



NEWSLETTER OF THE KALAYAAN CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Volume 2 No. 3 September 2010

# Init ng Araw

#### WHEN SUMMER IS GONE

By: Mama Ching

Summer is gone. It came and went so fast, it's Fall before we knew it. We were too busy at the

July 24, we had the annual walkathon. The weather forecast the day before predicting a thunderstorm scared some regular participants but the more adventurous ones were there and it was as



2010 KCCC Golf Classic Team Champions Jun Paculaba, Patrick Lall, Ken Koeger and Chris Bileski,

Centre to notice. Summer just slipped by and from the extreme summer heat, now cold and rain. But it was a fruitful summer, worth all the huff and puff of everyone. Thank God! I hope everybody made the best of the season.

We had quite a number of happenings in July. We hired 2 student employees through the Canadian summer Jobs of the Federal Government (Service Canada), one from college and another from high school. They worked for 8 weeks each and they were of good service helping ease our paper work. On

usual, another fun day. Luckily, the rain did not come until the walk was over. Two seniors, Nick Alo and Dan Palis placed first and second respectively and a young guest from the U.S, Dr. John Paul Estillore won 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The Filipino breakfast after the walk was enjoyed by everyone and the "harvest" in pledges was bountiful. Congratulations to the committees in charge.

Capping the month's activities,

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### KCCC 2010 GOLF CLASSIC

On Saturday, August 28, 2010, Toronto's top Filipino golf players and their guests gathered at the Lionhead Golf and Country Club for the 2010 Kalayaan Centre Golf Classic. The event is one of Kalayaan Centre's big fundraiser with sponsors and donors stepping up give support.

This year because of the difficult Lionhead Legends golf course, we used the 4-person best ball/scramble format. More experienced players preferred the individual play but they still enjoyed the game and the competition. The winners were:

Team Champion (Jun Paculaba, Chris Bileski, Patrick Lall and Ken Koeger).

Team Runner-Up (John Manlucu, Gord Drakes, Danny Venditti, Bob Pangilinan).

In addition to the team competition, individual prizes were awarded for:

Putting Contest
Eric Evidente
Longest Drive
Men - Sen Alcover
Women - Rodel Meier
Most Accurate Drive
Men - Freddie Santiago
Women - Rodel Meier

The sumptous buffet dinner during the awards ceremonies was enjoyed by all. During the dinner, two golf items were auctioned: Taylor Made driver R9-460 donated by Neil Padilla of State Farm Insurance and Titlist Scotty Cameron Putter with head cover signed by Camilo Villegas donated by Tony Simmons.

Chris Bileski won the the driver and Mario Durigon won the putter.

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#### Ang Pinoy nga Naman Ni: Tito I. Adona

**Volunteer Language Instructor** 

#### **ONLI IN DA PILIPINS**

Paano nga pala iniawit ang "Lupang Hinirang"? Napanood ko ng



nakaraang buwan ang TSN Sports Channel, mayroon silang "Top Ten" na mga samut sari na palabas tungkol sa pag-awit ng "Star Span-

gled Banner" ng U.S. ng mga kilalang atleta sa ibat ibang paligsahan. Sa bawat simula ng kompetisyon, kinakanta ang kanilang pambansang awit, halos maglupasay ako sa kakatawa dahil sa mga nakakatawang palabas, andiyan si Carl Lewis na kilalang track and field na atleta, na halos mapatid and litid dahil sa taas ng nota sa pag awit, hindi ko nakilala ang isang babae na umawit, nakalimutan ang mga kataga, tumakbo sa back stage, pagkaraan ng ilang saglit bumalik at umiiyak. Mayroon naming kumanta na halos ang naiiba na ang tono, ginawang tiempo na jazz ang huling bahagi ng kanta, sa madaling salita, kahit ano pa man ang naging tono at tapos ng pagkanta, wala naman nabalitaan na tinawag sa kongreso o senado dahil sa ganuong pagkanta. Kaya nga ang aking tatalakayin na paksa ay papaano ba kinakanta ang Lupang Hinirang na Pambansang Himig?

Nagkaroon ng maraming alingasngas kamakailan tungkol sa pagawit na ginawa ng mga kilalang Pinoy na artista, na tulad nila Arnel Pineda ng Journey, Martin Nievera at grupo ng La Diva sa mga laban ng boksing ng pambansang kamao na si Kongressman Manny Pacquiao. Pinuna at pinatawag ng mga opisyales ng National Historical Commission at pinagpapaliwanag kung "binaboy" ng mga nasabing mangaawit ang Lupang Hinirang. Sa panig naman ng mga artista, ginamit lamang nila ang kanilang kalayaan sa pag-iba ng tono o kaya yung kanilang

"artistic freedom". Ang resulta. lahat halos sila humingi nq paumanhin dahil sa "maling" bersiyon ng kanilang pagkanta. Kamakailan mayroong batas na hinain si Kong. Salvador Escudero III ng kilala sa House Bill 465, An Act Prescribing the Code of National Flag. Anthem. Motto. Coat-of-Arms and other Heraldic Items and Devices of the Philippines. Sa nasapanukala, ang Lupang Hinirang ay aawitin na tonong martsa, ang lumabag sa batas na ito ay magbabayad ng multa na P100,000 at kasamang dalawang (2) taon na pagkakulong. Kaya, mga kabayan, ang Lupang Hinirang ay tonong martsa. (Onli in da Pilipins) / \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Noong ika -23 ng Agosto, aking naasaksihan kasama na ang buong Pilipinas at mundo, ang karumaldumal na masaker sa mga turistang Instik at Canadian na isang dating pulis. Magkahalong galit at inis ang aking naramdaman, inis dahil sa pag hawak ng mga kapangyarihan (pulis at pamahalaan) sa paglutas sa halos labing isang oras na trahedya, galit, dahil marami ang nasawi sa nasabing pangyayari. Sinabihan ako ng aking panganay na anak, pag umuwi ako sa Canada, huwag daw akong mag suot ng t-shirt ng mayroong mapa ng Pinas. Pagdating ko sa Canada, ang kwento ng aking mahal na asawa, sa subway ay halos takpan niya ang kanyang mukha, dahil laman ng pahayagan ang naturang pangyayari, Nakakahiva na maging Pinoy sa nasabing araw. (Onli in da Pilipins).

Nagpapasalamat ako sa mga kaibigan at kamag-anak na nakiramay sa pagyao ng aking mahal na Ina (Aurora) ng nakaraang buwan sa Pilipinas. Kay Mama, maraming salamat sa pagmamahal at pag-aruga mo sa aming mag-kakapatid at mga apo.

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### **INIT NG ARAW**

(Continued from page 1)

Leander Mendoza, tenor, gave a concert at the grand hall on July 31<sup>st</sup> donating all proceeds to the Centre. It was a very successful evening dedicated to his parents, Pete and Lucy Mendoza on their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It was a real surprise for them. Leander has now joined the ranks of honourees on the donors' wall of honor at the vestibule of the facility. Our deep gratitude to you, Leander.

August was likewise busy. On the 7<sup>th</sup>, we took the seniors on a pilgrimage to Midland and then to Casino Rama. On the 14th, the first of a series of lectures on HIV was given to The second series will be adults. given to teens in November. On August 28 we had the annual classic golf tournament at the plush Lionhead Golf and Country Club. This time we had a different format of the game. We had team winners instead of individuals. From the survey made after the games, many of the players liked it.

We had less number of players this year but our net proceeds surpassed that of the previous years. It was of course the result of hard work and the generosity of our sponsors and so again we congratulate the golf committee for a job well done. They are now getting ready for next year's tournament.

The Niagara Wine Tasting trip was replaced by the Games Day at the centre and a bake sale at the Mississauga Valley Community Cen-On games day, the seniors played bingo, some played Wii, others played mah-jong. The rest had a chess tournament. Prizes were awarded to Cesar Cruz, Gil Bince and Tom No for first, second and third respectively. Trophies will be awarded in the next evening event of the Centre. Pons Padua, chairman of the chess group plans to organize a permanent schedule for the group to meet and do a yearly tournament as a regular activity offered to the public. Entrance was free, drinks

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# PEPSI REFRESH CONTEST CLICK to Win \$25,000 for KCCC

By: Judy Montenegro



It is rare that can help we raise funds by just voting for an but idea the Pepsi Refresh Project allows us to do just that. Pepsi will provide grants for ideas that can

make a positive impact in the community. KCCC passed the first hurdle by being chosen as one of the grant proposals to compete for the \$25K category. Now that the idea has been accepted, it is up to people to vote for the idea they like best. In the \$25K category, only the top 2 ideas with the most number of votes will get funding.

This is our chance to support KCCC without any personal financial obligation ...no donations to give, no money to shell out....all we need to do is visit <a href="http://www.refresheverything.ca/rondalla">http://www.refresheverything.ca/rondalla</a> every day, register at the site on your first visit, and vote on-line for the KCCC idea. It is simple and easy to do. With the click of the mouse, we're increasing the chances of KCCC to get funding.

The proposed KCCC idea is to bring people together through music, specifically through the rondalla. If you're not familiar with the rondalla, it is the native string ensemble of Philippine origin and consists of 4 types of 14-stringed instruments which were inspired by the guitar. Because of the increased number of strings, there is a distinctive sound produced by the ensemble that is truly unique. KCCC already offers an existing rondalla class and provides musical instruments and lessons free of charge to the students. The plan is to expand and offer the class to more students and here's where you come in. Help us to get the funding needed to realize our goal to offer more classes.



The rondalla is part of our cultural heritage that's worth preserving and promoting...start voting and keep rondalla music playing!!!

You're allowed to vote for an idea every day so DO NOT FOR-G E T to visit www.refresheverything.ca/rondalla daily or bookmark the page to vote for KCCC. We have until Oct. 31 to gather votes for our idea; the two ideas with the most number of votes by 31 Oct. 2010 will get funding for 25K.

Please help spread the word about this project and ask friends and acquaintances to vote for the KCCC idea! You can also help KCCC by promoting the idea on your facebook, twitter or other social media account, the link to the KCCC idea is http://pep.si/clfhO0.

The more people we get to vote for this idea, the better the chance we have to get funding and who knows, maybe you'll be in the rondalla class too!

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#### **KCCC 2010 Golf Classic**

(Continued from page 1)

This year, there were 7 Gold sponsors, 9 Silver Sponsors and 45 Bronze sponsors. Gold sponsors included Petra Ltd., Century Electric, Kenwin Construction, Data Networks Corporation through Feliza and Jim Kepoer, Neil Padilla - State Farm Insurance, Dr. Romy and Virgie Sinajon and Alta Nissan, Alta Infiniti.

A big thank you to the Sponsors, Players and specially to our volunteers for a successful event!!

www.kalayaancentre.ca for the full set of Golf Tournament pictures.

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#### 2010 Upcoming Activities:

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Oct 23	SOUNDTRAX 7 Fundraising for KCCC Live Band show/ dinner
Oct 29	HALLOWEEN at KCCC
Nov 13	HIV-AID WORKSHOP II (with CPO) Sponsored by Gilead Sciences
Nov 14	Community Connections/ Bazaar at KCCC
Nov 20	SOLON REYES Piano Concert RBC Theatre

Dec 10 Volunteer Dinner & Appreciation night

Dec 31 New Years Eve ball

For more information please contact Evelyn at 905-602-0923 or email: <a href="mailto:coordinator.kccc@bellnet.ca">coordinator.kccc@bellnet.ca</a>
Visit us at: <a href="mailto:www.kalayaancentre.ca">www.kalayaancentre.ca</a>.

Living Arts Centre

# LEANDER MENDOZA CONCERT

The Tribute

By: Lucy Mendoza

Saturday, July 31, 2010 started out just like the other times in the past when we attended what we thought would be one of the usual concerts of our son, Leander.



Leander belting a song

Even as a boy, we could see Leander's love for music. Coming out of church one day, he would pretend to be playing the piano on the air. Pete & I decided we will not waste thus unusual love our youngest son has for music. Off to college and without much prodding, he enrolled at the University of Santo Tomas, Conservatory of Music, where he graduated in the mid 1990s. He has since had concerts in the Philippines, once at the prestigious Cultural Centre of the Philippines and many times in Canada.

That particular Saturday in July was doubly meaningful for Pete and I. It was our 44<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, and to be attending the concert of Leander that day, overwhelmed us. We contacted a few of his cousins who live in the U.S. to attend. We wanted to surprise

Leander with their presence. The Kalayaan social hall was filled to capacity, some had attended Leander's concerts before and they came to hear him sing once again.

The applause and accolades the audience gave him after every song must have been very inspiring for Leanders; but for us, silent pride for a son who had imparted his love for others through his songs and his music. His rendition of the song, "Inay" tugged at my heart; the emotion was so great and so real, tears filled my eyes.

When the evening's performance was about to end, Leander announced he was dedicating this concert to us, his parents, on the occasion of our wedding anniversary. Have you ever been thrust in the limelight when



With Josie de Leon in a scene from the Phantom of the Opera

you least expected it? If you were in our shoes, how would you feel? What could you say?

The gasps heard across the room added to the overpowering emotion that we felt. For his father and I, it was the greatest gift, the ultimate tribute!

Thank you son.

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## ANG SULAT Ni: Ben Montada

Sa aking pamamasyal noong kamakailan May napulot akong isang sobre sa gitna ng daan Nang maaninga kong it ay may laman Mabilis pa sz ambulansiang humaharirit na ito' aking binuksan

Sa loob ay isang sulat na walang lagda ang aking natuklasan Binasa ko it at ganito an nilalaman: Mahal ko, Ano ba ang nagawa ko't

bigla mo akong iniwan
Umalis kang himdi mang lang
sa akin nagpaalam
Nasaan ang sumpa mong
sa altar binitiwan
Na tayo'y magsasama
hanggang kamatayan

Kung ako lang sana ay ubod ng yaman Na katuland ng mga magnanakaw doon sa Senado, sa Congreso at sa Malacaniang Ano man ang hilingin mo'y buong puso kong ibibigay Magkakaroon ka ng maraming malapalasyong tahanan na katulad ng mga Ampatuan May lima sa Luzon, may apat sa Visayas at may tatlo sa Mindanao

Magkakaroon ka rin ng private army na saiyo'y magbabantay
Na ang mga dalang armas ay ang Gobyerno ang magsusuply
At dahil sa dami ng bala't armas na kaniling ibibigay
Ang mga sobra ay ibabaon natin sa bawa't likuran at paligid-ligid ng ating mga bahay
At bilang tanda ng aking pag-ibig na wagas at dalisay
Mga mamahaling bling-bling ang saiyo'y aking iyaalay
At sa bawat sulok ng daigdig ay mayroon kang bahay bakasyunan

Ang biglaan mong paglisan ay labis kong dinamdam Hindi ako makakain hindi ako makatulog at plagi na lang nalulumbay Ang kirot ng puso ko'y halos walang katapusan Unti-unti akong nalulunod sa dagat ng kalungkutan

# **Experience is the Greatest Teacher**

By: Janille Rafanan



People always tell us that experience is the best teacher. Experience teaches us everything we need to know about life because it is more than just a set of rules or regulations written

down on paper or the provers and stories told by our grandparents. Experience enables us to go through life on our own, to face different kinds of situations and trials, and to undergo different types of emotions. Experience lets us discover ourselves – who we are and who we want to become. Thus, it is not surprising to say that part of my experience as a proud, youg Filipino happened during my stay at Kalayaan Centre.

For me, my experience at Kalayaan Centre was exactly what it stood for – freedom. Kalayaan Centre helped me understand that as people, we have been given the free will to discover who we are as people and embrace ourselves in that journey of selv-discovery. In my eightweek stay at the centre, I have discovered so much about myself and who I am as a Filipino. Kalayaan Centre has enabled me to be rpoud of the Filipino culture – from our language, our food, our arts, our dance to our hospitable people.

During my first week, I already felt at home at the center after meeting so many wonderful people who continuously give all their love and support for the centre. These people have definitely helped me become at ease in enjoying and embracing this wonderful experience. I felt very much welcomed and happy, being in the presence of such generous and selfless people who are so proud of their culture and their people.

Kalayaan Centre definitely helped me realize that the Philippine culture is rich, diverse and unique in its own way. As a young Filipino-Canadian, I have been given such a wonderful opportunity to discover more about our people and our culture by attending wonderful events that bring out

### **WALKATHON 2010**

By: Janille Rafanan

They say that the third time is always a charm.

For the last three years, Kalayaan Centre has been holding an enjoyable fundraising event, not only to encourage people to live a healthier lifestyle, but to also bring the community together.

for families and friends.

The first person to finish the race was walker number #13, Nick Alo, the early bird walkers was Willie Cantos. the oldest walker was Dioning Sebastian, the biggest group of walkers were the members of the Bayanihan association, and most importantly, the walker who raised the most amount of money for the event was Thelma Cantos, with over \$800



This year, with just the right weather, delicious breakfast, numerous supporters and motivated walkers, Kalayaan Centre once again successfully held their annual 5K walkathon.

With the help of the Walkathon chairman, Ben Cuevillas, the cooking team led by Chef Chefs Villamater and Chito Carbonell, and generous individuals who donated food, Kalayaan Centre was able to provide everyone a delicious, allpinoy breakfast and a fun-filled day

pledged to help Kalayaan Centre.

In the end, everyone was a winner, as all worked hard to pledge money for the centre and make the walkathon event a big success.

Special mention also goes to the ever-faithful supporters of KCCC –the Lipa City Association, the Filipino Seniors of Mississauga with over eleven senior participants, the MAPUA alumni association, the Carbonell family and lastly the general members of KCCC. - § -

the best of the Philippine culture and our people. I was able to enjoy Philippine arts and music by being part of a fold dance ensemble performed for a cultural event, to share an amazing night of Hawaiian dancing with the Filipino community, to become part of Walkathon that showcased our people's oneness and dedication, and to attend the 2010 Kalayaan Centre Golf Classic and witness our wonderful sportsmanshi0p and love for sports. Kalayaan Centre has definitely

showed me that despite all the changes that are happening in the world, some things will always remain unchanged.

We will always be Filipinos. We can change our way of living, eating, or clothing, but our values and beliefs as Filipinos will remain unchanged. In this eight-week stay at Kalayaan Centre, I have never been so proud to be a Filipino – and through my experiences here, I know that I will forever deeply rooted within my heart, body and soul. - § -

# Looking Out! By: Edgar Frondozo CRISIS OF FAITH!



How is your faith in the Filipino?

The August 23, 2010 hostage incident in Manila spawned a crisis of faith in the Filipino. The incident was a

disaster. It was bad and we are sad and sorry for the people who died. The disaster brought up much negativity about the Philippines and about Filipinos but more so from the eyes of Filipinos themselves.

"Nakakahiya tayo!", "Only in the Philippines!", "I'm ashamed to show my face in the subway!" are typical comments heard at many Filipino gatherings.

Yes it was a disaster, it was a show of incompetence with tragic results. But it does not define who we are as a people. Bungled operations happen not only in Philippines. In April, 1980, the US rescue operation to free the Iran hostages resulted in the deaths of 8 American servicemen and one Iranian civilian. No hostages were freed. In April, 1993 in Waco, Texas, FBI operation to shut down David Koresh resulted in the deaths of 4 federal agents, and 76 other men, women, and children. In October, 2002, the elite Russian army's attempt to free hostages in a Rusian theater, resulted in the deaths of over 170 people including 129 hostages.

It is right to acknowledge our mistakes and short comings but we have to stop feeling sorry and putting ourselves down. We have to shed the inferiority complex and colonial mentality that has plagued us since the Spanish era. We have to keep in mind our colorful history, rich culture and heroic people.

Philippines is a great nation! It has produced the 'greatest Malay that ever lived' in Dr. Jose Rizal. Filipino inventors are at the forefront of technology innovation. Gregorio Y. Zara invented the 2-way television telephone or videophone in 1955 long before VoIP; NASA Engineer

Eduardo San Juan designed the moon buggy used by the Apollo astronauts. Filipino artists, musicians and singers are renowned all over the world. We are universally recognized as peaceful, friendly, intelligent and hard working.

"We Filipinos are the most promising people in the world. We have unheard-of-possibilities. There have never been a people similarly situated." Epifanio delos Santos.

Have faith, be proud!



or else ...

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## NAYON

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kalayaan Cultural Community Centre

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#### **INIT NG ARAW**

(Continued from page 2)

were free. Snacks were sold. Other notable things in summer include the property tax appeal we filed with the Mississauga property Assessment Committee. We received notice of a hearing in Council on September 29 about the recommendation of the committee regarding our appeal. If approved, it will lighten our tax burden a great deal.

It's been a year after we transferred our mortgage loan to the bank and we have paid off fifty grand of the capital. It'is heart warming indeed! By God's grace, we'll be able to pay off sooner than the 15 years amortization, given that we continue getting more support from our members and civic-spirited fellowmen. Our

rate of interest is variable and this month we started paying a little bit more for the mortgage but we will minimize that by locking in the mortgage for a certain period at a minimal increase. We are still on a much better footing than with our first lender.

The donation by EFT campaign is slowly but surely growing bigger. However slowly it goes, we are inching our way forward and in due time we'll pool enough to cover our mortgage and/or operational expenditures. "Little drops of rain, little grains of sand, make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land".

We have many plans for the months ahead until the end of 2010, we hope we'll have good surprises coming. Meanwhile, let's get ready with our wraps. It's getting cold, guys. See you next issue.