

Terrapi **NOISE!**

Thursday, December 6, 2012



FCA Means 'Family'

'Family' Means 'No One Gets Left Behind'

Christmas. It's the 'most wonderful time of the year'. It's time for our yearly traditions: putting up the Christmas tree, putting on decorations on the tree and around the house, buying gifts for our loved ones, hanging the parol for the neighbors to see...

But what makes it so special? Is it the bombardment of Christmas-themed marathons on TV, which teach you not to be a Scrooge on the most generous holiday? Maybe it is the infectious Christmas songs that can't be listened to without at least trying to belt out the chorus. Or is it the presents?

While all these things are certainly guaranteed to help spread Christmas cheer, the real core of the Christmas feeling is the sense of being part of a family. Here in FCA, family is what defines us.

Sure, we are a cultural student organization that plans events pertaining to our Filipino heritage. But the 'Filipino' part is just what piques our interest of the club when we first join. Everyone usually stays because of the prominent sense of "family" and feeling like they belong.

Random drives to Philadelphia for cheesesteaks, midnight monument hopping, incredibly late dress rehearsals in the Chemistry Atrium—these moments and memories is what brings us closer. Some of them may be completely impulsive and irrational and others are stressful and exhausting, but we stick together to support each other. In the end, it becomes apparent why the time spent was worthwhile, and I hope everyone in FCA experiences that magical moment of 'We did it' or 'This is

why we're so awesome'.

No worries if you missed out on our events this semester, because Spring semester is when a lot of the magic happen, particularly our production of Philippine Cultural Night in April.

My favorite moments in FCA are during those late nights when everyone is enduring their finals crunch together. I knew I could have been more productive had I studied by myself, but I would not trade those moments for anything. Being there

As someone had told me when I first became active in FCA, every single person brings something new to our group, and after being in FCA for a little under a year, I believe it.

In this Issue...

(NEW!!) FCA Member Spotlights!

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Big Events in Spring 2013

FAST Gala
Saturday, March 2

Philippine Cultural Night

Saturday, April 20
STAMP Grand Ballroom

Open Positions for Playwriters!

Are you a dreamer? Or maybe a writer? Or maybe you want to do something big. Well, we're looking for writers to help start our production of Philippine Cultural Night! It's night where we express our Philippine Cultural through our play! If interested, contact pauline.masigla@gmail.com

FCA SPOTLIGHTS!

Get to know your Eboard and General Body Members!

General Body Member: Meet Sarah Mayo!



Major: Biology
Year: Freshman
Favorite Movie: Parent Trap
Favorite Memory of FCA: Cultural Retreat
Perfect Christmas Present: To go to the Philippines and let my cousins show me around

Eboard Member: Meet Aaron Logan!



Major: Clarinet Performance and Computer Science
Year: Senior
Eboard Position: Secretary
Favorite Movie: Jurassic Park
Favorite Memory of FCA: At my first bake sale, seeing everyone's face when they realized I could bake lol
Perfect Christmas Present: A Soprano Sax or a Clarinet



FINDing the Dream and More

By Krystle Canare
Vice President

7 Districts.
3 Workshops.
1 Goal.
FIND Dialogue 2012: Dream for More

On Saturday, November 3rd, 600 Filipino Americans across the East Coast gathered at George Mason University for FIND Dialogue 2012. FIND Inc, otherwise known as the Filipino Intercollegiate Networking Dialogue, Inc, is an organization devoted to promoting the unity and cooperation of Filipino students at colleges, universities, vocational, and technical schools. Dialogue, FIND's fall semester event, was hosted by our very own District VI and I, someone who had never been to

a FIND event prior to this, was in for a surprisingly memorable experience as dialogue moderator.

Despite the awesome D6 flash mob performance and the informative yet fun Dialogue training sessions leading up to the big event itself, I was still unsure of what to expect from my first FIND Dialogue experience. I was assigned to be a co-moderator with someone I wouldn't meet until the day-of and it was our job to lead and inspire a group of twenty or so college kids through three 45-minute long workshops...all on a Saturday morning.

I caught myself sitting outside of my assigned room reading the workshop material

over and over again. For a while my co-moderator was nowhere in sight which freaked me out that I'd have to do it all alone. With only minutes to spare, my partner Kevin, from Catholic University, came in just as frazzled as I was, explaining that he was also in charge of entertainment transportation. We gave each other a pep talk, put on my CPR ROOM throwback music playlist, and prepared ourselves for the delegates who were following only minutes behind him.

The theme for this year's dialogue was "Dream for More" and that is exactly what these delegates did. Never in my life had I experienced a classroom of students so eager to talk

about their life stories and the history of their ancestors (my old FAST class professor Gem would've been proud). Never in my life had I witnessed a group so driven in promoting their culture. These delegates acknowledged that there was and still is a dream that Filipinos have and that it is up to them as Filipino Americans to continue and strive for that dream. In the end, I honestly couldn't have dreamed for a better experience and opportunity than FIND Dialogue 2012.

Next semester, FCA UMCP is heading to Harvard for FIND Conference 2013! Interested? E-mail district.six.representative@fcaatumd.com!



Philippines Refuses to Stamp Chinese Passports

By Lorenz Cruz
Freshman Representative

Following in Vietnam's footsteps, the Philippines has become the second Asian nation to refuse stamping the new Chinese electronic passport. These controversial visas have forced such negative reactions as each includes map depicting the disputed waters

of South China Sea as Chinese territory; a portion of which encompasses part of the Philippine territory and maritime domain.

On Monday, December 3rd, the Department of Foreign Affairs told reporters, "All Chinese passports, old or new, will not be stamped with a visa. The visa will

be stamped on a separate sheet of paper." The Philippine foreign ministry further expanded by saying that stamping the Chinese passport could be seen as legitimizing Beijing's excessive territorial claim. Vietnamese immigration officials have also begun issuing visas on separate forms, while Indian authorities have decided on issuing Chinese visas showing an Indian map of the disputed inland regions.

Although the Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei has attempted to tone down the controversy, Washington has also begun stepping in, raising more concerns with Beijing about the map. Nevertheless, Manila continues to make moves on further reinforcing their formal protest letter sent to Beijing in the previous week.

UPDATE: The Immigration Commissioner, Ricardo David Jr., has clarified that the Philippine government will not stamp any Chinese passports, whether it is new or old.

NEWS2GO

Short. Sweet. Simple.

Put Yo Smile On!

Gallop, a major research and polling organization recently asked "What is the most emotional country in the world?" By asking questions like "Did you smile and laugh a lot yesterday?" Gallop concluded the Philippines to be the most emotional

To Infinity and Beyond!

Rogel Meri Sese at NASA has started a program to develop a space program in the Philippines. Sese hopes Filipinos can produce their own satellites that can gather geographic data to support disaster relief, agricultural production, and other needs.

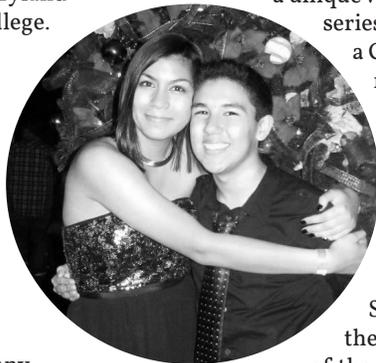
Typhoon Pablo Strikes

Typhoon Pablo struck the Philippines early this week, washing away entire towns, resulting in 400 deaths with more than 300 people still missing. Rescue efforts are still on the way.

A Night to Remember: District 6 Semi-Formal

By Leilani Padua
Freshman Representative

Who thought that dances were over once you left high school? This past Saturday, December 1st, District 6 held its annual Semi-Formal hosted by University of Maryland-Baltimore College. "Semi", as it's commonly called, is a chance for all schools in the DC, Maryland and Virginia area to get together to enjoy each other's company and escape school for a weekend. The night provides an opportunity to dress up, go out and dance while seeing old friends and making new ones.



This year's theme was "A Night in Monte Carlo", complete with casino decorations and poker chip keychain souvenirs. UMBC promoted the event in a unique way, through a series titled "Taking a Chance" where a new episode was released with every ticket sale increase. The finale was aired during dinner at Semi itself. Semi starts with the presentation of the trophy to this year's Turkeybowl champions followed by the presentation of the District 6 Court. Every school has their own nomination for King, Queen and



Newbies, where the attendees can cast their ballot for their choice of royalty. After the formalities are finished, guests gather around the dance floor to watch participating schools' modern dance teams leave it all on the floor during their performances. The twist with all these pieces is that each school must incorporate randomly selected cultural suites into their dance. (FCA KILLED IT BTW) The night ends just like any other dance with the DJ in the back and everyone on the dance floor.

Congrats to the Lady Terps for the 3-peat Turkeybowl victory!!

