



Terrapi **NOISE!**

Thursday, February 14, 2013



4th Biennial
Filipino American Studies

Gala

Sat March 2 at 6pm
Grand Ballroom, Stamp
Students: \$10
Dinner, Entertainment
Networking Opportunities

By Krystle Canare Vice President

On Saturday, March 2nd, 2013, the Filipino Cultural Association will be hosting its 4th Filipino American Studies Gala. While one may look at this event as a night to dress-up and meet professionals within the University of Maryland and Filipino American communities, it is just as important for one to look at the history behind the FAST program and its impact on our own organization today.

What is FAST?

In my opinion, FAST was a result of FCA's desire to understand their roots. In the words of former President Jonathan Sterlin, FCA in the early 2000s was just a social group. In fact, after walking past a chalking he had drawn for GBM, he witnessed that someone else had inserted the words "lack of" in between the words "Filipino" and "Cultural Association". Although such an act was rude and uncalled for, it gave Jonathan a

wake up call to reevaluate the motives of the organization.

Thus, when given the opportunity, Jonathan and his executive board collaborated with the Asian American Studies Program and Filipino American community to form a course on Filipino American History. By 2007, the University of Maryland, College Park became one of only two colleges on the East Coast that offered a Filipino American Studies course.

Why is FAST important?

The Filipino American Studies Gala (FAST) is a fundraiser event commemorating the successes of FAST, it's supporter, and the bright future ahead. FAST Gala is a reminder of the struggles Filipino Americans will undergo to learn about their history. And most importantly, Gala is a reminder for us to continue the story and write our own chapters.

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Upcoming Events

Cultural Practices

Every Mon and Wed
6:30PM, Chem Atrium

MezzoPinoy Practice

Sat. Feb 16 at 6pm
CSPAC

Freshman Dinner

Tues. Feb 19 at 6PM
North Campus Diner

Camp PCN

Fri. Feb 22 at 7pm
CSPAC

What is PCN? Why is there a camp for it?

Philippine Culture Night (PCN) is an annual show that FCA produces (writing, acting, dancing, singing) as a form of expression of our personal identity. Camp PCN is a day of activities and workshops in preparation of the big night. If interested in signing up, talk to an eboard member.

Member Spotlights!

Get to know your Eboard Members!

Kirk Vallespin Historian



Major:
Kinesiology

Favorite Quote:

"The world pushes us with out mercy and when someone pushes back the world points and cries evil."
-Mewto

Favorite FCA Moment:

The random adventures I had when I was a freshman in FCA.

What do you do as the Historian?

I document events for FCA as well as contact Alumni for special events.

Most important lesson you learned during your term?

Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness. Only the strong knows when its time to get help.

Former students: Why was/is FAST class important to you?



"It's a history class about me, and it's a reminder that each of us have the potential to make history."
-Mariel Bartolome



"I discovered the empowerment of reclamation. This new perspective allowed me to deconstruct the remnants of my own colonial mentality and to feel a stronger connection to a greater Filipino community."
-Elysha Valera



"It's not only history but personal accounts from perspectives you don't normally hear."
-Andrew Aggabao



"History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme"
-Krystle Canare



"I learned that the farm workers under Vera Cruz and SF student protesters who made serious changes in society were just normal people, like me, and that I'm powerful enough to make the same changes someday."
-Tyler Babich



It gave me more of a sense of pride for my Fil-Am heritage. "Know history, know self. No history, no self."
-Peter Tarectecan

Kapuso ng Bawat Pilipino (Even if You Don't Know What That Means)

By Christine Bustamante

I find it fascinating how some Asian/Asian American families make it a point to teach their children the language of their heritage, and then in other families, it's quite the opposite. I've seen many Chinese and Korean students have to go through extra classes after school or on the weekends. My boss, who happens to be Korean-American, once told me her parents made sure that she and her siblings knew Korean. I, on the other hand, happen to be placed in the latter category. My parents, both immigrants, didn't want me to learn Tagalog because they feared that I would mix up English and Tagalog, or end up with an accent that would render me stupid or in need of extra help in school.

They weren't completely wrong, as that did happen a lot in my area, but I suppose that I've always felt a tinge of disappointment and embarrassment in not being able to speak the language well. Growing up, I've heard my parents talk to each other in Tagalog on occasion, so I've been able to pick up enough to just understand what's being said. I used to watch five hours worth of TFC dramas each night with my family, and now my parents expect me to know it all. I mean I can cheat my way a bit



"Kapuso ng Bawat Pilipino" = "We are One in the Heart with Every Filipino"

with initial greetings that seem to impress older Filipinos, but I can never seem to carry on a conversation too long. It was quite sad how the last time I went to the Philippines, I could hardly communicate with my cousins that I had longed to finally meet.

The truth of the matter is that babies have minds like sponges, and until the age of around seven, have the ability to understand all languages. They can, essentially, learn as many as they are exposed to, without getting them confused. However, at a certain point, this wonderful ability ends, and the process of learning another language becomes increasingly difficult. You wonder why you can't remember as much of that high

school Spanish or French? It's not your native language. Plus, the more you don't use it, the more you lose it. It takes years and tons of exposure to really become fluent in another language, but people actually can in time.

So, as much as I'd like to blame my parents on my not being bilingual, they just didn't realize those facts, and they're not the only ones. Many Filipinos born and/or raised in America have had similar experiences. I'm just glad I can at least understand most of the teleseryes I watch and appreciate my culture. And despite what my Kuya says, not being able to speak Tagalog well doesn't make me any less of a Filipino. . .you're about as Filipino as you want to be.

A Joke Gone Too Far?

Duke Fraternity's "Racist Asian" Themed Party Sparks Anger from Asian American Community

By Tyler Babish
District Six Representative

Last Friday the Kappa Sigma fraternity at Duke University held a party that featured costumes reflecting stereotypes of Asian cultures, fake accents, and other activities that offended a number of Asian American students on the campus. Student from the university's Asian Students Association (ASA) quickly responded and requested that the event be cancelled, but the fraternity simply changed the name to make it seem less about Asian caricatures, but the party still went on, straw hats and all.

The ASA increased its efforts to contact multiple campus officials, schedule an official meeting with Duke's Student Government Association, and start a protest for the administration to adopt new measures to enforce a safe community for "historically marginalized" students. The Kappa Sigma Chapter President released a statement in the Duke student newspaper apologizing for in the incident, acknowledging, "Upon learning of the deeply damaging effects of our email to our fellow students, we should have completely canceled the aforementioned party..." ASA members noted that This "Asian



party" is just another installment of racially themed parties on Duke's campus, which have included "Pilgrims and Indians", and "South of the Border".

On Monday, student protesters held signs with slogans like "Don't party at our expense." and "Race is not a party!". One student explained why he was so hurt by the fraternity's actions, "You hurt us when you made fun of our accent, when you wrote 'Herro Duke' in your invitation. You were not just mocking an accent, you were mocking an immigrant's struggle to make it in this nation."

This brings up an interesting issue. Many Asian American college students and their friends playfully greet each other

with "Herro". Is this any less offensive than the Kappa Sigma party? Actor and civil activist George Takei made a Facebook post Monday with a joke about a spouse delivering a beer to their husband. The post received many negative comments about sexism. Takei responded that afternoon to point out some hypocrisy, as the joke never specified genders, but also asked that "Let us not lose our good humor in the quest for political sensitivity." Even one of the most prevalent names in Asian American and LGBT advocacy says there can be some humor in stereotypes or cultural jokes, but a line can be crossed.

So where is this line? Why is it ok to make racial jokes in some cases, but not in others? Or is it ever really ok? Maybe its something we all need to decide on our own. Just remember that your words carry power, and one man's joke is another man's insult.



Community Service

Preparing the Next Generation: FCA's Annual Terrapinoy Day

By Ryan Toledo
Community Service Chair

Terrapinoy Day is an annual event hosted by the executive board of the Filipino Cultural Association. The day features a series of development workshops where local youth are invited to attend. Workshop topics include team building, resume making, cultural dancing, and more. It is a great way for us to connect with the community and become mentors for the youth.

Culture



Confidence



Teamwork



Feeling a little down on this romantic holiday? Why not try some "Pick up" lines?

Ang buhay ko'y parang sirang lapis pag wala ka: ng buhay ko pointless

My life is like a broken pencil without you. It's pointless

Sana mag off na ang ilaw para tayo mag on

The lights should turn off, so we can turn 'on'

Facebook ka ba? Like kita

Are you Facebook? I like you

Ubo ka ba? Hindi ka matanggal sa dibdib ko

Are you a cough? I can't remove you from my heart

Google ka ba? Kasi lahat ng hinahanap ko na sayo

Are you Google? 'Cause everything I'm looking for is in you

Hindi ako si batman, superman o spiderman. I'm your man, magpakailanman

I'm not batman, superman, or spiderman. I'm your man forever

Ibenta mo na ang bahay mo - Mula ngayon dito ka na titira sa puso ko

You should sell your house. From now on, you'll live in my heart

Crayola ka ba? Binigyan mo ng kulay and mundo ko

Are you Crayola? You brought color into my world