

The Asian Reporter

Pacific Northwest News □ Volume 21 Number 10 □ May 16, 2011 □ www.asianreporter.com

13th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet



SUBLIME SUBLI. Members of Portland State University's Kaibigan student group entertain a crowd of more than 400 at The Asian Reporter Foundation's 13th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet with a performance of Subli, a dance that originated about 300 years ago. Our special section highlighting the accomplishments of the 2011 awardees begins on page 12. (AR Photo/Jin Huang)



Twins born in single body with two heads

Page 4



Youth organize local breakdance group

Page 11



Packy & Me now available

Page 18

Campaign launched to combat hepatitis B in AAPI community

Nordstrom, Hep B Free, and OCA have launched a campaign to raise awareness of hepatitis B among Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). The disease is the leading cause of liver cancer and one of the greatest health disparities facing AAPIs.

According to Hep B Free, one in 10 Asian Americans is chronically infected with hepatitis B, compared with one in 1,000 of the general population. Early detection is important, and the hepatitis B vaccine can prevent the disease and the consequences of infection.

Nordstrom's "Living Well" initiative seeks to provide an easy way to learn more about hepatitis B testing and prevention. Its website, www.nordstrom.com/apahm, features information about the disease, and the company has pledged to donate \$35 (up to \$75,000) to Hep B Free for each person who completes an online awareness quiz.

Nordstrom is also spreading the word about the initiative with signs in its stores, messages in its catalogs, and by sharing information with its Twitter and Facebook followers.

"This is the first time we've partnered with a national retailer on a nationally coordinated awareness effort and the Asian-American community to help end Hep B disease and liver cancer," said Ted Fang, director of the AsianWeek Foundation and co-founder of San Francisco Hep B Free. "We applaud Nordstrom's support and partnership for this pressing health issue. We encourage everyone to take the short quiz to learn more about hepatitis B and join our efforts to make America Hep B free."

To learn more, visit www.nordstrom.com/livingwell.

What We Could Carry wins award for best documentary

The Broadcast Education Association's Festival of Media Arts has named director Daniel Miller's short film *What We Could Carry* as best documentary. The film tells the story of Japanese-American students who were denied diplomas and expelled from the University of Oregon (UO) in 1942.

The film examines the students' subsequent successes in life and the university's efforts to redress the wrongs and award the students diplomas in recognition of their achievements.

The story begins on February 19, 1942 when U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which forced the relocation and internment of more than 110,000 Japanese Americans and led to the expulsion of Japanese-American students from every major university on the west coast. It follows the lives of the students and culminates at a unique Honoring Ceremony that included the awarding of diplomas to 20 Japanese-American students, some of whom had already passed away.

What We Could Carry focuses on the stories of several of the 20 Japanese Americans awarded honorary diplomas, including Sam Naito, Homer Yasui, Robert Yasui, Alice Kawasaki, and Midori Funatake. Their interviews are accompanied by archival footage, original sound and music, and direct contemporary cinema footage.

Miller is a faculty member at the UO School of Journalism and Communication. *What We Could Carry* was made more than two years ago and was co-produced by Emese Foss and Sam Allen.

Oregon celebrates Historic Preservation Month

Oregonians are encouraged to learn more about the state's history during National Historic Preservation Month, which takes place throughout May. Communities in Oregon are sharing information about significant historic sites and buildings that tell stories of the past and recognizing the contributions of individuals and organizations to local preservation projects.

"We encourage the public to tour historical sites found in Oregon," said Roger Roper, deputy state historic preservation officer. "Take the opportunity to attend an educational event featuring an aspect of Oregon's history or historic preservation;

Continued on page 7

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ENTERTAINING EVENING. Kanchie Fujima (left photo) of Fujinami Kai performs Sakura Sakura Henkyoku, Portland State University's Kaibigan student group (top right photo) performs the Tinikling, and attendees are welcomed by the Minh Quang Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association's dancers at the 13th annual Asian Reporter Foundation Scholarship & Awards Banquet.

You're among family here

By Josephine Bridges
The Asian Reporter

It's been a chilly spring, but at The Asian Reporter Foundation's 13th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet, held Friday, April 22 at Legin Restaurant, it was plenty warm. More than 400 members of Portland's vibrant pan-Asian community gathered once more to honor elders, award scholarships to youth, and recognize community volunteers. Thirteen years this has been going on. How the time does fly.

It wouldn't be the annual banquet without a lion dance. The Minh Quang Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association's dancers were just the right combination of frisky and ferocious as they pranced among tables filled with guests who couldn't take their eyes away.

Ronault L.S. Catalani, known to all as Polo, and his wife Nim Xuto were masters of ceremonies for the evening. Welcoming the guests, Polo pointed out that the region called the Middle East is now referred to as West Asia, and that this is good news indeed, as "our Asian family is growing."

Jaime Lim, publisher of *The Asian Reporter*, told those gathered, "Every year you give us a wonderful reason to come together," and extended thanks to the event's sponsors, without whom "this annual celebration would not be possible."

As plates of walnut glazed prawns, black mushrooms and Chinese broccoli, sautéed tofu and vegetables, kung pao chicken, string beans and beef, and steamed rice

began to make their appearance, and the first raffle baskets were won and squealed over, Polo teased that guests were paying all their attention to each other and none to him. The informality of the foundation's banquet is one of its most charming qualities.

A hush descended on the huge room when the time came to introduce this year's honored elders, a lady from the Philippines and three Indo gentlemen. Among the four of them, Isabel Centeno Carino, Frank DeWater, Charlie Tjaden, and Ryk Van de Pol have 328 years, 21 children, 45 grandchildren, and "many, many" great-grandchildren. All three of this year's honored gentlemen are experienced musicians, and the honored lady has taught folk dances. No couch potatoes in this group.

Guests always need a break from clapping for our beloved honored elders, and this year it was Fujinami Kai who gave our hands a brief rest while our eyes and ears feasted. Larry Kominz performed *Ikken* (The Way of the Sword) and Kanchie Fujima performed *Sakura Sakura Henkyoku* (Cherry Blossom Variation). Needless to say, guests were putting their hands together once more following these lovely dances.

Not only elders, but also young people of the next generation, are honored at the banquet. This year, 16 promising Asian-American students were awarded scholarships by The Asian Reporter Foundation, the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon, and the U.S. Navy.

When Portland State University's Kaibigan student group put on some fancy footwork, Polo urged, "Don't be shy, clap your hands. You're among family here." *Subli*, Kaibigan's first dance, originated about 300 years ago in the barrio of Dingin and stems from words meaning "falling on head" and "broken." The second dance, *Tinikling* — which features performers leaping gracefully between rapidly clacking bamboo poles — is a popular dance that imitates the movement of tinikling birds.

When all the raffle baskets had been distributed to their new owners, it was time to recognize this year's Exemplary Community Volunteers.

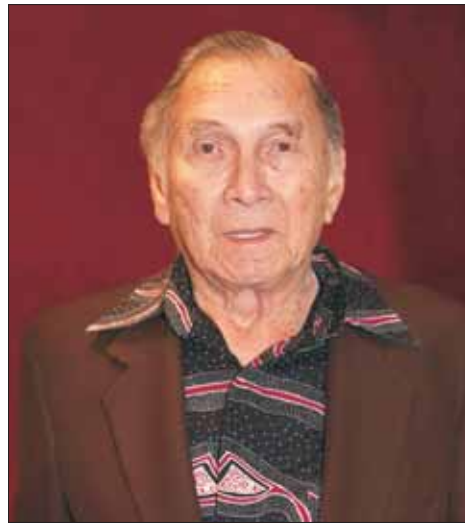
Groups honored include the Council of Filipino American Associations of Oregon & SW Washington, an information clearinghouse and activities coordinator for 14 Filipino-American nonprofits in the Pacific Northwest; the Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association, which promotes the professional development and advancement of Asian Pacific American attorneys through events, seminars, and more; and the Zomi Association of USA, a nonprofit that aids in the resettlement of Zomi refugees from camps in Thailand and Malaysia.

In closing, Polo encouraged guests to dance to DJ Max by explaining, "This ends the part of the program where Nim and I will be standing in front of you as if you're listening to us." Laughter followed, then the kicking up of heels, and finally, the long wait for next year's banquet.

The Asian Reporter Foundation extends many thanks to our banquet sponsors. Without them, this annual event would not be possible.



Most Honored Elders



ESTEEMED ELDERS. The Asian Reporter Foundation's Most Honored Elders for 2011 are (left to right) Isabel Carino, Frank DeWater, Charlie Tjaden, and Ryk Van de Pol. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

Isabel Carino

Isabel Centeno Carino was born July 8, 1928 in Angeles, Pampanga province, the Philippines. It was there that she met her husband, Frank, who was serving in the U.S. Army. The couple married in 1945 and moved to the United States the following year, settling in Portland. They became active in the community and church while raising a son and two daughters. In 1959, Isabel and Frank helped found the Filipino American Association of Portland & Vicinity, a nonprofit organization that helps Filipino immigrants assimilate into the community, prepares youth for leadership roles, and promotes Filipino culture. Isabel has taught students of the organization's folk dance team, was crowned the association's Senior Queen in 2007, and remains active with exercise, including water aerobics at a local athletic club. She currently resides in Tualatin.



Frank DeWater

Frank DeWater was born December 13, 1925 in Medan, Indonesia, the same city he would eventually meet his wife, Jane, in 1941. He joined the Dutch Army in 1943 and achieved the rank of sergeant. Facing difficulty in their home country, the couple, along with their three daughters and three sons, moved to Holland to seek a better life.

After a few years, the family decided to find a new home and, through the sponsorship of a church in Oregon City, moved to the United States in 1960. In 1970, Frank helped found and was band leader of a local Hawaiian band and revue. They toured Europe in the early '70s and also performed for family and old friends in Holland. Frank was honored at the recent Indo Heritage Reunion with a "Godfather of Hawaiian Bands" plaque. An experienced musician, soccer player, engineer, and pilot, Frank takes pride in his cultural heritage and remains an avid soccer enthusiast. He has 17 grandchildren and many, many great-grandchildren.



Charlie Tjaden

Charlie Tjaden was born March 26, 1931 in the Indonesian city of Batavia, now known as Jakarta. The middle child of three brothers, Charlie joined the Dutch army at age 15. In 1962, he, his wife Irma, and their five children emigrated from Holland to the United States. Charlie worked as a journeyman welder and he and his family became U.S. citizens in 1967. After arriving in the U.S., they had a sixth child. In 1970, Charlie helped form a family band specializing in Hawaiian entertainment. In 1975 his daughter Lydia was crowned a Rose Festival princess, an event that resulted in the entire Rose Festival court, the Royal Rosarians, and local TV and news media

paying visits to the proud parents. Charlie is an avid cook and his famous "Charlie Chips" are a much sought-after culinary delight for family, friends, members of his church, and many others whom he encounters during his outings. He remains an active musician, playing his steel guitar daily, and is a devoted Catholic parishioner. Charlie and Irma currently reside in Gresham and have six children, 10 grandchildren, and a great grandson.



Ryk Van de Pol

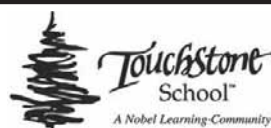
Ryk Van de Pol was born July 20, 1929 in Magalend, Indonesia. He married his wife, Sonja, in 1956 and the couple moved to Holland in 1957, then settled in the United States in 1961. While living in Beaverton, Ryk worked as a welder while earning his degree in drafting and mechanical engineering at night. He took a job at Tektronics as an engineer, where he worked until retiring at age 62. He also served as an engineer in the Merchant Marines. A dedicated musician, Ryk played bass, steel guitar, saxophone, ukulele, and drums with the rock band Tillman Brothers in Indonesia and Holland, and continued to play in the U.S. as part of several Hawaiian-style bands. Ryk and Sonja have six children, 12 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He remains busy, spending time dancing the night away at the Beaverton Elks Club, travelling the world, and playing his lap steel guitar.

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Exemplary Community Volunteers

Council of Filipino American Associations of Oregon and Southwest Washington

The Council of Filipino American Associations (CFAA) of Oregon and Southwest Washington, a group comprising 14 nonprofit organizations of Filipino Americans in the Pacific Northwest, was founded in 2000 to promote understanding and knowledge of the



Philippines. The group, which achieved tax-exempt status in 2004, acts as an information clearinghouse and activities coordinator for member organizations and encourages cooperation and collaboration among them. CFAA's activities include sponsoring a "Consulate on Wheels" to provide extended access to

Philippine consular services, hosting a convention to share projects and concerns that are important to the Filipino community, sponsoring a medical mission to the Philippines, establishing Filipino language classes for children, providing college scholarships, and more. In addition, the group preserves historical records and artifacts and supports the local community as well as the people of the Philippines with contributions.

Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association

The Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association (OAPABA) was formed in 2009 as the Oregon affiliate of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, which represents the interests of more than 40,000 attorneys worldwide. The 110-member group promotes the professional development and advancement of Asian Pacific



American (APA) attorneys through education, research, and programs; acts as a vehicle and forum for expressing opinions on matters of concern to APA attorneys and communities; and encourages and fosters communication among APA attorneys on issues affecting work, communi-

ties, and government. OAPABA's activities include social and networking events, educational seminars, creating a law student/attorney mentorship program in collaboration with three Oregon law schools, hosting receptions, and more. The group will host the Western Regional Conference for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association in Portland next month.

Zomi Association of USA

Zomi Association of USA (ZAUS) is a nonprofit organization formed to support the Zomi community in the U.S. by aiding in the resettlement of Zomi refugees from camps in Thailand and Malaysia, building community identity, maintaining cultural identity,



and advocating for recognition of the Zomi language and culture. ZAUS — formed in 2009 with the mission of serving members of the Zomi community and helping them achieve self-sufficiency — currently comprises approximately 50 households. The organization's activities include working with the Oregon Partnership Program for Census 2010, starting a Zomi Language & Culture program with volunteer

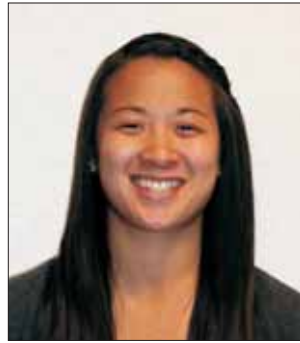
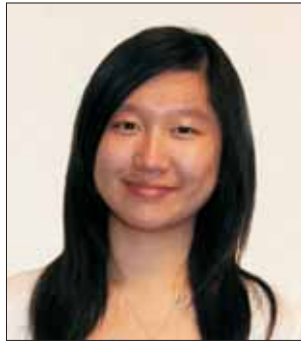
teachers, organizing a community garden to promote independence and build community ties, participating in Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon's Legislative Day in Salem, and more.

Nomination forms for the 2012 awards will be available January 1, 2012 and will cover volunteer efforts performed between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012. For more information, visit <www.ARFoundation.net> or <www.asianreporter.com>.

To make a donation to help victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, visit:

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Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars



2011 Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars (left to right): Linda Nguyen, Erica Wu, Ling Zhan, Laura Truong, Susan Ngoc-Tram Pham, and Kelly Gutierrez. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

Linda Nguyen

\$1,000 sponsored by

Oregon Health & Science University

The daughter of Nho Nguyen and Hoa Bang, Linda Nguyen is a junior at Oregon State University (OSU) studying pre-pharmacy. Along with serving as a public relations officer for the school's Face AIDS program, Linda is active with the Cambodian Student Association and the OSU Pre-Pharmacy Society and serves as a cross-cultural mentor. She also works in the university's Cellular and Molecular Nutrition Laboratory and as an on-call library page at the Multnomah County Library. She is ranked in the top 10 percent of her class.

Erica Wu

\$1,000 sponsored by

Oregon Health & Science University

A member of the Portland Rose Festival 2011 Court as Benson High School's ambassador, Chinese-American student Erica Wu will graduate this spring and plans to pursue studies at Linfield College to become a pediatric nurse. Along with working part time, Erica is active with the American Red Cross Club, student council, varsity volleyball and tennis, Health Occupations Students of America, National Honor Society, and more. A speaker of

Chinese and English, she also translates for her family members. Erica is the daughter of Jian Wu and Yan Chen.

Ling Zhan

\$1,000 sponsored by

Multnomah County

Ling Zhan will graduate from Benson High School this spring and plans to study pre-medicine and Chinese at the University of Oregon. The daughter of Zhen Zhong Zhan and Miao Shan He, Ling volunteers at Portland Adventist Medical Center and is a member of the National Honor Society and the American Red Cross Club. She has worked to promote her Chinese heritage with the Dragon Moon Walkers, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, and other organizations, and helps community members with limited English by assisting with paperwork and scheduling appointments.

Laura Truong

\$1,000 sponsored by United Way of the Columbia-Willamette

The valedictorian of her high school class at David Douglas High School, Chinese-American student Laura Truong currently attends Pacific University, where she is studying physical therapy. The daughter of Nhi and Zhen Truong,

Laura is active with the Pre-Physical Therapy Club, volunteers at Portland Adventist Medical Center, is a student leader with the Pacific Christian Fellowship, and works part-time for Pacific University. A former varsity basketball player, she is also active in intramural sports, including soccer and basketball.

Susan Ngoc-Tram Pham

\$1,000 sponsored by

Providence Health & Services

Susan Ngoc-Tram Pham, the daughter of Quang Huu Pham and Ngoc-Thuy Thi Phan, will graduate from Parkrose High School this spring and plans to attend the University of Portland. A published poet and member of the National Honor Society, Susan's many extracurricular activities include playing on the varsity tennis team, working on the school newspaper, serving as the treasurer/secretary of the student council, and more. She volunteers at The Grotto, Our Lady of Lavang parish, and with the Portland State University Vietnamese Student Association children's program, among other groups.

Kelly Gutierrez

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Filipino American Kelly Gutierrez is a sophomore majoring in chemical engineering at Oregon State University (OSU). The Milwaukie, Oregon native is the son of Clemente and Remigia Gutierrez and is ranked in the top 10 percent of his class. Kelly is a member of the OSU Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and other organizations. He also spends time as a private math and chemistry tutor and enjoys playing basketball.

Victor Trinh

\$1,000 sponsored by PGE's Asian American/Pacific Islander Network

Victor Trinh will graduate from Benson High School this spring and plans to attend Portland Community College. The son of Hieu Trinh and Phuong Nguyen, Victor is a member of the National Honor Society, serves as co-president of his school's chapter of the American Red Cross, and is a member of the Poetry Club, the Diversity Club, and Health Occupations Students of America. He served as a captain on Benson's basketball team and has also played football.

Continued on page 16

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DANCIN' THE NIGHT AWAY. After dinner was served and all awards were given, attendees boogied to music (left photo) provided by DJ Max. Brave two-and-a-half-year-old Alani (middle photo) pulls a raffle ticket while raffle winner Thomas proudly displays his prize. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)



2011 SCHOLARS. The Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon awarded \$500 scholarships to students (front row, holding checks, left to right) Jenna Mae Lorenzo Alfonso, Doreene Reyes Enriquez, Ledevedere Sabundo, and Gabrielle Rivera. (AR Photo/Jin Huang)

Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars



2011 Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars (left to right): Victor Trinh, Karen Truong, Ledevedere Sabundo, and Gabrielle Rivera. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

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Karen Truong

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Travel Portland

Portland native Karen Truong earned her bachelor's degree in human physiology at the University of Oregon last year and is currently a graduate student studying optometry at Pacific University. The daughter of Nhi and Zhen Truong, she is active with Pacific University's AMIGOS Eye Care, a nonprofit organization that provides vision care to underserved communities, and has also volunteered with Portland Adventist Medical Center, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and other organizations.

Ledevedere Sabundo

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Travel Portland

Benson High School senior Ledevedere Sabundo will graduate this spring and plans to attend Warner Pacific College. A member of the school's varsity tennis team and

the National Honor Society, Ledevedere has spent time volunteering with the Portland Children's Museum, the Portland After School Tennis Academy, Asa Care, and other groups, in addition to mentoring other students. Born in Paranaque, the Philippines to Vito and Ludivina Mercado, Ledevedere plans to continue her education by studying biology.

Gabrielle Rivera

\$500 sponsored by
Travel Portland

Gabrielle Rivera will graduate from Centennial High School this spring and plans to study education at Gonzaga University. The daughter of Armando and Oliva Rivera, she is a member of the Academic Scholars Program and the National Honor Society. Gabrielle is active with the Teatro Filipino performance troupe and also plays the guitar and piano. Along with being very involved with her church as a Sunday school teacher, she has spent time volunteering with the Filipino American Association of Portland & Vicinity and other groups and has participated in blood, food, and clothing drives.

PACCO and the U.S. Navy award scholarships

The Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon (PACCO) and the U.S. Navy also awarded scholarships at this year's Asian Reporter Foundation Scholarship & Awards Banquet.

PACCO, now in its eighth year of giving awards, issued four scholarships. Each student received a \$500 scholarship and complimentary tickets to the banquet. Recipients included Jenna Mae Lorenzo Alfonso, Doreene Reyes Enriquez, Gabrielle Rivera, and Ledevedere Sabundo.

High school seniors or current college students of Filipino descent who are legal residents of Oregon or southwest Washington are eligible to apply for PACCO scholarships. Recipients must be enrolled in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university, or vocational/technical school in Oregon or Washington. To learn more, call (503) 522-3620, e-mail <jun@pacco.com>, or visit <www.pacco.org>.

Also present at the annual banquet was the U.S. Navy, which awarded scholarships to two students, Mitzi Liu and Xisen Tian. Liu, who will pursue studies at the University of Pennsylvania Dental School, received an award worth up to \$350,000. Tian, on his way to the U.S. Naval Academy, received a scholarship worth up to \$286,000.

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| Darcelle XV Showplace | Northwest Children's Theatre | Spirit Mountain Casino |
| Elephants Delicatessen | Northwest Film Center | Stash Tea Company |
| Flying Pie Pizzeria | Oaks Amusement Park | Sylvan Learning Center |
| Mariann Hyland | OMSI | Thai Terrace |
| Hollywood Bowl | Oregon College of Oriental Medicine | The Asian Reporter |
| Izzy's Pizza Bar & Classic Buffet | Oregon Health & Science University | Timberline Lodge |
| Kaiser Permanente | Oregon Symphony | United Engineering |
| Kells Irish Restaurant & Pub | Oregon Zoo | Willamette Valley Vineyards |
| Lan Su Chinese Garden | Portland Center Stage | Woodburn Company Stores |

Congratulations to the 2011 Asian Reporter Foundation honorees and award recipients!

An online version of this scholarship & awards banquet issue is available at <www.asianreporter.com>.