past twenty-one years, the FAAGC has been a bedrock of the Columbia community, growing stronger with each passing year. As a Columbia resident, I know firsthand how much the FAAGC has done for the Midlands, enriching the lives of Filipino-Americans and others alike.

The FAAGC has brought an authentic infusion of Filipino culture to the Columbia area, putting on shows with costumes, music, and dance, as well as funding youth scholarships and local charities. Additionally, as a Member of Congress, I was especially pleased to hear that FAAGC newsletters, gala souvenir programs, member directories, Christmas party programs, and by-laws had been donated to the Asian American Pacific Islander Collection at the Library of Congress; these documents will be an enriching asset to the collection for years to come.

Congratulations again on your anniversary, and enjoy tonight's festivities. If I can ever be of assistance to any of you or your families, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress



CITY OF COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

On behalf of the City of Columbia and my fellow members of City Council, I would like to congratulate the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia on its 22nd Annual Gala and 21st Anniversary Ball.

Your organization's continuing growth reflects your successful promotion of the positive principles and ideals of the Filipino culture. Furthermore, your laudable work to advance inter-cultural awareness and understanding reflects a sincere dedication to our shared community.

I wish the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia much success in all of your future endeavors, especially your efforts to establish a Philippine cultural center.

Sincerely,

Stephen K. Benjamin
Mayor
City of Columbia



FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia, SC

(A Non-Profit Organization to Promote Inter-Cultural Education and Understanding)

P.O. Box 24112, Columbia, SC 29224

e-mail: FAAGC@hotmail.com or FilAmSC@yahoo.com ♦ Website: www.FilAmSC.org



Welcome to the 22nd Annual Gala and the 21st Anniversary of the Filipino American Association of Greater Columbia!

Once again, we gather tonight for this annual event, the biggest fund-raiser of the FAAGC. We celebrate the ties that bind us together: our Filipino heritage and rich culture as will be shown by the dancers of the Columbia Fil-Am dance troupe and our friends from the Filipino American Community of Western North Carolina in Asheville and the *Hiyas-Min* Group from Charleston.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank everyone who has helped to put this event together, in particular, my fellow officers and members of the FAAGC Executive Board as well as the Coordinators and Dancers of the Columbia Fil-Am Dance Troupe. They have worked tirelessly for the past few months, sacrificing their weekends to bring to life facets of our culture from different parts of the Philippines, all the while enjoying a warm camaraderie while establishing lifelong friendships among each other.

Through the years, the faces and members of the FAAGC Executive Board and the Columbia Fil-Am Dance Troupe have changed continuously, encompassing the young and the forever young, always a blend of the new and the old, new members who have just arrived to settle in Columbia and the loyal ones who been here since the inception of the FAAGC. In spite of the constant change, one thing remains the same: these members have lead the way in keeping our Filipino heritage alive and well in our hearts and minds, driven by our common love for the country and the traditions and culture that we have left behind but will never forget. The Columbia community has seen the beauty of our Philippines and its people through ALL OF US! Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to lead such a wonderful group of people!

I would also like to thank our Benefactors, Sponsors, Patrons, Donors, and Advertisers. Your generous support and contributions to our Gala and Souvenir Program will go a long way towards supporting our projects for the youth, the community, and the needy in the Philippines.

Finally, THANK YOU for coming to attend our Gala. Your presence here has already ensured its success, and I hope that you will enjoy our program and have fun dancing the night away!

Best wishes,

Marj Peña
FAAGC President





FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia

P.O. Box 24112, Columbia, SC 29224

e-mail: FAAGC@hotmail.com

website: www.FilAmSC.org

"Together We Make A Difference"



2011 ~ 2013 MEMBERS

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|----|----------------------|------------|---------------|-------|
| Dan & Tess | ADCOCK | West Columbia | SC | Butch & Dhel | ELAMPARO | Columbia | SC |
| Conrad & Rita | ALCANTARA | Columbia | SC | Charles & Vivian | ELDER | Columbia | SC |
| Andre | ALLEN | Clover | SC | Gene & Sally | ELLIS | Columbia | SC |
| Jennifer | ALMEDA | Columbia | SC | Conrado & Emy | FAJARILLO | Lexington | SC |
| Noel & Helen | ALON | Columbia | SC | Belen | FERNELL | Cross Hill | SC |
| Edith | ALSTON | Hopkins | SC | Jojo & Joette | FLORA | Columbia | SC |
| Leroy & Lulu | ANDERSON | Columbia | SC | James & Vanessa | FLORES | Columbia | SC |
| Carlos & Kathy | AREVALO | Columbia | SC | Terry & Reyna | FUNDERBURK | Irmo | SC |
| Oswald & Rowena | ARROYO | Columbia | SC | Alan & Cecille | GEOGHEGAN | Columbia | SC |
| Ruben & Chari | BAGNAL | Columbia | SC | Imelda | GO | Columbia | SC |
| Dr. Lu & Merlyn | BAJAMUNDE | Blythewood | SC | Ed & Yani | GOULD | Lexington | SC |
| Roy & Carina | BALACANAO | Columbia | SC | Charles & Bev | GOYENECHE | Hartsville | SC |
| Grace | BALANQUIT | Columbia | SC | Jimmy & Janet | HARRIS | Gilbert | SC |
| Richard & Tessie | BANNISTER | Prosperity | SC | Walter & Tess | HILL | Chapin | SC |
| James & Edith | BARKER | Saluda | SC | Mariadena | HUGGINS | Columbia | SC |
| Steven & Josephine | BATTLE | Columbia | SC | Julieta | IGLESIAS | Columbia | SC |
| Kirk | BAUTISTA | Winston-Salem | NC | Anthony & Leonicar | JABER | Naples | Italy |
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| Jason & Marie | BROOME | Irmo | SC | Zeny | LAZARO | Columbia | SC |
| Linda | BROWN | Columbia | SC | Don & Evelyn | LIESTER | Columbia | SC |
| Ed & Ivy Sumaydeng | BRYAN | Columbia | SC | Peter & Olga | LIUNORAS | Columbia | SC |
| Robert & Olga | BUNIEL | Sumter | SC | DC & Jocy | LOCKE | Columbia | SC |
| Arthur T. | BUTIC | Houston | TX | Tess | LOPEZ | Lexington | SC |
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| Manny & Leah | CUARESMA | Columbia | SC | Dave & Veronica | McGLAUFLIN | Irmo | SC |
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| Diosa | DEAN | Columbia | SC | John & Elena | NICHOLS | Columbia | SC |
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| Brook | DONALDSON | | | Chris & Michaela | PADUA | Columbia | SC |
| Carlton & Lisa | EDWARDS | Eastover | SC | Mike | PADUA | Columbia | SC |
| Carlton, Jr. & Amy | EDWARDS | Blythewood | SC | Checks | PARRELL | West Columbia | SC |



FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia

P.O. Box 24112, Columbia, SC 29224

e-mail: FAAGC@hotmail.com

website: www.FilAmSC.org

"Together We Make A Difference"



2011 ~ 2013 MEMBERS

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------|----|
| Susana | PASICATAN | Columbia | SC |
| Lee & Polly | PEARSON | Dalzell | SC |
| Edsel & Marj | PEÑA | Columbia | SC |
| Jun & Cora | PEÑA | Lexington | SC |
| Mark & Diana | PHILLIPS | Cayce | SC |
| Michael & Luzviminda | PILAPIL | Columbia | SC |
| Wade & Barbie | PROCTOR | Columbia | SC |
| Mark & Presey | RAMIREZ | Columbia | SC |
| Bong & Rosa | RANCES | Columbia | SC |
| Lunesa | RATCLIFF | Sumter | SC |
| Tom & Flor | RIPLEY | Elgin | SC |
| Roger & Naty Akana | ROBERTS | Columbia | SC |
| David & Alma | ROBICHAUD | Columbia | SC |
| Keith Howard | SEYMOUR | Columbia | SC |
| Maria | SILVER | Columbia | SC |
| Eric & Haidee | SOSA | Columbia | SC |
| Brent & Kaye | SOSTAK | Hartsville | SC |
| Brian & Cecile | STRICKLAND | Lexington | SC |
| Cesar & Gladys | SUBIBI | Columbia | SC |
| Aurora | SUMAYDENG | Easley | SC |
| Francisco | SY | Rockville | MD |
| Joseph & Celyn | SZOKE | Hopkins | SC |
| Joel & Joy | TALDE | Columbia | SC |
| Dave & Cindy | TEFFT | Las Vegas | NV |
| Kermit & Candida | THOMAS | Columbia | SC |
| Kris & Janet (Jett) | THOMAS | Columbia | SC |
| Neil & Bambie | TIJING | Columbia | SC |
| Douglas & Helena | TUPAS | Columbia | SC |
| Rosemarie | VALENTINE | Columbia | SC |
| Todd & Richel | VAULES | Columbia | SC |
| Rohmar & Truc Tran | VERDEFLOR | Columbia | SC |
| Noli & Chinky | VICTORIA | Columbia | SC |
| Mario & Wyda | VIRAY | North Las Vegas | NV |
| Charles & Precy | WALKER | Columbia | SC |
| Francisca | WALKER | Wedgefield | SC |
| Warren & Myrna | WHITMIRE | Columbia | SC |
| John & Bernadette | YAVIS | Blythewood | SC |
| Ken & Ronelin | ZEARFOSS | | GA |
| John & Teresa | ZIEGLER | Lexington | SC |

The persons listed above were paid members for all, or at least part, of Association Year 2011-2012 (July 1 — June 30). As of September 5, 2012, many have renewed their FAAGC membership for 2012-2013 (a few even beyond 2013). We hope the rest, as well as others not on the list, will rejoin or join us soon.

At the 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA on Sept. 10, 2011, the **Columbia Fil-Am Association** honored those who had steadfastly supported and continuously sustained **FAAGC** from its beginning through the last **TWENTY (20) years** by recognizing them as **LIFETIME MEMBERS (♦)**.

Others have or can become *Lifetime Members* if they have paid or willing to pay the equivalent of 20 years of membership (#).

Sustaining Charter Members

Continuous Members since 1991

- ♦ Rita Houston ALCANTARA
- ♦ Edith ALSTON
- ♦ Noel & Helen ALON
- ♦ Lulu ANDERSON
- ♦ James & Edith BARKER
- ♦ Linda BROWN
- ♦ Grace COLLINS
- ♦ Manny & Leah CUARESMA
- ♦ Tony & Tessie De CASTRO
- ♦ Gene & Sally ELLIS
- ♦ Jim & Tessie KENERSON
- ♦ Juliet MARTIN
- ♦ Ruben Matias BAGNAL
- ♦ George & Nieves McNULTY
- ♦ Marvin & Beth NOBLE
- ♦ Alfonso ? & Susana PASICATAN
- ♦ Naty AKANA ROBERTS
- ♦ David & Cindy TEFFT

Sustaining Members

Members for 10 years or more

- # Charles & Bev GOYENECHÉ (since 1991)
- # Lee & Polly PEARSON (since 1992)
- # Joy CLARK (since 1993)
- # Jim & Juvie LOWDER (since 1993)
- # Imelda GO (1993-94, since 1996)
- # Pete & Cecilia JACOBSEN (since 2006)

Sustaining Members (Members for 10 years or more)

- *Lunesa RATCLIFF (since 1993)
- *Judy Salvador ASIS (since 1993)
- *Peter & Olga LIUNORAS (since 1995)
- *Butch & Dhel ELAMPARO (since 1995)
- *Charles & Precy WALKER (since 1995)
- *Mark & Diane PHILIPPS (1995-2005; 2011-)
- *Warren & Myrna WHITMIRE (since 1997)
- *Alan GEOGHEGAN (since 1999)
- *Lu & Merlyn BAJAMUNDE (since 2000)
- *Edsel & Marj PEÑA (since 2000)
- *Francisca WALKER (since 2001)
- *Keith SEYMOUR (since 2002)

FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia, SC

~ A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S ~ 22ND ANNUAL GALA

We would like to express our grateful appreciation to the following benefactors, sponsors, patrons, donors, advertisers, and other supporters:

BENEFACTORS:

- ◆ Grace BALANQUIT ~ RE/MAX Real Estate Services (Columbia, SC)
- ◆ Richard BANNISTER ~ LMSI (Prosperity, SC)
- ◆ Tony & Dr. Tessie DeCASTRO (Manning, SC)
- ◆ The EDWARDS Clan (Columbia/Blythewood, SC)
- ◆ Cecilia JACOBSEN ~ *Fil-Am Store* (Sumter, SC)
- ◆ Demetrio & Mercedes MATIENZO & Family (Columbia & Rock Hill, SC)
- ◆ Drs. George & Nieves McNULTY (Columbia, SC)
- ◆ Drs. Edsel & Marj PEÑA (Columbia, SC)

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- ◆ Peter & Olga LIUNORAS (Columbia, SC)
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- Jess & Dr. Edie Sebastian (Columbia, SC)
- The Filipino American Community of Western North Carolina (FAC-WNC) (Ashville, NC)
- Filipino-American Association of Orangeburg, ATBP. (Orangeburg, SC)
- Ben & Aida Daquioag — LBC Balikbayan (Columbia, SC)

DONORS — RAFFLE PRIZES :

- Columbia Marriott Hotel
- Cecilia Jacobsen — *Fil-Am Store*
- Shirley McGuinness
- Flor Ripley

Photographs used in this souvenir program courtesy of:

- ◆ Carlton Edwards ◆ Odess Brinkman ◆ Ronnie Corn
- ◆ Maribel Tijng ◆ Marj Peña ◆ Eric Sosa ◆ NCA

BEHIND THE SCENE

2011-2013 Executive Board

~ Gala Planning Committee ~

Reception Tables:

- ▶ Nieves McNulty
- ▶ Maribel Tijng
- ▶ Myrna Whitmire
- ▶ Carmelisa Edwards
- ▶ Leah Cuaresma
- ▶ Sally Ellis
- ▶ Tessie Kenerson

Membership Table:

- ▶ Helen Alon

Corsage/Boutonnieres:

- ▶ Grace Balanquit

Decorative Wreaths:

- ▶ Flor Ripley

Invitations / Tickets:

- ▶ Marj Peña

Out-of-Town Guests Coordinators:

- ▶ Odess Brinkman
- ▶ Grace Balanquit
- ▶ Helen Alon
- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ Joy Clark
- ▶ Faye Colley

Sumter Coordinator:

- ▶ Cecilia Jacobsen

Orangeburg Coordinator:

- ▶ Yvonne Mitchell

Dignitary Message Coordinator:

- ▶ Faye Colley

DJ Coordinators:

- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ Nieves McNulty
- ▶ Odess Brinkman

Emcees:

- ▶ Faye Colley
- ▶ Alan Matienzo

Publicity & Promotion:

- ▶ FAAGC 2011-13 Executive Board

Stage/Floor Managers:

- ▶ Carlos Arevalo
- ▶ Rio Daquilanea
- ▶ Peter Liunoras
- ▶ George McNulty
- ▶ Bong Rances

Cultural Directors & Dance Troupe Coordinators:

- ▶ Odess Brinkman
- ▶ Jojo & Joette Flora
- ▶ Yani Irag Gould

Executive Board Cultural Liaison:

- ▶ Carmelisa Edwards
- ▶ Grace Balanquit
- ▶ Maribel Tijng

Dance Troupe Technical & Other Support:

- ▶ Eric Sosa
- ▶ Jason Broome
- ▶ Jojo Flora
- ▶ NCA
- ▶ "Chauffeurs" of the Dancers
- ▶ Hosts & Food Donors for the Dance Practices

FAAGC Showcase Videos:

- ▶ Marj Peña
- ▶ Carlton Edwards
- ▶ Carmelisa Edwards

Ushers:

- ▶ Odess Brinkman
- ▶ Olga Liunoras
- ▶ Cecille Jacobsen
- ▶ Shirley McGuinness
- ▶ Jonathan Jacobsen

Baby-sitting Services:

- ▶ Faye Colley (coordinator)

Photography:

- ▶ Carlton Edwards

FAAGC Poster Displays:

- ▶ Helen Alon

Souvenir Program:

- ▶ Noel Alon

~Thanks Y'all! ~

MARAMING SALAMAT PO!

This FAAGC 22nd Annual Gala Souvenir Program is a desktop publishing cobbling of the LEGGZ Collective of leprechauns, elves, goblins, gremlins and zombies at:



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FILIPINO-AMERICAN Association of Greater Columbia

RECENT MILESTONES OF A GROWING ORGANIZATION

... *Twenty-one years (so far) and more to come* ...

Accomplishments, Achievements & Moments in Time as Columbia FIL-AMs Make an Impact in the Community



April 12, 2009 Marj Peña is elected FAAGC president.

Aug. 29, 2009 The City of Columbia proclaims this date as *Filipino-American Day*.

Aug. 29, 2009 Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. Willy C. Gaa and Columbia City Councilman Kirkman Finlay III (representing Mayor Robert Coble) attend the *19th Annual Gala*, the first-time either a Philippine Ambassador or an official city representative is in attendance.



Nov. 2009 FAAGC delivers donation from the 2009 Gala fundraiser and matching Association funds to the Philippine calamity victims through the Catholic Relief Services.

April 24, 2011 Marj Peña is re-elected FAAGC president.

Sept. 10, 2011 At its *20th Anniversary Gala*, FAAGC honors 18 families who have been members continuously since 1991 by naming them as *Lifetime Sustaining Charter Members*.

Sept. 21, 2011 FAAGC member Imelda Go establishes the *Friends of Internationals Scholarship Fund* at USC to help meritorious international students having financial hardships at USC.

Sept. 26, 2011 Noel & Helen Alon delivers 20-year (from 1991 to 2011) documentation of FAAGC to the Library of Congress (LoC) for its Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Collection. The LoC documentation consists of copies of all the issues of the Fil-Am newsletter (*April 1991 to Summer 2011*), souvenir programs of all galas and cultural shows (*Karilagan* and *Kalayaan*), By-laws booklets, *Directory of Members* booklets, Christmas Party programs, and a DVD of 1991-92 original computer files and digitized photos.



Reme Grefalda (right), the LoC AAPI Collection founding curator, receives FAAGC documents.

Oct. 15, 2011 FAAGC sponsors the very first *Columbia Fil-Am Basketball Invitational Tournament* involving six Fil-Am teams from Georgia and South Carolina at the Polo Road Park Recreation Center gym.



Mar. 31, 2012 FAAGC president Marj Peña is named "2012 *International Professional of the Year*" at the 17th annual *Columbia International Festival*.

Members of the **Columbia Fil-Am Dance Troupe** pose for a souvenir photo at the **2012 Tri-Command and Beaufort County Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration** dinner-show held on May 18, 2012 in the Lyceum on Parris Island, SC, where they performed *singkil*, *tinkling*, *binasuhan*, and *maglalatik*.



held on May 18, 2012 in the Lyceum on Parris Island, SC, where they performed *singkil*, *tinkling*, *binasuhan*, and *maglalatik*.

City of Columbia Proclaims Filipino-American Day

The proclamation reads as follows:

City of Columbia A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Filipino-Americans have made many valuable contributions to Columbia and they continue to influence and enrich our city economically, socially and intellectually. The Filipino-American population has been instrumental in enhancing cultural diversity, and education; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia (FAAGC) is a non-profit organization that was started in June of 1991 to bring awareness, understanding, and promote cultural diversity in the Midlands; and

WHEREAS, the FAAGC has donated funds to organizations in need that support education and cultural activities in Columbia and abroad such as the Hospicio de San Jose, a Manila orphanage; and

WHEREAS, the FAAGC has participated in many area city-wide events through the years including the Carolina Carillon, Columbia International Festival, and Kids Day;

WHEREAS, the FAAGC is currently raising funds to build their own cultural center to serve as a resource for the community to learn about the Philippines and its culture.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Robert D. Coble, Mayor of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, along with my fellow members of Columbia City Council, do hereby proclaim August 29, 2009, as



Filipino-American Day

in the City of Columbia and urge my fellow citizens to recognize and participate in its observance.

(signed)
Robert D. Coble
Mayor

(signed)
Kirkman Finlay III
District IV Council Member



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CONGRATULATIONS!

ON THE 22ND ANNUAL GALA OF THE
**FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF GREATER COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**



BEST WISHES FROM THE PEÑAS

Left to right:

Standing: **CHRISTINE, JUDI, JUN, EDSSEL, MICHELLE, CORA**

Seated: **CLAUDE, TATAY, MARJ**



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CONGRATULATIONS TO FAAGC ON ITS 21ST ANNIVERSARY



NIEVES, GEORGE, ALFRED & MICHAEL MCNULTY

COLUMBIA FIL-AM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Started in 2002 by the FAAGC Executive Board through the initiative of Peter Liunoras (FAAGC President, 2001-2003), the *Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship* awards are given to Fil-Am college-bound high school graduates whose families are current FAAGC members and who (or their parents) have participated actively in Fil-Am activities. Interestingly, almost all of the past scholarship recipients had been *Columbia Fil-Am Cultural Dance Troupe* performers at one time or another.

Funds for the scholarship program are generated from donations, raffles during FAAGC gala and Christmas events, food sales at basketball tournaments, and from 2004 to 2010, fund-raisers of the Ridge View High School (RVHS) Fil-Am Youth Club. Since its formation in April 2004 under the direction of Peter Liunoras, the RVHS Fil-Am Youth Club had conducted car washes and other fund-raising activities, with the proceeds donated to the scholarship fund.

FAAGC presented the first *Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship* award at the 13th Annual Gala on September 13, 2003. Since then, award certificates (and checks) have been presented to deserving and qualified students every year during the annual gala.



ELAIZA
APAN



KIRKWOOD
BAUTISTA



NICOLE
DAQILANEA



DOUGLAS
MIGUEL
TUPAS

Columbia Fil-Am Scholarship Recipients

[Nieves McNulty—Scholarship Committee chair]

- 2012:** ★ Elaiza Apan ★ Kirkwood Bautista
 ★ Nicole Daquilanea ★ Douglas Miguel Tupas
- 2011:** ★ Karen Magsino ★ Nicole Phillips
 ★ Nicholas Roberts ★ Joseph Szoke III
 ★ Nicole Victoria
- 2010:** ★ Paul Adcock ★ Nicole Anderson
 ★ Fides Elamparo ★ Steven Do
 ★ Sean C.A. Tupas
- 2009:** ★ Jessamine Cuaresma ★ Jeffrey Noble
- 2008:** ★ Butch Deo Elamparo
 ★ Christian Ysmael Tupas ★ Mark Allen Viray
- 2007:** ★ Raquel Bagnal ★ Michelle Peña
- 2006:** ★ Aileen Leigh Alon ★ Jasper Lim
 ★ Christian Elamparo ★ Marianne Magapan
 ★ Fay Manapat
- 2005:** ★ Justin Anderson
- 2004:** ★ Danielle Glenn ★ Amanda Goyeneche
 ★ Michaela Kenworthy ★ Michael McNulty
 ★ Judith Peña
- 2003:** ★ Raymund Elamparo



THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION—2011~2012

COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL ❖ MARCH 30—APRIL 1, 2012



COLUMBIA FIL-AM BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 15, 2011 ❖ JANUARY 21, 2012



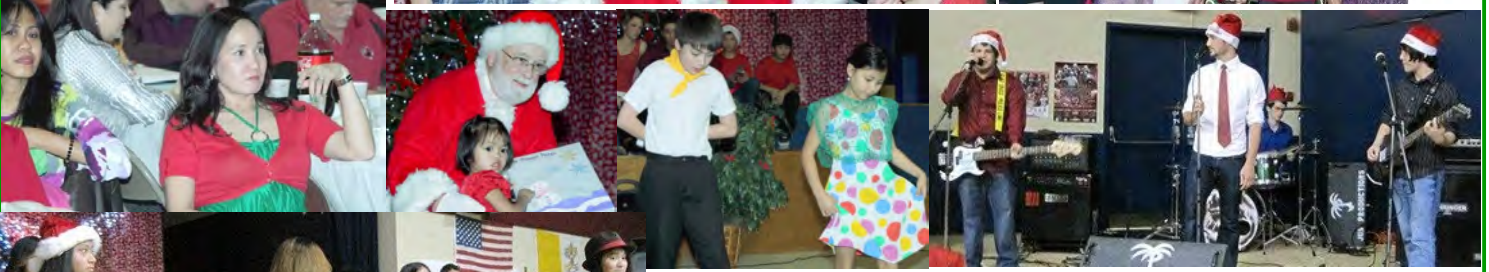
THE ASSOCIATION IN ACTION—2011~2012



Easter Picnic ~~~ April 8, 2012



Members Appreciation Day ~~~ June 9 2012



Christmas Party ~~~ Dec. 17, 2011



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*Best Wishes to the
Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia
with all its hard-working FAAGC officers and proud members
and Congratulations for the Celebration of the
*22nd Annual FAAGC Gala Night!**



THE MATIENZO FAMILY

Matt, Mercedes, Dean, Anne & Family, and Alan



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Congratulations FAAGC On Your 21st Anniversary !



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RODNEY, NICOLE, NATE & RILEY**



*More Power
to the
FAAGC*

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CUARESMA
& FAMILY
JESLIE ANN,
JESSAMINE
AND
JOSH, JESSICA
& ETHAN TODD**



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CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THE FILIPINO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
GREATER COLUMBIA
ON ITS 22ND ANNUAL GALA



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and
**DAVID AND MAUREEN
GRIMAUD**



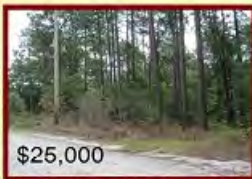
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Association of
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on Your
21st Anniversary



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PATRON

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NIMHD

Director
Office of Extramural Research Administration
National Institute on Minority Health
and Health Disparities
National Institutes of Health



PATRON

*Best Wishes
to the
Members & Officers
of the
FAAGC*



**LEE & POLLY
PEARSON**

Dalzell, SC



THE PASICATAN FAMILY

Mabuhay ang FAAGC !



From

JESS & EDIE SEBASTIAN & FAMILY

Columbia, SC

Congratulations to
The Filipino American Association
Of Greater Columbia

On your

22nd Annual Gala

From:



The Filipino-American Community of Western North Carolina

Compliments of

~~~~~

**SAM & DELIA  
MANDANAS**

Columbia, SC



*Compliments of*

**MERVYN & LORNA  
DE GUZMAN**

Columbia, SC

**THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER**

Oh, say, can you see,  
by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed  
at the twilight's last gleaming?  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,  
through the perilous fight,  
o'er the ramparts we watched,  
were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare,  
the bombs bursting in air,  
gave proof through the night  
that our flag was still there;  
Oh, say, doth that star-spangled  
banner yet wave  
o'er the land of the free  
and the home of the brave?



*Best Wishes from*



**DRS. PETE & LAURA  
SIAZON**

Columbia, SC

**PAMBANSANG AWIT NG PILIPINAS**



Bayang magiliw,  
Perlas ng Silanganan,  
Alab ng puso  
Sa dibdib mo'y buhay.  
*Lupang hinirang,  
Duyan ka ng magiting,  
Sa manlulupig  
'Di ka pasisiil.*  
Sa dagat at bundok,  
Sa simoy at sa langit mong bughaw,  
May dilag ang tula  
At awit sa paglayang minamahal.  
*Ang kislap ng watawat mo'y  
Tagumpay na nagniningning;  
Ang bituin at araw niya  
Kailan pa ma'y 'di magdidilim.*  
Lupa ng araw, ng luwalhati't pagsinta,  
Buhay ay langit sa piling mo;  
Aming ligaya na 'pag may mang-aapi,  
Ang mamatay nang dahil sa iyo.



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# FAAGC at 20 : TOGETHER, MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



At the 20th Anniversary Gala held on September 10, 2011, the Filipino-American Association of Greater Columbia recognizes the *Lifetime Sustaining Charter Members* (above) who have been continuous FAAGC members since 1991.



