

FAWN2005 Steering Committee



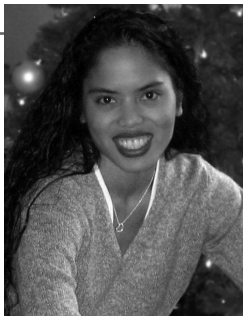
◀ Marv Velando, **Art Exhibit Coordinator**

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

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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 Community 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.



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