

# The Asian Reporter

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## 14th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet



**ANNUAL CELEBRATION.** Latsany Sourivong of the Khana Looke Larn Lao dance group entertains a crowd of more than 400 at The Asian Reporter Foundation's 14th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet. Our special section highlighting the accomplishments of the 2012 awardees begins on page 12. (AR Photo/Eugene Wong)



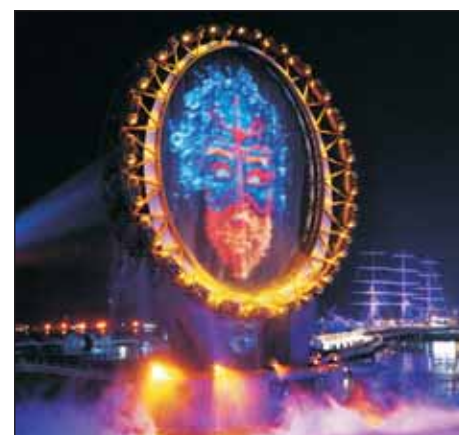
Barbie helps long-hidden sisters shine

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Making bathing a Zen experience

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Expo opens with robots, ocean theme

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### "Transoceanic Flows" essay collection devoted to Pacific Islander studies

The Asian American Studies Center at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) has released "Transoceanic Flows: Pacific Islander Interventions Across the American Empire" as part of its *Amerasia Journal*. The issue is the publication's first collection of essays devoted to exploring Pacific Islander studies and addresses the

geographical expanse and methodological diversity that characterize the field.

UCLA professor Keith L. Camacho guest edited the special issue, which is based on a 2009 symposium he organized entitled "Unlearning the American Pacific." "Transoceanic Flows" surveys the broad geographies and demographics of the

Pacific Islands, including the peoples and places of Guam, Hawai'i, New Zealand, Samoa, and beyond.

"Transoceanic Flows" covers a wide range of topics, including football, masculinity, race, diversity, poetry, art, and more. The issue includes essays and re-

Continued on page 7

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**CELEBRATING COMMUNITY.** Attendees are welcomed by the Minh Quang Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association Lion Dance group (left photo) at the 14th annual Asian Reporter Foundation Scholarship & Awards Banquet. The event featured recognition of community groups, elders (top right photo), and students (bottom right photo), as well as a surprise award from the community to Asian Reporter publisher Jaime Lim. (AR Photos/ Eugene Wong and Jin Huang)

## Awards and scholarships bestowed at The Asian Reporter Foundation's 14th annual banquet

By Josephine Bridges  
The Asian Reporter

The Asian Reporter Foundation's 14th Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet at Legin Restaurant was just getting under way with a social hour at 5:30pm when Encarnacion Arroyo arrived and stood inside the door, spotted dozens of people already mingling among a sea of tables, and declared the event, which would not conclude for well over three more hours, "Very successful."

An hour later, the drums of the Minh Quang Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association Lion Dance group announced the official start of the banquet as two ferocious and friendly beasts proceeded to charm the audience by blinking their glittery eyelids, flipping their ears, clacking their jaws, ruffling their ruffles, stretching up as high as they could stretch, and nipping at the unsuspecting.

Following a welcome by masters of ceremonies Ronault L.S. "Polo" Catalani and Nim Xuto and *Asian Reporter* publisher Jaime Lim, it was time to introduce this year's four most honored elders.

Dr. Angelito "Lito" Saqueton, born in 1938 in the Philippines, said of his award, "This inspires me to do more not just for the Asian community, but for the community at large. The United States is not a perfect country, but it is one of the best. I need to do my part to make it better."

"We are trying to meet each other, to strengthen our community so we don't feel lost," said Dr. Bolyvong

Tanovan, born in 1937 in Laos. "There is a lot to be learned from each other. I am grateful."

"I'm sure there are a lot of people that qualify," said Fred Wong, born in 1935 in Portland. "I feel honored to be selected."

Wing Louie, born in 1924 in China, spoke through one of the many well-wishers surrounding him, who translated his sentiments with perfect simplicity: "I'm very happy."

A special presentation, a surprise that was not even listed on the evening's program, came next. "We really don't stop to consider well or to care properly for those of us who've made lives of caring for others," Polo began. "Until, of course, these folks get ill or old or both and we're suddenly startled into giving back a little of how much they've given us."

Joining Polo onstage were several veteran Asian-, Latino-, and African-American leaders in business, media, civic society, and government. They gathered "to give back just a little of what Manong Jaime Lim has given our communities," Polo told the audience. "With this annual award named in his honor, we're recognizing American community builders in our immigrant nation."

Polo continued: Jaime is a "founding board member of many local community organizations" and a "civil engineer who has built communities on both sides of our Pacific sea."

Accepting his surprise award with typical humor and modesty, Lim said, "What do you know? The guy who gives the award gets the award," then continued, "I'm

humble. We do what we do because we believe in it." He went on to thank his children, staff of *The Asian Reporter*: "They do all the work, we get all the glory."

It was a tough act to follow, but if anyone could do so, the next generation could. Twelve young men and women of great promise were presented with \$1,000 scholarships from The Asian Reporter Foundation. Two \$500 awards sponsored by the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon followed.

With more than a few lumps in more than a few throats at this point, it was time for something soothing, and performers from the Khana Looke Larn Lao dance group gave the audience exactly what we needed with their colorful, graceful, stylized New Year Greeting Dance.

Last, but a long way from least, three worthy organizations that have been serving the community since the 1980s — the Asian Health & Service Center, the Buddhathammaram Lao Temple, and the Filipino American Association of Clark County and Vicinity — were honored with Exemplary Community Volunteer awards.

After the formal program concluded, the audience headed to the dance floor to continue enjoying each other's company to music provided by DJ D².

Many thanks are in order. It wouldn't have been The AR Foundation's annual banquet without the generosity of sponsors of the annual event, donors who make the silent auction and raffles possible, and the delicacies of a six-course feast at the Legin Restaurant.

Very successful indeed.

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



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Most Honored Elders



FASCINATING FELLOWS. The Asian Reporter Foundation's Most Honored Elders for 2012 are (left to right) Angelito Saqueton, Wing Louie, Fred Wong, and Bolyvong Tanovan. (AR Photos/Eugene Wong and Kathy Brock)

Angelito Saqueton

Dr. Angelito "Lito" Saqueton was born October 3, 1938 in Kawit in Cavite province, the Philippines. He is the youngest of nine children born to Angel Saqueton and Felicidad de Castro. As a child, Lito sold popsicles in his family's neighborhood shop, where he later helped as storekeeper. His career in the family business was short lived, however, when in 1962, Lito passed the Philippine Medical Board and graduated cum laude from the University of Santo Tomas. He came to the U.S. in 1963 under the Exchange Visitors Program, finished his medical internship at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, New York, and studied dermatology at the University of Chicago. He returned to the Philippines in 1969 and worked at several clinics. In 1972, when his practice was beginning to grow, he treated patients from as far away as Hong Kong and Taiwan. In 1973, a year after martial law was declared in the Philippines, he moved to the U.S. and settled in Beaverton, Oregon, where he served as an award-winning dermatologist for Kaiser Permanente before retiring in 2005. He and his wife, Remedios "Medy" Cajulis Saqueton, currently live in Happy Valley and have three children — Gerry, Cecile, and Wil — and five grandchildren. Lito stays active volunteering with Friends of Trees and cooking his childhood dishes.

Wing Louie

Born March 18, 1924 in Taishan, China, Wing Louie helped support his mother and grandmother by selling tobacco after his father succumbed to cancer when Wing was only 10 years old. At age 16, he was engaged to the love of his life, Lan Chee Louie. Three years later, in 1944, the two married. The young family struggled financially and Wing worked in Hong Kong to try to support his

family back in the village. In 1949, he immigrated to the U.S., arriving at the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco before relocating to Portland to live with his uncle. He got a job at Canton Grill and sent money back to China to support his family. Louie got a big break when he and several friends pooled their resources to purchase the Oriental Garden restaurant in McMinnville. With increased income from the business, he was able to move his growing family to McMinnville, where he became the city's first Chinese landowner. His earnings from the restaurant combined with Lan Chee's work selling bean sprouts, peas, and homemade *zhong zi* to local restaurants and grocery stores allowed the family to purchase the Oriental Garden outright in 1965. Wing and Lan Chee have five children — Lana, Richard, Shelton, Nancy, and Jeannie — 14 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Wing remains active with the community and enjoys spending time with his family, cooking (lobster is his favorite), travelling, and playing *mahjong*.

Fred Wong

Fred Wong was born on January 31, 1935 in Portland and raised in the city's Old Town/Chinatown district, where his family helped manage the Hung Far Low restaurant. Fred and his wife Jane will celebrate 40 years of marriage this year and are the proud parents of three daughters: Kristin, Lisa, and Staci. Fred attended Portland State University and Oregon State University where he received a Bachelor of Science and a master's degree in education, respectively. He is retired from the Portland Public School system where he served as a physical education teacher for 33 years. In addition, Fred worked summers on Kodiak Island in Alaska in the canned-salmon industry for 54 seasons, many of them in the cannery's management. Fred also served in the U.S.

Army with two years in Korea and Japan in the intelligence field. Fred is heavily involved in community activities as a volunteer, including serving as director for OnPoint Community Credit Union for 40 years and currently as a board member for the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA), the Portland-Kaohsiung Sister City Association, and the CCBA Chinese Language School. Fred enjoys travelling and plans to visit China and Europe this spring.

Bolyvong Tanovan

Bolyvong Tanovan was born December 12, 1937 in Mahaxay, Laos. Although he attended schools in Laos, he completed high school in France and later earned two degrees from École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland: a civil engineering degree in 1963 and a Doctorate of Technical Sciences in 1975. He and his wife Ounheuan Tanovan, whom he married in 1964, have three daughters — Heuanmali, Ravivan, and Thidachan. While Dr. Tanovan was working at the Mekong Secretariat in Bangkok, Thailand in 1975, the Communists took over power in Laos and he and his family decided to immigrate to the United States the next year. The family was able to bypass refugee camps and came to Portland under sponsorship of a former instructor at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that Dr. Tanovan had met during a training session in Portland in 1965. For most of his career, he specialized in water resource development and hydraulic engineering. Dr. Tanovan is active in the Lao community, helping establish the Lao Association of Oregon and the Lao Senior Association of Oregon and volunteering at the Lao temple in Portland since its inception. He keeps busy attending temple and social events, playing tennis, consulting part-time in engineering, and translating Lao books.



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## Exemplary Community Volunteers

### Asian Health & Service Center

Originally founded in 1983 as the Chinese Social Service Center, the Asian Health & Service Center (AHSC) serves as a bridge between Asian and American cultures while



working to reduce healthcare inequity and improve healthcare quality for all Asians. Over the years, the organization has expanded and moved twice to larger locations in southeast Portland and also added a Beaverton site. Once a small group of volunteers with a few employees, AHSC now employs more than 20 multilingual and multicultural staff members from China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, and the United States. In addition to its work with public, behavioral, and personal

health, the group operates the Yu Miao Preschool, coordinates programs for senior citizens, holds talks and clinics, and more. While the main focus of the organization is health, AHSC also offers classes and workshops highlighting a diverse range of Asian art and culture topics. To learn more, visit <www.ahscpx.org>.

### Buddhathammaram Lao Temple

The Buddhathammaram Lao Temple, the oldest Lao temple in Oregon, was established in 1981 by reverend and chief abbot Khamsene Kabouakham and a small



group of Lao elders who arrived as refugees in Oregon in the early 1980s. The temple, which achieved nonprofit status in 1982, serves not only as a religious center but also as a place for community gathering and cultural preservation for Lao people in Oregon and southwest Washington. The site is used weekly for religious, spiritual, family, and social gatherings such as *tuck bhat* (alms giving). Among the organization's activities are teaching Lao traditional dances and ceremonies, cultural arts, history, language, music, and more, as well as hosting cultural festivals, such as the Lao New Year and *Boun Haaw Khao Padabdin*, at which ancestors are remembered. To learn more, visit <www.watpdx.com>.

### Filipino American Association of Clark County and Vicinity

The Filipino American Association of Clark County and Vicinity (FAACCV) was founded in the early 1980s when a group of Vancouver, Washington-area Filipino Americans saw a need to preserve their "old country" culture and camaraderie. The



group brings traditional and modern Filipino arts and culture to the area and actively pursues partnerships with other Filipino-American associations in the area for various projects that benefit the community at large. FAACCV coordinates

forums of interest for Filipino Americans addressing issues such as immigration and U.S. customs, offers language classes in Tagalog for children, has held "Consulate on Wheels" events, and provides assistance to victims of crime and disasters locally and overseas. The organization also serves as a "welcome wagon" for Filipinos new to the area and provides assistance and a comfortable atmosphere of friendship and community. Every year, FAACCV hosts its signature event, *Pasko Na Naman*, an annual Christmas dinner dance. To learn more, visit <www.filamclarkcounty.org>.

*Exemplary Community Volunteer awards presented by Portland commissioner Nick Fish. (AR Photos/Eugene Wong)*

*Nomination forms for the 2013 awards will be available January 1, 2013 and will cover volunteer efforts performed between April 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013. For more information, visit <www.ARFoundation.net> or <www.asianreporter.com>.*

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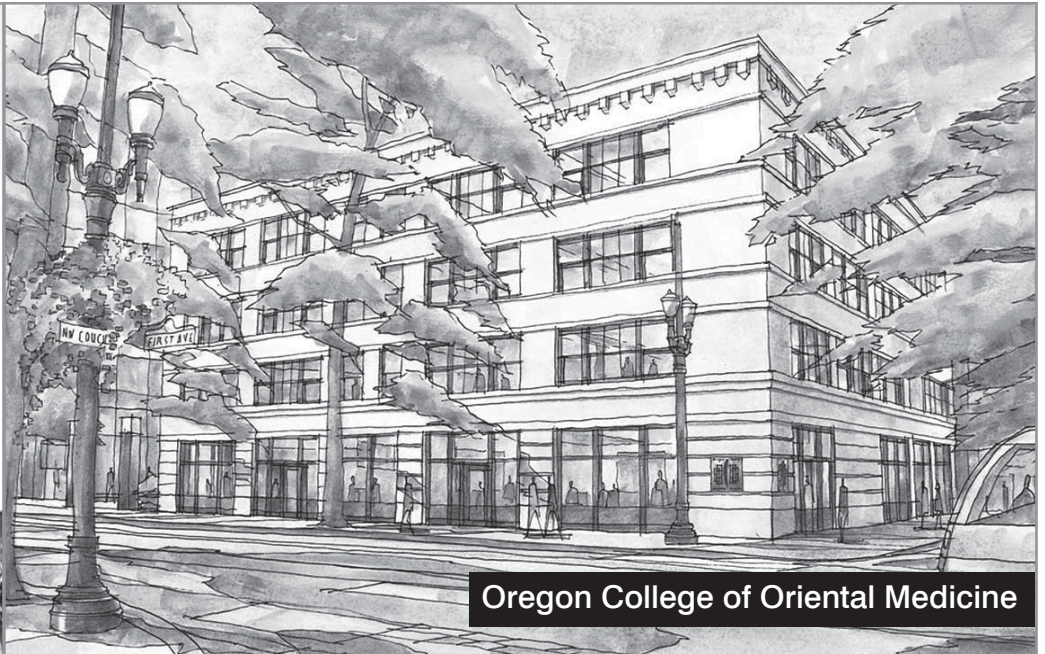
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**Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars**



2012 Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars (left to right): Tracy Mok, Lily Zhao, Christina Chac, Van Anh Vu, Tou Cha, Sarah Doss, Angela Banks, and Brandon Wick. (AR Photos/Dejene Taye)

**Tracy Mok**

*\$1,000 sponsored by the Oregon Lottery*

Tracy Mok, the daughter of Sin Min Mok and Liu Ji Tan, is a senior at Hood River Valley High School. She is a member of student government and treasurer for the National Honor Society, Asian Club, and Challenge Day Group. She was honored as player of the week in Hood River while team captain of the volleyball team in the fall and throws javelin during the spring. She also tutors other students in math, is an advanced hip-hop dancer, and motivates fellow students during the annual food drive. Tracy will study accounting and business finance at the University of Oregon in the fall.

**Lily Zhao**

*\$1,000 sponsored by the Oregon Lottery*

Lily Zhao, the daughter of Zhi Xiong Zhao and Cui Juan Deng, is a freshman at Portland State University. Some of her extracurricular activities include Korean Class, the Japanese Student Association, and the Taiwanese Student Association. She has volunteered with the Red Cross Club, for fundraising events benefitting Portland Parks & Recreation, as a tennis coach at Benson Polytechnic High School, and at Adventist Medical Center, where she has donated more than 800 hours of her time. Lily is studying psychology and business.

**Christina Chac**

*\$1,000 sponsored by Kaiser Permanente*

Christina Chac, the daughter of Phong Chac and MyHan Nguyen, is a senior at Franklin High School. She serves as vice president of National Honor Society and president of the Key Club and has volunteered for the Oregon Food Bank, the Kiwanis Club, and a Japan tsunami relief fundraiser. Christina is also involved with the Buddhist youth group, learning the Vietnamese language and Dharma teachings as well as performing traditional dances during the Moon Festival and Vietnamese New Year. She plans to study microbiology next fall.

**Van Anh Vu**

*\$1,000 sponsored by Kaiser Permanente*

Van Anh Vu, the daughter of Tai Vu and Lien Tran, is a senior at Madison High School. She is the vice president and treasurer of the National Honor Society and a recipient of the AP Scholar award. She keeps busy with several school activities including cheerleading, golf, and student government. Van Anh dedicates a considerable amount of her time serving as a peer tutor and academic mentor, including teaching Vietnamese language arts. In the fall, Van Anh will focus on pharmacy and psychology at Oregon State University.

**Tou Cha**

*\$1,000 sponsored by Oregon Health & Science University*

Tou Cha, the son of Cheng Bee and Xue Lee Cha, is a senior at Roosevelt High School's Power Academy. He is very involved in the Hmong community and participates in traditional ceremonies with his family. He has volunteered at Blanchet House, helped organize his school's blood drive, and is a member of the Roosevelt Asian Club. Tou will pursue a degree in pharmacy at Oregon State University in the fall.

**Sarah Doss**

*\$1,000 sponsored by Oregon Health & Science University*

Sarah Doss, the daughter of David and Nancy Doss, is a senior at Tigard High School. She is a member of the Southside Soccer Club and has an extensive list of community service. She has travelled to Mexico to work in orphanages and help feed people in the community and spent a week in New Orleans volunteering and helping the residents in the area during rebuilding. Sarah is also involved with her church youth group and worked as a volunteer at the summer community barbeque. She plans to study biology at Oregon State University.

*Continued on page 17*

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**HONORING & ENTERTAINING.** The Asian Reporter Foundation's 2012 Most Honored Elders are congratulated after receiving their awards (top left photo). Between award ceremonies, eager youth help pull winning raffle tickets (middle photo). At right are members of the Khana Looke Larn Lao dance group. (AR Photos/Jin Huang and Eugene Wong)



**PACCO SCHOLARS.** The Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon awarded \$500 scholarships to Imee Williams (left) and ReinaRose Resario. (AR Photo/Jin Huang)

### PACCO awards two \$500 scholarships

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

PACCO, now in its ninth year of giving awards, issued two scholarships. Each student received a \$500 scholarship and complimentary tickets to the banquet. The 2012 recipients were ReinaRose Resario and Imee Williams.

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. Awards must be utilized 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>.



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## Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars



2012 Asian Reporter Foundation Scholars (left to right): Maria Pham, Zach Sundara, Hayden Kim, and Phu Nguyen. (AR Photos/Dejene Taye)

Continued from page 16

#### Angela Banks

*\$1,000 sponsored by Slayden Sundt*

Angela Banks, the daughter of James and Ana Banks, is a senior at Pleasant Hill High School. She has participated in cross country, cheerleading, track & field, and National Honor Society. Angela has volunteered with the Mr. Billie Pageant and as a preschool assistant, and is involved in the school's STARS program and recycling club. Some of her educational activities include mentoring in the big sister program, working on the school newspaper, and donating time as a peer tutor. Angela plans to study pre-med and biology at the University of Oregon.

#### Brandon Wick

*\$1,000 sponsored by Slayden Sundt*

Brandon Wick, the son of Ronald Wick and Hsu Feng Ling, is a senior at Tigard High School. Brandon has volunteered as a youth football coach, assists other classmates with their coursework as a Chinese student assistant, and has participated in the fundraising walk for Parkinson's disease. He is a wide receiver on his school's football team and runs the first leg of the 4 x 100 race in track & field. Brandon will major in biology at Oregon State University this fall.

#### Maria Pham

*\$1,000 sponsored by Multnomah County*

Maria Pham, the daughter of Phong Pham and Mai Nguyen, is a senior at Benson Polytechnic High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society as well as the leadership club. Some of her extracurricular activities

include tutoring, student government, the Student Input Board, and SOLVE. Maria also mentors for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, volunteers at Holgate Library, and has participated in school fundraising events. She will study interior design and music at Washington State University in the fall.

#### Zach Sundara

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

Zach Sundara, the son of Phavisouk and Manilath Sundara, is a senior at Sunset High School. He serves as secretary for his school's Model United Nations program, participates on the tennis team, and helps at the annual Race for the Cure event. Zach is involved with the Korean Student Association and also volunteers for Key Club International and for Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District. He plans to study chemical engineering at Oregon State University.

#### Hayden Kim

*\$1,000 sponsored by Travel Portland*

Hayden Kim, the son of Kwang-Jo and Eun-Ju Kim, is a senior at Winston Churchill High School in Eugene. Hayden volunteers as an activity leader at the East Side Faith Center and as a coach and counsellor for the YMCA. A few of his extracurricular activities include playing piano and basketball, writing stories for a Pacific Northwest sports magazine, and serving as a member of National Honor Society. Hayden plans to study journalism at the University of Oregon.

#### Phu Nguyen

*\$1,000 sponsored by FamilyCare*

Phu Nguyen, the son of Huynh Nguyen and Tung Vo, is a senior at Madison High School. He is a member of the Upward Bound Student Input Board, Key Club, Health Occupations Students of America, and student government. In addition to serving as co-president and treasurer for the Viet Hung Lion Dance Team, he volunteers at Columbia Medical Clinic and the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry and mentors physics and chemistry students. He plans to study pre-med in the fall at the University of Portland.



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**BANQUET NIGHT 2012.** After dinner was served and all awards were given, attendees boogied to music provided by DJ D<sup>2</sup> (top photo). Pictured below is a lucky raffle prize winner. (AR Photos/Eugene Wong)



*Many thanks to the groups that donated raffle prizes and auction and gift bag items!*



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