



► **Noilyn Abesamis, MPH** is the Deputy Director of Outreach and Research for the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health (CSAAH). She has been instrumental in the development of CSAAH's Filipino Community Health Needs Assessment. In 2004, Noilyn helped co-found the *Kalusugan* Coalition where she currently serves as Co-Chair. The *Kalusugan* Coalition is "a multidisciplinary collaboration dedicated to creating a unified voice to improve the health of the Filipino community in the New York City/Jersey City area through network & resource development, educational activities, research, community action, and advocacy." In addition to her health-related work, Noilyn also co-founded Media Batik in 2003, a New York City-based independent film/video production company specializing in social-issue documentary formats. At present, she is the Executive Producer on a feature-length documentary on the impact of 9/11 on Filipinos living in the U.S.

Noilyn is a fellow for the 2005 New American Leaders Fellowship Program, a joint program with the Coro New York and the New York Immigration Coalition and serves as a member of several community boards and advisory committees including: Asian Pacific Islander Caucus of the American Public Health Association (Secretary), Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (Action Council Member), Jersey City Communities That Care Coalition (Co-Chair), and the Philippine-American Friendship Committee-Community Development Center, Health Committee (Member). Noilyn received a B.A. in Environmental Analysis & Design with a minor in Public Health & Epidemiology from the University of California, Irvine and an MPH from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health with a focus in Sociomedical Sciences.



◀ **Lenn Almadin**, TFC/ABS-CBN - Producer, Correspondent

► **Delia Aguilar** was on the faculty of Washington State University and, before that, of Bowling Green State University in Ohio where she taught courses in women's studies and ethnic studies. She has since retired and is now an adjunct professor of women's studies at the University of Connecticut. She is the author of *The Feminist Challenge: Toward Reconceptualizing the Feminist Movement in the Philippines* (1989), *Filipino Housewives Speak* (1991), and *Toward a Nationalist Feminism* (1998). Her latest publication is *Women and Globalization* (Humanity Books, 2004) co-edited with Anne Lacsamana.



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► **Gina Alfonso's** three passions lie in education, the arts, and work with the marginalized. After completing her BA from the Ateneo de Manila University, she worked as a Jesuit Volunteer and was a college instructor at Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City.

Having been raised by two teachers, she pursued a profession in teaching at both the elementary and tertiary levels, and involved herself in management consulting work as well, before acquiring a M.Ed. in Counseling Psychology from Fordham in 1995. With a strong desire to give back to her country, she then continued her work as directress of their family owned Elementary and Pre-School, making it her mission to develop social awareness among her students. Teaching in an affluent community fueled Gina's desire to provide the same educational opportunities to children in underserved areas in the country. Four years later, upon receiving a clear message from God to return to Mindanao, she set-up a non-profit organization, Cartwheel Foundation, that has made it its mission to provide indigenous communities with access to wealth through education and to build schools for young indigenous children, in the most remote areas in the Philippines, with no access to education.

In 2003, Cartwheel was awarded by former President Corazon Aquino as one of 20 People Power People Organizations in the country. In 2004, together with the Community of Learners Foundation, it spearheaded a training program for various teachers from five indigenous communities from Ifugao, Agusan del Sur, Nueva Ecija, Cabanglasan, and Bukidnon. Each area organized their own schools starting in 2004 serving a total of almost 200 indigenous children at the early childhood levels. Gina served as President of Cartwheel Foundation until 2004, and currently continues to be a member of the Board, while she pursues her second Master's degree in Art Therapy at Lesley University in Boston. Art for healing will be central in the next phase of her work with the foundation. While in the U.S., she continues to be an advocate for indigenous communities and aims to build a network of individuals passionate about education and providing opportunities for indigenous youth in the Philippines.

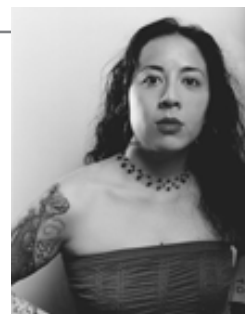


◀ **Vivienne SM. Angeles** holds a graduate degree in Political Science from Kansas State University and a PhD in Religion with concentration in Islamic Studies from Temple University in Philadelphia. Born and raised in the Philippines, she now teaches Judaism and Islam, Women and Islam and Dynamics of Religion at La Salle University in Philadelphia. Her current research on visual expressions of Islam in the Philippines brings her to different Muslim communities in northern Philippines like Aparri, and all the way south to places like Tawi-Tawi islands.

► **Sabrina Margarita Alcantara-Tan** is founder, publisher and editor of Bamboo Girl, an independent publication created in 1995 to confront racism, sexism and homophobia as they relate to women of color, particularly those of Filipina American, Asian Pacific Islander American, & mixed Asian heritage. Her work is featured in *That Takes Ovaries!*, *Dragonladies: Asian American Feminists Breathe Fire*, *Young Wives' Tales: New Adventures in Love and Partnership*, and *A Girl's Guide To Taking Over The World: Writings From The Girl Zine Revolution*. Her illustrations grace the cover of the book *Consequence: Beyond Resisting Rape*.

She recently curated the April 2005 exhibit at Arena Space entitled, "PINTADAS: An Exhibit of Tattooed Asian Pacific Islander Women." *Pintados* is the name the Spanish gave the inhabitants of Panay Island of the Philippines because of their tattooed bodies. *Pintadas* is for the feminine aspect. The NYC exhibit is an unprecedented photography exhibit of tattooed API women from the East and West Coast, & from Canada which also featured live tattoo storytelling. The second half of the project entails a pictorial spread in the next issue of Bamboo Girl Zine, dubbed "The Tattoo Issue." Various tattooed API women's stories will be told and photographed in both parts of the Pintadas Project.

Sabrina is also a community organizer and a spoken word and performance artist & singer. She speaks at various universities and colleges on issues pertaining to API/Filipina, feminist, and queer women. She is a *balisong* wielder, a graduate of New York University, and is going to grad school to be a witchy-Babaylan Traditional Chinese Medicine healer.



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◀ **Christina Baal** aided in the creation and implementation of the Immigrant Women's Initiative at Cabrini Immigrant Services. This initiative, based in Manhattan's Lower East Side, provides educational workshops and supportive counseling to Latina and Filipina immigrant women. Prior to this she was a Crisis Counselor for Project Liberty and provided counseling in middle and elementary schools throughout the Bronx. Christina received her Bachelor in Fine Arts from New York University and has been working as a theatre artist in New York City for several years. She is currently a Masters of Social candidate at Hunter College School of Social Work. Christina, a second-generation Filipina American who grew up in Long Island, is an active volunteer with BABAE (Bridging Assistance Building Advocacy & Empowerment), a not-for-profit organization providing culturally and linguistically appropriate case management services to Filipina victims/survivors of violence.

▶ **Christine Bacareza Balance** is currently a PhD candidate in Performance Studies at NYU as well as adjunct faculty with the A/P/A Studies Program and Institute at NYU. In 1999 and 2000, she and co-organizer Mark Ng brought together the first and second annual queer Pilipina/o conferences at UCLA. In 2003, she hosted the first ever queer Pinay revue at Bindlestiff Studio (San Francisco) for the Pinay Kolektibo. She has been organizing both queer people of color, Asian/Pacific American, and Pilipina/o American arts events for the past 10 years.



◀ **Edwina Bergano** is a FANHS Trustee, community grant writer and dental administrator. She is a third generation Pinay from Oahu, HI whose grand parents were original "Sakadas" immigrating to HI in the 1920's. she graduated with a BA and MPA at the University of Washington where she received graduate training in public policy and grant writing. Since 1985, she has written grants in the excess of \$100,000 benefitting the Filipino American community of Hampton Roads, VA, in producting programs to educate the general public of the history and culture of Filipino AMERICANS.

Edwina was part of the writing team prodcugin the first histoyr book okn Filipino Americans called, "Filipinos: ForgottenAsian American," in 1982. She currently serves as project director of the writing team producing the first Filipino AMERICAN history book of Hampton Roads, VA, "In Our Aunties' Words: The Filipino Spriti of HamptonRoads." The next book, "In our Uncles' Words: We Fought for Freedom," is scheduled to be released in July/2006.



◀ **Amy Besa** has championed the cause of Asian food systems, making it a personal mission to have myriad Asian regional cuisines be better understood and appreciated by American audiences. In April 2001, she organized a Southeast Asian Food Conference together with the Asian/Pacific/American Studies Program of New York University. Entitled "Palates of Pleasure: The Philosophy & Politics of Southeast Asian Food," the conference brought together several Asian Chefs (representing cuisines of Cambodia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and India), academics, scholars, food writers and media representatives to study the history, culture, religious ideologies, politics and arts of Southeast Asia. Amy is presently working with her husband, Chef Romy Dorotan, on *Memories of*

Philippine Kitchens (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, May 2006), a cookbook that traces the historical influences that shaped Philippine cuisine.

Amy is the Co-owner of Cendrillon Restaurant in New York along with husband, Chef Romy Dorotan. Romy and Amy came to the United States as graduate students in the late 70s. At Cendrillon, they serve exceptionally beautifully prepared dishes from their native Philippines as well as Asian inspired personal creations of its Chef-Owner, Romy Dorotan. Cendrillon has been featured in *Gourmet*, *Vogue*, *Elle*, *New York* magazine and *The New York Times*. Other media interest has come from *Martha Stewart TV*, the *Food Network* and various entertainment websites such as *Sidewalk* (Microsoft), *Digital Cities* (AOL) and *New York Today* (*New York Times*).

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▶ **Rachel A. R. Bundang** is a doctoral candidate in Constructive Theologies, Praxis, and Ethics at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York. She is a scholar of Asian/Pacific American religions, Catholic moral theology, and feminist social ethics. Previous degrees include a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) from Harvard Divinity School, with a focus on religion and cultural criticism; and a Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) from Princeton University, with concentrations in Romance Languages and Literatures, African-American Studies, and European Cultural Studies. Also trained in violin, piano, and voice, she is a working musician and vocalist active in several jazz/funk and classical collectives.



◀ **Sheelagh Cabalda** is currently the Student and Community Affairs Director at New York University's Asian/Pacific/American Studies Program. She coordinates the course offerings and liaisons between faculty and students to address curricular concerns. In addition to advising NYU students about their A/P/A minor, Sheelagh administers the CV Starr funding for research projects and works with youth in the Asian Pacific American Youth Alliance (APAYA), A/P/A's high school youth program. A firm believer in using art as a social tool, Sheelagh's heart warms when advocating for youth, diversity, and women's issues.

Sheelagh is a founding board member of Sumisibol, a Jersey City-based organization dedicated to the development of Filipino American youth. She has been a fellow with the Community Foundation of NJ, Neighborhood Leadership Initiative and has been a member of a national think tank through the Organization of Chinese Americans (Washington, DC) to develop a leadership/social justice curriculum for APA college students. She is the former Assistant Director of Educational and Cultural Programming at NYU's Office for African American, Latino and Asian American Student Services (OASIS), where she developed a passion for creating partnerships among educational institutions and community organizations.

She has consulted with several community groups including Filipino American Human Services, Inc. (FAHSI), the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF), and the Arab-American Family Support Center. A native of Jersey City, Sheelagh has written for *The Jersey Journal* (Jersey City, NJ). She received her MA in Higher Education Administration from NYU and her BA in Journalism and English from Rutgers University.

If Sheelagh had an extra life, it would be to star side by side with Lucy Ball in an 'I Love Lucy' episode.



◀ **Ana Liza Caballes.** Coordinator, DAMAYAN Migrants Workers Association. New York, NY.

► **Catherine Ceniza Choy** is a second generation Filipina American from New York City. In 2004, she became the first tenured faculty member who specializes in Filipino American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, where she is an associate professor of Ethnic Studies. She received her Ph.D. in History from UCLA. She is the author of *Empire of Care: Nursing and Migration in Filipino American History*, published by Duke University Press and co-published by Ateneo de Manila University Press in 2003. *Empire of Care* received an American Journal of Nursing 2003 book of the year award in history and public policy; an honorable mention for the American Studies Association's 2004 Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize; and the Association for Asian American Studies' 2005 history book award. She is at work on a book project on the history of Asian international adoption in the U.S.



◀ **Caroline Ceniza-Levine** is the head of CL Search Services, provider of Recruitment Strategy, Executive Search, and Success Coaching services. Currently, Caroline is working in campus recruiting for a Global 500 media/ publishing firm. As a success coach, Caroline works privately and with small groups using her "Think As Inc." approach, a combination of business strategy, improv/ acting techniques and traditional coaching. Caroline is also an adjunct professor of Professional Development at Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs and a career advice contributor for several newspapers.

Prior to launching her own firm, Caroline recruited with Magna Consulting, a retained search firm specialized in the management consulting industry. Caroline also worked in campus recruiting at Citibank. Caroline began her career in management consulting/ investment banking, as an engagement manager at Oliver, Wyman & Company, a financial services strategy boutique, and as a summer analyst at Goldman Sachs. Prior to her corporate career, Caroline was a classical pianist with a Diploma from the Juilliard School of Music and performances throughout New York City. Caroline is a Barnard College graduate with majors in music and economics.

► **Joan May Timtiman Cordova**, originally from Stockton's (CA) historic "Little Manila" community, earned a doctorate in education from Harvard University and a Filipino bilingual credential from the University of San Francisco. A teacher for more than 20 years, she has worked with pre-school through graduate students. Joan May has been a professional consultant to the National Coalition of Advocates for Students & National Center of Immigrant Students, National Educators for Social Responsibility, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Harvard University's Institute for International Development.

As a community volunteer, Joan May currently serves as National Vice President for FANHS, the Filipino American National Historical Society (www.fanhs-national.org) and Board Chair for Filipino Oral History Project, Inc. She co-edited: *In Our Aunties' Words* (2004), *Voices :A Filipino American Oral History* (2000, 1984), *Unfamiliar Partners: Asian Parents in U.S. Schools* (1997), and *Pinoy Know Yourself* (1975). She's an ordained elder of the Presbyterian Church and a past board member of the Center for Peaceable Schools (Cambridge), Pacific/Asian Center for Theology & Strategies (Berkeley), Asian Pacific Community Counseling (Sacramento).





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◀ **Dr. Angie Cruz** received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York. Her employment history includes the NYC Board of Education, the NYC Department for the Aging and United Way of New York as employers. As an independent consultant, her clients have included United Way International, TLC Beatrice International Holdings, Center for the Study of Philanthropy, Center for Urban Research, Philippine Department of Tourism, National Institute of Mental Health and U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Angie answered the call to retreat ministry in 1998 and joined the lay-collaborative retreat team of Fr. Lou Sogliuzzo of the Loyola House of Retreats in Morristown. She founded the *Institute for Spirituality in the Workplace*, a non-profit 501C3 organization, which offers retreats, recollections, and spiritual direction, and aims to bring spirituality to working people on all levels, from CEOs to clerical staff.

Angie gained formal training in spiritual and retreat direction at the Loyola House in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. She joined the two-year Adjunct Program at St. Ignatius Retreat House at its inception and is now a Staff Associate there. She served as a spiritual director, giving the 19th Annotation, and has worked in retreats and seasonal days of prayer. She is a member of *Spiritual Directors International*.

At Mt. Manresa Jesuit Retreat House on Staten Island, Angie serves as Asst. Coordinator of the VENI Program which provides cross-cultural training in spiritual and retreat direction. With Fr. Joe Costantino, S.J., Director of St. Ignatius, Angie represented the NY Jesuit Province at the Rome Consultations on February, 2003.

Angie resides in Manhattan where she is the Business Spirituality Coordinator at the Philippine Pastoral Center of the Filipino Apostolate of the Archdiocese of New York.

▶ **Sari Lluch Dalena** is an independent Filipino filmmaker and Fulbright scholar, currently pursuing her MFA in Film Production at the prestigious Tisch School of the Arts in New York University.

An award-winning filmmaker, Dalena most recently enjoyed a fantastic festival run of her feature-length documentary *Memories of a Forgotten War* (a documentary on the Philippine-American War of 1899), which had the honor of being the closing film at the Documentary Fortnight in New York City's MoMA (Museum of Modern Art).

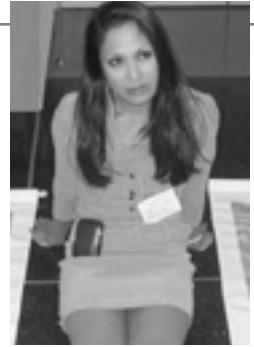
Prior to the documentary, she won twice for Best Short Film at the Gawad URIAN Film Awards (The Philippines' Academy Awards) and First Prize for the Gawad CCP for Alternative Film & Video Competition for two short films: *Church Dogs* and *Little Crosses*.

Ms. Dalena had screened her films in various international film festivals in the US and Asia and is being distributed by Third World Newsreel in New York City.

Ms. Dalena is a recipient of the Fulbright-Hayes Scholarship, Asian Cultural Council Fellowship, Starr Foundation Award, Clive Davis Award, Tisch Fellowship and the Cultural Center of the Philippine's 13 Artists Award. She is currently finishing her first-feature film "*Rigodon*", a collaborative effort with Keith Sicat.



► International artist **Maria Madonna Davidoff** has lived and exhibited in Asia, Europe and the United States. She studied fine arts at the University of the Philippines, The Art Students League of New York and Ecole Benedict in Switzerland. Maria Madonna has exhibited in the United States, Switzerland, France, Canada, Japan, India and the Philippines. Her New York City exhibitions have been in The Museum of Natural History, The Orensanz Art Foundation Center, The AmericaSociety/Council of the Americas, Anthem Gallery in SOHO, Lamama Galleria and PLI Gallery. Maria Madonna has also exhibited at the Cedar Ridge Gallery in Toronto, Canada, the Tokyo International Exhibition Center in Japan, The GSIS Museum in Manila, The Institute of the Americas in California, The Museum of Art and History, in Switzerland, the New Delhi FAC Society Gallery in India and at the Visconti Gallery in Paris, France. Shows in 2005 include a solo exhibition at the Vargas Museum in Manila, The Tokyo Metropolitan Museum, and the Langenfeld International Art Symposium in Austria.



Davidoff's new works consist of mix-media scroll paintings, a combination of digital, linocut printing and traditional painting methods, and are inspired by the different countries she has lived in and visited. Her works combine mythological symbols and urban icons in a playful fusion of modern Western and Eastern motifs, such as skyscrapers, zeppelins as well as snakes and volcanoes---a rich tableaux of both primitive and modern forms. She draws upon numerous motifs, which are native to the Philippines and other Asian-Pacific cultures. Some of these works include autobiographical exploration of the subconscious through dream images and fantasy. Through playful juxtapositions of Eastern and Western motifs, Davidoff achieves her unity of vision.

Her work was included in a Symposium on The History of Philippine-American Art and the Swiss Artist Events from the Swiss Consulate Cultural Section in New York City. She is also an award-winning book cover illustrator and her works have been reviewed by a Washington Post art critic who wrote, "Of the thirty three works on view at the Foundry Gallery, I liked Maria Madonna Davidoff's mix-media scrolls..." Her website is: www.madonnaart.com.



◄ **Dulcie Dee** was born and raised in New York City and excelled as an art major at Music and Art High School. Her passion for drawing was further encouraged when she won first prize for her entry in the 1971 New York City Anti-Drug Abuse poster contest. This prize inspired her to pursue the arts as her life career. Understanding her passionate desire to study art, her father, Teddy Dee, advised her to go to Manila in 1973 to learn about her Asian heritage and Eastern culture. Dulcie is the granddaughter of Dee C. Chuan, founder of the China Bank Corporation in Manila, Philippines. Living in Manila, Dulcie studied traditional Chinese brush painting and had the wonderful opportunity to travel throughout Asia.

While snorkeling in the Philippines, she discovered the unique underwater world of their coral reefs and so her brilliant series of seascape works captures her joyful discovery of this rapidly eroding Philippines eco-treasure. International reviews in popular magazines such as 'Asiaweek', 'Taipan', 'Filipinas', and 'Transpacific', have featured Dulcie's efforts to alert the public of the need to preserve the delicate coral reefs of the Philippines.

Each painting created by Dulcie pulsates with rich, vibrant, tropical colors. Her work is a fascinating fusion of East and West. She paints with clarity and precision with a free-flowing sense of subject, shade and color. Just as entrancing as her seascapes are her enigmatic paintings of lovely, demure yet sensuous Geishas. In addition to her marine subjects and her delicate Geishas, are her exotic female nudes, and the sensuality of the female body.

Connoisseurs and lovers of nature from 14 countries, including the United States, Australia, Japan, Singapore, Germany, France, and Bermuda have purchased her paintings for their private collections.

Dulcie earned her MFA from The Academy of Art University in SF, CA. This May she is simultaneously exhibiting her b/w Paris drawings at the Martin Luther King Library in Washington, DC, and showing her "Mariko" at the Annual National Arts Club Roundtable Exhibition in NY while her "La Chatte" collage is being displayed at the Atrium Gallery in SF. Hiraya Gallery, Manila Philippines featured her "Naked City" lithographs this Spring. Dee authored and illustrated "ABC Coral Reef", an educational book for children to learn about the tropical fish in the Pacific Ocean and is awaiting publication.

► **Melinda Luisa de Jesús** is Assistant Professor of Asian Pacific American Studies at Arizona State University where she writes and teaches about Asian American cultural productions. Her essays have appeared in RADICAL TEACHER; MERIDIANS: FEMINISM, RACE, TRANSNATIONALISM; MELUS JOURNAL; THE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY; AND THE JOURNAL OF ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES. Her anthology, *Pinay Power: Theorizing the Filipina/American Experience (or PINAY POWER: PEMINIST CRITICAL THEORY)*, was recently published by Routledge Press. She is an Aquarian and admits an obsession with Hello Kitty.



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◀ **Christina DeHaven** is a New York-based film and television producer and a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where she accomplished a BFA in Film and Asian American Studies. Her work on the all-Filipino American production of a film called *The Debut* was her first experience working on a feature film, and so far her producing career has led to a number of other credits, including two films that were accepted to the Sundance Film Festival. Christina's recent projects include *My Uncle Berns*, a feature-length documentary which currently airs on HBO, and a music video for the platinum, award-winning group the Black Eyed Peas, with their song *The APL Song*, dedicated to the plight of Filipino-American WWII veterans. She also produced *Isaang Dekada*, a commercial for The Filipino Channel (ABS/CBN), which features Lea Salonga, and involved a large collaborative effort from the Filipino

American community in three cities – Manila, Los Angeles, and New York.

Currently, Christina is working on building her new production company Undertone Films. She is also a recent addition to the faculty in the Dept. of Film & Television at NYU, where she currently teaches a class on film production.

▶ **Anne del Castillo**, P.O.V. (PBS) - Mgr. of Research & Development, Associate Producer of "Imelda." Anne del Castillo (Manager of Research and Development) has worked in the independent media arts and public television for over ten years as a producer, programmer and fundraiser. Prior to joining P.O.V. in 2002, she was a production associate at *American Masters* in New York and then series coordinator for *Frontline* in Boston. In 1997, she moved to Austin, Texas, where she served as Associate Director of the Austin Film Society, and worked on a number of independent documentary and narrative film projects. Her first producing effort, a six-film anthology entitled *Six in Austin*, debuted at the South by Southwest Film Festival in 2002, and she was associate producer on the documentary film *Imelda*, which premiered at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival. She was vice president of the board of Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers (AIVF) and holds a BA in English Literature and a BS in Mass Communications from Boston University.



◀ **Ernabel Demillo** was born in Manila. She came to the United States at the tender age of one, her parents settling in San Francisco, California. She grew up in the city, where she knew at the age of 11 that she wanted to be a television newscaster. She graduated from the University of Southern California with a double major in Journalism and International Relations. She went on to get her Masters in Broadcast Journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. In a case of being at the right place at the right time, the news director of the station she was interning for as its Washington D.C. based correspondent, hired her 7 weeks before graduation.

In 1993, Ernabel joined the staff of the Orange County Newschannel, a 24-hour news station in Orange County, California ...now known as the "O.C." While working as a general assignment reporter she covered the Laguna Beach fires that destroyed more than 400 homes, the Northridge Earthquake, and the funeral of former President Richard Nixon. She also happened to be one of the news crews chasing O.J. Simpson up the 405 Freeway. After two years in Southern California, she moved up north to Sacramento, where she worked as a general assignment reporter for the CBS affiliate. At KOVR-13, Ernabel covered some major trials, including the Unabomber trial and the Polly Klaas trial. In 1996, she moved to New York to join the FOX-5 morning show, "Good Day New York" as a general assignment reporter. She spent almost nine years on the morning show, where her many roles included breaking news reporter, feature/entertainment reporter and anchor. She won several awards for her reporting, and more importantly was singled out by the Governor of New York for her involvement in the Asian American community. Ernabel sat on several boards, including the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, Asian Professional Extension, a mentoring organization, and the Asian American Journalists Association.

But after many years of getting up at 3 A.M., she decided to take a break from broadcasting to raise her daughter, Alexa Jade, who just turned 2. She continues to write in her spare time and has her own blog.

► **Ramona S. Diaz** is an Asian-American filmmaker whose credits include *Spirits Rising*, an award-winning documentary about women's role in the 1986 People Power revolution in the Philippines. Prior to pursuing a career as an independent filmmaker, Ramona was an associate producer for *Cadillac Desert*, a major PBS documentary series about the quest for water in the American West. She also line-produced and edited an award-winning, 24-part television series in the Philippines about the immigrant experiences of Filipinos residing in Europe and America entitled *Apple Pie, Patis, Pate, atbp...*

Ramona is a graduate of Emerson College, Boston, and holds an MA in Communication from Stanford University. Her latest film, *Imelda*, a full-length documentary about the Former First Lady of the Philippines, garnered the Excellence In Cinematography Award for documentary at last year's 2004 Sundance Film Festival.



◀ **Dr. Celia Divino** is a Board-Certified surgeon, with extensive experience in advanced minimally invasive techniques. She is a member of the Faculty of the American College of Surgeons, and works actively with many other organizations. She publishes regularly in peer-reviewed journals and leads the training of future surgeons in minimally invasive techniques.

Dr. Divino graduated from UC-Davis and earned her MD from SUNY-Brooklyn, where she graduated Cum Laude, with Distinction in Research. Following her training in general surgery at The Mount Sinai Medical Center, Dr. Divino joined the faculty as an attending physician and Assistant Professor of Surgery at Mount Sinai Medical School. Prior to her most recent appointment at Mount Sinai, Dr. Divino served as Chief of Minimally Invasive and Laparoscopic

Surgery at Maimonides Medical Center.

Dr. Divino is active in numerous professional societies. In addition to the American College, her affiliations include: Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgery, Society of Surgery of the Alimentary Tract, the Medical Society of the State of New York and the Association of Women Surgeons.

Dr. Divino is also active in medical research and teaching. She has published numerous articles in leading medical journals and has presented her work at major professional conferences nationwide.

► **Malou G. Dusyn, PC** has 20 years of private practice as a psycho-spiritual counselor, personal life coach, and energy therapist. She is a certified Pastoral Counselor and ordained Buddhist Minister. A student of Tibetan, Indian and Chinese philosophy for many years, and Buddhist science of the mind with great masters from Tibet for 25 years, her work is a synthesis of Eastern, Western, and contemporary approaches to personal and spiritual development. Currently, she is Co-Director of Hartford KTC Tibetan Buddhist Meditation and Study Center, and one of the Founding Directors of Complementary HealthCare Institute, a wellness and preventative health care facility affiliated with St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut.



◀ **Victoria P. Garchitorena** is the President and Board Member of Ayala Foundation, Inc. (AFI) and Ayala Foundation USA and Managing Director for Stakeholder Relations of Ayala Corporation. She joined AFI in 1989 and has transformed it into a dynamic foundation that innovates social technologies, integrates these for a holistic approach and forms partnerships to pool resources for social development initiatives. AFI is a non-stock, non-profit organization that serves as the social development partner of Ayala Corporation and its subsidiaries, Ayala Land., Bank of the Philippine Islands and Globe Telecom. AFI was organized in 1961 and is committed to eradicating poverty through programs in education, youth development, information technology, environment and the arts and culture.

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► **Vivian Itchon Gupta** has been involved in outreach and advocacy regarding women's and multicultural issues since 1991 having worked with such organizations as: Sakhi for South Asian Women, Victim Services (now Safe Horizon), Asian American Federation of New York, Lila Pilipina Task Force on Filipina Comfort Women, Coalition for Asian American Children & Families, and the American Cancer Society's South Asian Outreach Project. She is a Community Initiatives Consultant for Girl Scouts of Nassau County in Garden City, Long Island, where she helps build partnerships with community organizations that provide services to various Asian American populations.



Vivian worked in the Philippines with GABRIELA's Commission on Violence Against Women doing counseling, training, and organizing work around issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and sex trafficking and served two terms as Coordinator of GABRIELA Network's New York/New Jersey Chapter. She is currently GABNet's National Education Director.

She is also a founding member and Board President of BABAE (Bridging Assistance Building Advocacy & Empowerment), a non-profit organization serving Filipina victims of violence established in 2002.

She was born and raised in New York to a Filipina mother and Indian father and has traveled extensively through both countries of her heritage. She received her B.A. in Psychology from New York University and holds Master of Arts & Master of Education degrees in Cross-Cultural Counseling Psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University.



◄ **Mary Lou U. Hardillo-Werning** free-lances in between her itinerant schedule: publication, teaching and translation work, solidarity and advocacy work for migrant women. She studied Ethnology, Sociology and English Literature at the University of Muenster, co-founded Philippine Women's Forum and represented *Babaylan*, *The Philippine Women's Network* in Europe at the UN 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. She is the Chairperson of *Babaylan*, 2001-2004. She is presently the chairperson of *Babaylanes Women Germany* and *Philippine Women's Forum Germany*. She co-authored the book *Philippinen, Paradies in Aufruhr, Berlin and Verhalten auf den Philippinen*. She edited the book *TransEuroExpress, Filipinas in Europe*.

She teaches Pilipino, English and orientation courses about the Philippines in developmental and cooperation institutions in Germany.

► Valerie Castillo Jelski is a native of the Philippines, and graduated from Philippine Normal University. She taught mathematics at San Juan de Letran College in Manila for several years before emigrating to the United States. She is currently an American citizen, is married and has raised two children.

In 1996 Valerie accompanied her family to Kampala, Uganda, where her husband had a Fulbright scholarship teaching at Makerere University. Valerie began taking art lessons there, studying first with Margaret Nagawa, a well-known local artist. She has also worked with Peter Otim, Josephine Mukasa and Fred Mutebe. Ms Mukasa is on the art faculty at Makerere University.

Since returning to the United States in 1997, Valerie has modified the African theme, incorporating both American and Filipino elements.



◄ **Azon Juan** is a segment producer for MTV News + Docs. She produces documentaries on cultural topics and trends that are especially relevant to young people. Since joining MTV in 2000, Azon's successful projects include the Academy Award nominated documentary feature film *Tupac: Resurrection*. The film was also an official selection of the Sundance Film Festival and was nominated for the International Documentary Association's Distinguished Documentary Achievement Awards in 2003. Azon is currently producing and directing for MTV's newest hit series *My Super Sweet 16*.

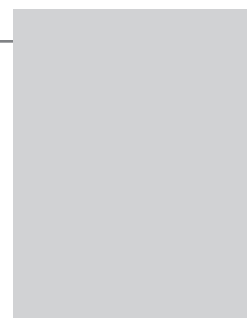
Azon is a graduate of the University of Chicago, where she majored in Anthropology.

FAWN2005 Speakers and Presenters



◀ **Marie Obaña** a.k.a "Ree" was born and raised in San Diego, California but has been living in New York for almost 4 years now. Since her move to NY, Ree has been working as a counselor and social worker to youth of color and has recently graduated from NYU with her Masters in Social Work. She has been active in the Filipino community since her early years of high school and was always eager to learn about the roots and history of her people. Currently, she is an organizer of UGNAYAN, a comprehensive grassroots organization based in New York and New Jersey that upholds & promotes the rights and welfare of Filipino Youth. Ree is dedicated to educating, organizing & mobilizing Filipino youth and our communities. She is a cultural worker, using poetry, spoken word and street theatre as a means of expressing personal/political issues, and in arousing and organizing the people. She loves all beautiful things including ube ice cream and avocado shakes!

▶ **Letecia Layson** is a Filipina, Feminist, Futurist, Priestess of Morphogenesis (Form Coming Into Being), Priestess of Isis and High Priestess of Diana, ordained in the Dianic Tradition, The Fellowship of Isis (FOI) and The Temple of Isis. Dedicated to a path of service to She of Ten Thousand Names, Letecia is committed to embodying the principle, 'personal is political' by healing and transforming civilization through her words, voice, dance, art and rituals. She works with her communities, Circle of Aradia and The Temple of Isis in Los Angeles, CA. She cultivates Life and land through permaculture in Ojai, CA



◀ **Mary Carmen Remigio Madrid-Crost, Esq.** is a principal at the Law Offices of Mary Carmen R. Madrid-Crost. The firm's practice is concentrated in immigration and nationality law, with a strong commitment towards representing immigrants and non-immigrants in securing proper and legal documentation compatible with current government legislation. The law office assists individual and corporate.

Mary Carmen holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree from George Washington University's National Law Center and two degrees from the University of the Philippines – a Bachelor of Laws (J.D.) and a Bachelor of Arts (A.B.), major in Economics. She was admitted to the New York Bar prior to embarking on a solo practice based in Chicago, Illinois. She is also an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Association of the City Bar of New York, New York State Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, and Chicago Bar Association. She is also a founding member and past president of the Filipino-American Bar Association (FABA).

During her stint as president of FABA, Mary Carmen engaged in community outreach programs and created alliances with other legal organizations that would benefit the Filipino community in Chicago. She actively provides pro bono services through recognized legal service organizations such as the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services (CVLS), the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), and the Midwest Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC).

Mary Carmen's leadership skills have been honed over the years when she held directorial positions at the Asian Human Services in Chicago and the Philippine American Cultural Foundation. She is also a member of the Asian American Advisory Council for Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White and the University of the Philippines Club of America – Illinois Chapter. While pursuing her law studies, Mary Carmen worked as a junior economist for the Strategic Planning Group of the Ministry of Human Settlements and as a research assistant for the Academy of ASEAN Law and Jurisprudence of the University of the Philippines' Law Center. Upon graduation, she received a scholarship to the Human Rights Program of the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France, which culminated in an internship at the Human Rights Department of the Council of Europe.

At present, Mary Carmen enjoys success built on years of conscientious practice. She continues to help her compatriots as they navigate their way towards realizing their American dreams of family unity, happiness, & prosperity.

► **Sr. Mary John Mananzan, OSB** is a Missionary Benedictine sister. She obtained her doctorate degree in Philosophy major in Linguistic Philosophy at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy and a degree in Missiology at the Wilhelmsuniversitaet in Muenster, Germany. Her involvement includes charting new paths in the academe and working with the masses especially the women. As a feminist-activist she has given birth to women-centered programs among them are the Institute of Women's Studies, Women Ecology and Wholeness Farm, and the Women Crisis Center. She was the National Chairperson of GABRIELA, a broad alliance of women's organization for 18 years.(1986-2004)



She is actively involved in developing a distinct Third World Theology and was the Executive Secretary and Treasurer of the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians (EATWOT) until September, 2001. She served for 5 years as the International Coordinator of the Women's Commission of EATWOT which developed a Feminist Theology of Liberation from the perspective of Third World women. She was President of St. Scholastica's College for 6 years (1996-2002) and has just been elected Prioress of the Missionary Benedictine Sisters in the Manila Priory.

She was awarded the Dorothy Cadbury Fellowship in 1994 in Birmingham and Henry Luce Fellowship at the Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1995.

She has just been granted a Fellowship as an Asian Public Intellectual of 2002 by the Nippon Foundation and undertook a research on Woman, Religion and Spirituality in Asia in four Asian countries. Her book entitled *Woman, Religion and Spirituality* was published by Anvil and was launched during the International Book Fair at the World Trade Center in Manila on August 15, 2004.



◄ **Rosario-May Mayor** is the Compliance Officer at the Bronx VA Medical Center. She began her VA career in 1983 at the Manhattan, New York VA Medical Center. Prior to joining the VA, Mayor worked in nursing at Metropolitan Hospital, Cabrini Hospital, Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, all in New York City, and with the International Rescue Committee in Bangkok, Thailand.

Ms. Mayor holds a nursing degree from the University of Philippines and a Master of Arts degree in Nursing (MA) from Columbia University. Mayor first came to the Bronx VA in 1997, leaving briefly to serve a 2-year stint as the Patient Safety Officer for the VA's New York Region Headquarters (VISN3), also located in the Bronx. Mayor returned to the Bronx VA Medical Center in June 2004 to assume duties as the Compliance Officer and Staff Assistant to the Director.

The Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNAA) has announced the election of Ms. Mayor, as the new "President-Elect" of the organization. The PNAA was formed in 1979 in response to the growing need of a concerted effort to address the issues and concerns of Filipino nurses in the United States. The PNAA, formally known as the Federation of Philippine Nurses Association, is comprised of 32 chapters across the United States. Along with its membership, the PNAA represents over 10,000 Filipino-American nurses in the United States at various levels of professional organizations, government agencies, community groups and other coalitions.

► **Potri Ranka Manis** an artist, activist, diviner and director is also the of Founder *Kinding Sindaw*, a New York City based performance troupe, that performs indigenous dances from southern Philippines. As a performance troupe that focuses on the art and culture of marginalized peoples of southern Philippines, Kinding Sindaw focuses on educating, enlightening and informing audiences of all ethnicities and background in the tri-state area to the proud history, culture and contemporary issues affecting these peoples. Kinding Sindaw utilizes its art to connect the history and struggles of these marginalized peoples to the struggles of indigenous and minority peoples throughout the world.

Potri is a political and cultural activist who suffered political imprisonment and torture during the Marcos dictatorial regime. This lead her to have a firm grip on the Augustus Boal technique of Theater of the Oppressed as an artist

Potri learned all the ways of the Maranao tradition as a child. Her family is a keeper of the Darangen tradition where the ancestral heritage is enshrined and handed down through generation of Onor (through oral tradition). She has learned *silat* martial arts from her father. She visited the neighboring indigenous peoples and learned their ways of life. She stayed with the Tiboli people and learned their healing and language and their sacred chanted epic *Lemlunay*.

photo © Corky Lee



FAWN2005 Speakers and Presenters



◀ **Evelie Delfino Sáles Posch**, ritualist, musician, singer, teacher, healer, is the founder of Babaylan Emerging Apprenticeship and Mentoring {BEAM} Program. BEAM is a minimum 3-year training for developing spiritual leadership through the exploration and practice of our Philippine indigenous, shamanistic spirituality and other earth-based world spiritualities.

Evelie is the Musical Director of Bodhi-Gaia Ensemble of the Metropolitan Community Church and of the Spiral Dance Chorus and Band (www.reclaiming.org). She is a ritual Consultant and ritualist/singer for the Spiral Dance, Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason and with Techno Cosmic Masses, University of Creation Spirituality, www.technocosmicmass.org. And she is on the faculty of Young Imaginations (www.youngimagination.org) and teaches music at Liberty House Studios.

Evelie is also a producer with through *Magic Spirit Music*, does consultation, and works to perform rites of passage, blessing ceremonies, sound and music healing (with kulin-tang/bronze gongs, tibetan singing bowls, drumming, voice overtones), pranic healing (energy/chakra balancing), intuitive counseling and spiritual life coaching.



▶ **Bino A. Realuyo** is a novelist and poet who was born in the late sixties in Manila, Philippines and raised by fierce women there and in New York City. His acclaimed novel, *THE UMBRELLA COUNTRY*, published by Ballantine Reader's Circle, Random House.



◀ **Honorable Consul General Cecilia B. Rebong**, Philippine Consulate, New York, NY. Con Gen Rebong has worked in diplomatic service since the 1980s and has been conferred by the President of the Republic of the Philippines the *Gawad Mabini*, rank of *Dakilang Kamanong* in 2003, for distinguished accomplishments and exemplary service in the Department of Foreign Affairs, for promoting and advancing the interests of the Philippines and the Filipino people during her service at the Philippine Consulate General in New York, the Philippine Mission to the United Nations, the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C., and for outstanding performance and dedication to duties as Chief of Presidential Protocol and Presidential Assistant on Foreign Affairs.

Con Gen Rebong has served as the Director for Human Rights, Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Issues at the Office of United Nations and Other International Organizations (UNIO) from 1991 to 1993. She was the Chief Coordinator of the Group 77 (grouping of developing countries in the United Nations) for issues dealing with sustainable development and operational activities from 1995-1997. With the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund UNDP/UNFPA) Board, she has served as Vice-President of the Executive Board, Chairman of the Drafting Group on Rules of Procedure, and member of the Executive Board Field Mission to the People's Republic of China. She was also a member of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid's Mission of Women Leaders to Asia and the Pacific Countries in 1984. and she has been a Philippine delegate and representative in numerous U.N. sessions and committees, including the World Congress of Women for Peace and Development (Moscow, USSR, 1987) and the UN World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women (Nairobi, Kenya, 1985).

Cecilia Rebong hails from Santa Cruz, Laguna. She and husband Oscar H. Rebong and they have two children.

▶ **Christina Quisumbing Ramilo** was born in the Philippines and moved to New York in 1985. She received her BA in Editorial Design and Illustration from the University of the Philippines and her MA in Studio Art and Art Education from New York University.

Christina has exhibited extensively in New York City, Manila and around the world. Her solo exhibitions include *NENA* (Corredor Gallery, University of the Philippines, 2004); *Powerlines* (The West Gallery (Ayala Center), Metro Manila, Philippines, 2003); "1998" (Cendrillon, New York, NY, 1998); *Recent Works* (Cendrillon, New York, NY, 1996); *Ritual* (The West Gallery, Metro Manila, Philippines, 1996); and *Guni-Gunita* (Philippine Center, New York, NY, 1993).

Christina lives in Jackson Heights, Queens.





◀ **Patria Rivera** is a poet and editor. *PUTI/WHITE*, her first poetry collection, was launched by Frontenac House, a Canadian publishing company, in April in Calgary, Alberta, and in May in Toronto. She has written extensively for both local and international publications, and was a fellow at the University of the Philippines Writers' Workshop and the Dumaguete National Writers' Workshop. In 1997 she won an honourable mention in the ARC Poetry Magazine Second Annual Poem of the Year Contest for her poem, *Living on the borders, dying in the margins*.

She has also received writing grants from the Writers Union of Canada and the Ontario Arts Council. In 2001, she was awarded a fellowship in poetry writing at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta. Last year, she received a fellowship to the Hawthornden Castle

International Writers Retreat Centre in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Patria graduated with a journalism degree from the Institute of Mass Communication as well as earned a certificate in development economics from the School of Economics at the University of the Philippines. She also studied media management at the International Training Institute in Sydney, Australia, and economic report writing at the International Institute for Journalism in Berlin, Germany.



▶ Veronica Salcedo is second-generation Pinay born and raised in Va Beach, VA. Veronica is a 3rd year Social Studies Teacher at Bayside High School and co-sponsor of the Filipino American Cultural Association and the Gay-Straight Alliance at Bayside. Her humble roots began with a creative Pinay nurse mother, a determined Pinoy navy father, a very loving and adobo-frying Lolo, and the tallest, hardest-working Pinay younger sister. Veronica was culturally lost until she was inspired by Salem FACS, the Cordovas and the FANHS Family, and the Angry Little Asian Grrrls at the College of William and Mary. She graduated in 2002 with a BA in History and Secondary Level Education. Veronica is currently serving as the Filipino American National Historical Society-Hampton Roads Chapter VP and continues to love and support the students in the Filipino Intercollegiate Networking Dialogue-District 7.

In her college days, she was inspired at the FAWN 2000 conference in San Mateo and looks forward to giving back to the youth. Her future goals include an oral history book, "In Our Uncles' Words: We fought for Freedom," attending graduate school, and exploring issues of the queer Pinay community.



◀ **Karin Aguilar San Juan is** a second-generation Pinay born in Boston, Massachusetts. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota where she is an assistant professor of American Studies at Macalester College. She teaches about race and racism, white privilege, Asian Americans, and urban sociology. She is writing a book about Vietnamese Americans in Boston and Orange County. She edited an anthology called *The State of Asian America: Activism and Resistance in the 1990s*. Before she became a college professor, she edited and published books and magazines for the alternative media. She was an editor at *Dollars & Sense* magazine, a progressive economics monthly, and *South End Press*, an independent publisher of trade, non-fiction books. She has a B.A. in Economics from Swarthmore College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Sociology from Brown University.

Karin has studied martial arts for nearly 20 years and still practices regularly. She is a very casual practitioner of Zen Buddhism. She likes playing the *djembe* (West African hand drum) and taking photographs of life in the city.

▶ **Antonina C. Santos** is an independent financial adviser for a Fortune 50 firm and a director for Eternal Events company (AD-Zoo LLC), an event marketing company, which has gained several loyal clients in the last 3 years.

She is a very active person, is on the go whether it is with shaolin kung fu class or playing soccer on sundays with her team. She attended Parsons University for 3 years but decided to put off finishing when she starting her own marketing firm. She attended Harrison High School in Westchester after she came to NY in 1986 from the great city of Bacolod. She is in the process of opening an internet cafe for the year 2006 in Hinigaran on Negros Island of the Philippines, where she grew up as a child. Also, an avid traveler she is in the process of trying to "conquer" the last continent, Africa.





◀ **Jorshinelle Sonza**, a playwright and teacher, earned her doctorate degree in English and Comparative Literature from Drew University, New Jersey. She also has an MFA degree from the New School University's Actors Studio Drama School in New York City. Three of her plays have been performed at the New School's Tishman Auditorium as part of the New School University Diversity Initiative, at the Actor Studio Theater for the Repertory Season, and at the New York Philippine Consulate. Her scholarly articles have appeared in journals such as *THE JOURNAL OF COMMONWEALTH LITERATURES*, *RESEARCH IN AFRICAN LITERATURE* and the *ARKANSAS REVIEW*. She is a two-time Palanca awardee and a Philippine Centennial Literary awardee. She has taught at Virginia Polytechnic State University and is currently a writing instructor at the College of St. Elizabeth and Rutgers University.

▶ **Janet Stickmon**, author of the book, *Crushing Soft Rubies*, is a teacher, writer, and performer who holds a Master's of the Arts Degree in Religion and Society from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Irvine. Her work has influenced hundreds of adolescents and adults for the last ten years. She has been a featured speaker, retreat leader, and workshop facilitator on subjects ranging from oppression and media portrayal of people of color to intimacy and Catholic ministry.

Stickmon is also a spoken word artist who has performed at venues in San Francisco, San Jose, cities in the East Bay, Seattle, WA and Kansas City, MO. Through her performances and literature, she explores issues of love, grief, and resurrection in the context of her identity as an African-Filipino-American woman. These works have culminated into a poetry book entitled, *Unfragmented* and a spoken word CD entitled, "Visible".



◀ **Leny Mendoza Strobel** is the author of *A Book of Her Own: Words and Images to Honor the Babaylan* (T'boli Publishing) and *Coming Full Circle: The Process of Decolonization Among Post-1965 Filipino Americans* (Giraffe Books). She is co-editor (with Roshni Rustomji and Rajini Srikanth) of *Encounters: People of Asian Descent in the Americas* (Rowman & Littlefield). Her writing is also included in *Pinay Power: Peminist Critical Theory Theorizing the Filipina/American Experience* (Routledge, 2005), *Identifying Race and Transforming Whiteness in the Classroom* (Peter Lang, 2004); *Postcolonial Theory and the United States: Race, Ethnicity, and Literature* (University of Mississippi Press, 2000). Leny holds the 2001 Gamaliel Chair for Peace and Justice of the Greater Milwaukee Campus Lutheran Ministry.

▶ **Tesa Totengco**, Tesa Totengco is co-owner, Vice-President and Sales Director of Rafe Studio Ltd. In 2000, she quit her job to join forces with her brother, designer Rafe Totengco, and establish Rafe Studio Ltd. As Sales Director, Totengco has doubled gross sales in each year since the company was founded. In 2001, they opened their flagship store at One Bleecker Street, NYC. In Japan, with Eternal as their distributor, they've opened Rafe shops in Yokohama, Nagoya and Tokyo.

Rafe Studio Ltd. is a privately owned company that designs, manufactures and distributes the Rafe New York and Rafe Totengco brands of women's and men's fashion accessories. Rafe shoes, handbags, belts and jewelry are sold in the major department stores and over 300 specialty stores in the U.S. Abroad, Rafe is sold South America, Caribbean, Canada, Europe, Russia, Africa, Middle East, Asia and New Zealand.

Tesa graduated from the Ateneo de Manila University in Manila with a degree in AB Communication Arts. She worked her way through college by modeling for Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, Rustan's, Shoemart, Cinderella, etc. In the mid-80's, Tesa moved to Manhattan and has worked in the fashion industry in both the wholesale & retail sectors, in the capacity of Sales, Management and Finance.

She currently resides in New Jersey with her husband, three sons, and dog.



FAWN2005 Speakers and Presenters



◀ **Mary Ann Ubaldo** embodies the intricate sensibilities of the Filipino immigrant wave of the late 70's/early 80's now coming of age in America. Based in New York City, Mary Ann is a photographer, musician, and community activist.

She has formed her jewelry business called *Urduja*, named after the mythical Philippine princess whom she identifies as the first Filipina feminist. Mary Ann finds affirmation in her being Filipina by using the Ancient Philippine Script called *baybayin* or *alibata*. She frequently uses nature & indigenous motifs in her customized *baybayin* jewelry. www.urduja.com

▶ **Elaine Villamin** was "Made in the Philippines" and born in Oakland, California. Currently, she is making and selling wine for her family's vineyard and winery, Eden Canyon Vineyards. During college, Elaine survived a life threatening illness that changed her life path. Her studies and work changed focus to advocating for policies that help struggling youth and children thrive in the United States. Elaine researched youth and education policies under Prof. Kristin Luker, and was awarded a B.A. with Honors in Sociology from the University of California at Berkeley in 1996.

After college, Elaine continued her youth and education policy work at the Berkeley Media Studies Group. As a Research Assistant, she employed media advocacy to help prevent and reduce youth violence, expand children's health insurance, and engage the media and politicians in public health policy solutions. Elaine also worked for the Business Enterprise Trust where she researched businesses for social responsibility.

Elaine expanded her business knowledge by managing a competitor intelligence research group for Barclays Global Investors. The time at BGI introduced her to successful business models and to the wine world (via business dinners). Elaine and her father started learning more about wine and made their first vintages in 2002. Their first vintages—2002 Eden Canyon Vineyards "Paso Robles" Cabernet Sauvignon and 2003 Eden Canyon Vineyards "Estate" Cabernet Sauvignon—earned medals in the 2005 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. Elaine's passion is storytelling- through wine, music, film, and family dinners.

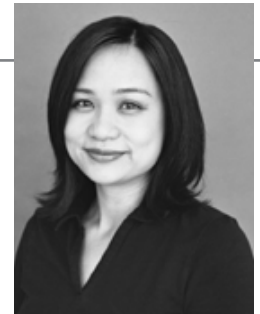


photo ©2005 Stella Kalaw



◀ **Irene Villaseñor** (Youth Views Manager, P.O.V./PBS) is an award-winning community organizer and filmmaker. Prior to joining P.O.V., Villaseñor was an HIV/AIDS Peer Educator and Peer Mentor for the Young People's Project at the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA) for four years. She is a

graduate from Educational Video Center's High School Documentary Workshop and from Youth Organizers' Television, where she co-produced *Out Youth In Schools*, a documentary about Gay/Straight Alliances in high schools and Hip

Hop: A Culture of Influence, respectively. As an advocate for issues relating to Asian Pacific American, queer, transgendered and youth communities, Villaseñor has lectured at venues including the Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Working Retreats for Social Justice in New York, The International Photography Institute at Columbia University, Museum of Chinese in the Americas, The Sundance Institute's Gen-Y Studio, and Yale University. Villaseñor is a graduate of City-As-School High School of New York, where she co-founded the school's Gay/Straight Alliance.

Perla Ramos Paredes Daly, Chairwoman ▶

Perla is an at-home-mom and a multimedia artist whose mediums are digital art, graphic design, photography, painting, *baybayin* jewelry, and dream journeying. She writes feature articles and spiritual explorations in poetry and prose that includes the *Bahala Meditations*. She received the FAWN2000 *Babaylan Award* for her work on *BagongPinay*, aka www.newfilipina.com, a pioneering web site for and by Filipino women, that she co-founded with Elke Aspillera in 1998. She has contributed her experience of pinay cyber-feminism to the anthology *Pinay Power: Theorizing the Filipina/American Experience* (ed. Melinda L. de Jesus). And she has been honored an *Outstanding Scholastican Achiever* by the St. Scholastica's Academy Alumnae Association of Bacolod City, Philippines.



With NewFilipina, Inc. volunteers she has organized Filipina networking nights in New York City and, with Valeria Tapalla, *Wowee!(Celebrating Women's Wisdom)* gatherings in Manila. Perla continues her writings on Filipina identity online and on the mystical aspects of *pakikipagkapwa*. She recently finished art production and design for Leny M. Strobel's *A Book of Her Own: Words and Images to Honor the Babaylan* (T'boli Publishing). Perla also takes time for family, reading, yoga, gardening, reiki healing, drumming, laptop activism, and alternative forays into Filipino spirituality and identity. She got her Bachelor in Fine Arts, Visual Communications from the University of the Philippines, Diliman. Presently, she lives with her husband Kenneth, their 3 sons and their Lola in the Connecticut *bundoks* where there are rivers, streams, woods, owls, lots of open air and bright starry nights.

◀ Lorial Crowder, Vice Chairwoman

Lorial (aka Lory) was born in Olongapo City, Philippines. She was adopted by the Crowder family in 1981 at the age of 5 years and grew up in Hamden, CT where her mother Julie and two brothers Edward and Bruce still reside.

She currently lives in New York City by way of Boston and will receive her Master's In Social Work from Hunter College. She studied community organizing and planning and intends to work with the immigrant population as well as advocacy with the international adoption community. She recently launched the Filipino Adoptees Network website with her close friend Sharon Cuartero to the world wide web this past January.



April Pearl Evangelista, Venue Director ▶

April is currently the diabetes education coordinator at Montefiore Family Health Center working under the Bronx Defeat Diabetes Project, a member of the Bronx Copmmunity Health Network. Ms. Evangelista received her Master's in Public Health with a concentration in Community Health Education at New York University.

Previously she worked with World Health Organization's Western Pacific Region Office in working to eliminate lymphatic filariasis in Bicol through communication for behavioral health impact (COMBI). She is a co-founder of Philippine American Youth Organization (PAYO) in Las Vegas and has worked with UNLV's Filipino American Student Organization in the past.



◀ Xanthe Sonza, Program & Speakers Director

Xanthe is a first generation Filipina-American woman. She was born in Manila and lived there for a decade before moving to New Jersey. She currently lives in New York City. Xanthe graduated from Wellesley College and holds a master's degree in social work from Columbia University. She currently works as an intensive case manager for a community-based organization, Care for the Homeless.



Cheryl Baun, Fundraising ▶

Cheryl gained her fundraising experience through a number of non-profit organizations in New York City, including the Asian American Federation of New York, Community Resource Exchange and the Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA). She is currently the development manager, foundations at the National Hemophilia Foundation and is a board member of Philippine Forum. Cheryl graduated from Vassar College and has a masters degree in urban planning from New York University.



FAWN2005 Steering Committee



◀ Marv Velando, **Art Exhibit Coordinator**

Marv is an emerging New York artist and writer in diverse mediums and temperament. Her personal joys include her extended family, cooking, climbing, and a challenge to run all top ten world marathons. Marv holds a Bachelor of Science from the College of Economics and Management at the University of the Philippines, where she was also a college scholar and AIKOM Arts Exchange Program nominee with the University of Tokyo. Her work experience includes healthcare management, marketing, accounting and research both for profit and non-profit organizations. Currently, Marv is a consultant to the National Book Foundation.

Myla T. Lopez, Public Relations and Marketing ▶

Myla is the co-founder of *Little Barangay*, the only formal Filipino language and culture school for school-age children in the New York/New Jersey area. In addition, Myla does marketing consulting work for *White Toque Inc.*, a gourmet food company co-owned by her husband. A former marketing executive at Kraft Foods, Myla also worked in advertising for clients like Warner-Lambert and Sears Roebuck.

Myla received her International MBA in Marketing and Finance from Fordham University and her BA in Journalism from Temple University. Her previous volunteer work includes working for children-related causes in the following associations: Big Sister of America, New York Cares Team Leader, Make-A-Wish Fundraiser Co-Chair and the Junior League of Morristown. Myla's proudest moments are giving birth to her daughter, Chiara, and running the New York City Marathon.



◀ **Sharon A. Cuartero, Web Maintenance**

Sharon is a co-founder of the *Filipino Adoptees Network*, a web based support organization for Filipino Adoptees. She was born in Manila and adopted by an American family. She is a non-traditional student pursuing an English degree at Charter Oak State College. In her spare time, Sharon does freelance web design and desktop publishing for Cuartero Consulting, a family-owned consulting firm. She is also an avid writer currently working on a manuscript in relation to her adoption experience.

Julia V. Camagong, Fiscal Agent, Philippine Forum ▶

Julia is the Co-Executive Director of the Philippine Forum. She is a 2003 recipient of the Union Square Awards, which honors individuals who make notable contributions to the educational, economic, and cultural life in New York. She performed in street plays in the anti-Marcos rallies in the Philippines, as part of the theater group Peryante (Carnival Players), was co-founder and executive director of the San Francisco based theater group Teatro ng Tanan, and has produced, directed and acted in plays, films, and television. She is the program director of the Philippine Studies Program, which brings Filipino American youth to the Philippines for a live-and-study-program in coordination with the UP and the University of California.



Other Volunteers, Planners and Organizers

Elke Aspillera
Rachel Bundang
Sheelagh Cabalda
Rosemarie Consunji

Christina Dehaven
Mary Despe
Bernadette Ellorin
Jacqui Robles

Antonina Santos
Jorshinelle Sonza
Betsy V. Villanueva
Carmela Zenarosa