

FEDERATION OF PHILIPPINE AMERICAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

FPACC

USA EDITION



International Magazine
JUNE 2025 ISSUE



FPACC GLOBAL
BUSINESS CONFERENCE
ORLANDO, FL
JUNE 19-22



FCCPNW



VDMW

May Deza
DOMINGUEZ

PRESIDENT - FILIPINO AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PACIFIC NW
FOUNDER - COLORS N BLOOM
DESIGNATED BROKER - MDP REALTY

BUILDING BRIDGES
UNITING
CHAMBERS
STRENGTHENING
COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING
FILIPINO
ENTERPRISES
IN A GLOBAL MARKET

On Our Cover



MAIRAMA "MAY" DEZA-DOMINGUEZ

is a dynamic Filipino-American leader whose journey blends business excellence, heart-led service, and cultural pride. As the current President of the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, she leads transformative programs that promote entrepreneurship, economic opportunity, and cross-cultural collaboration in the region. A mentor, connector, and tireless advocate, May leads with both vision and heart. Her story honors the spirit of the "East Meets West" movement—bridging tradition and innovation, heritage and progress, the past and a better future. (READ HER STORY ON PAGES 8-10)

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THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST: Arguably America' most scenic area, The Pacific Northwest's expansive plains, mountains, rainforests, rugged beaches, volcanoes, and abundant wildlife will inspire your next road trip. Here are some of the destinations that should belong to your bucket list.



Global Filipino Business Leaders to Unite at FPACC 2025 Conference in Orlando, Florida

ORLANDO, FL – Business leaders, professionals, and entrepreneurs from across the world are coming together for one of the most exciting Filipino business events of the year. The Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC) will hold its 2025 International Trade and Business Conference from June 19 to 22, 2025, at the stunning Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

With the theme “One Global Filipino: Building Bridges for Trade and Growth,” this conference aims to connect Filipino businesses in the United States, the Philippines, and all over the world. Attendees will learn from expert speakers, meet with potential partners, and celebrate the rich culture of the Filipino people.

“This conference brings together the best of East and West,” said Marie Cunning, FPACC President. “It’s more than just business—it’s about celebrating Filipino identity, culture, and community while creating global opportunities. By joining one of our member chambers, you become part of a powerful network that opens doors to resources, partnerships, and success across borders.”

A SPECIAL GATHERING OF BUSINESS LEADERS

FPACC’s 2025 Conference is expected to welcome over 300 participants from North America, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Many of these guests are leaders of Filipino American

chambers of commerce from cities like San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Seattle, Orlando, Houston, and more. This year, we also welcome delegations from the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) and Spanish-speaking chamber allies from Mexico and Spain, who are ready to build new partnerships in trade and tourism.

The PCCI group will showcase Philippine products and offer guidance on how U.S. businesses can partner with companies back home. Meanwhile, chambers from Jalisco, Mexico and Cartagena, Spain, who signed agreements with FPACC, will join in the discussion about shared business goals and cultural ties, especially through the historic Galleon Trade Route.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Participants will enjoy:

- Keynote speakers from both the U.S. and the Philippines
- Workshops and panels on trade, technology, e-commerce, real estate, health care, and franchising
- Youth and women in business sessions for young leaders and female entrepreneurs
- One-on-one networking sessions to help businesses connect
- A vibrant Business Expo featuring global Filipino brands
- An unforgettable Cultural Gala Night to celebrate excellence in Filipino leadership

Continued on Page 6 >>>



EAST

meets

WEST

FPACC GLOBAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

June 2025 19th to the 22nd

Orlando, Florida



Rosen Shingle Creek (Click the link)
9939 Universal Blvd.
Scan QR code to book your accommodations.

Preliminary Agenda

DAY 1 (June 20, 2025)

Morning Session

FIRST & FUTURE GLOBALIZATION

Afternoon Session

TOURISM FOLLOWS TRADE

DAY 2 (June 21, 2025)

Morning Session

GLOBAL HEALTH-IMAGING & AI TECHNOLOGY

Afternoon Session

COTTAGE INDUSTRY-Last Frontier of Indigenous People

Register Now!



Space is limited, so please register now to claim your spot by calling 321-626-4793 or emailing: hola@eastwestconference.com

You can also scan the code to register and to get more info.

Visit us at eastwestconference.com

EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS FOOTPRINT:

The business landscape is going global and cross border business partnership is more the norm rather than the exception. If you want to grow your business globally and expand your footprint, come join us on this business conference. You will meet business owners, corporate partners, public partners and venture capital partners from all over the world, including Mexico, Dubai, Europe, Canada, Philippines, and the US.

MISSION:

To create an engaging and meaningful platform for the business and cultural communities to forge meaningful connections from WEST to EAST and vice versa. This is designed to open up a wealth of opportunities for dynamic partnerships and innovative exchanges, highlighting the exceptional potential of the Philippines and the US.

APPROACH:

Be an active participant. Embrace world-renowned Filipino hospitality. Join this showcase of the entrepreneur-friendly and rich potential of the business ecosystem in the Philippines. With you, the Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce aims to forge connections, inspire growth, and pave the way for a future of shared prosperity and innovation.

EXPERIENCE:

A thrilling journey of exploration. Relive the historic first "East Meets West" event in 1565, when the Spanish Manila galleon trade route pioneered the "tomaviaje" or return route from the Philippines to the New World.



Breaking Barriers, Building Global Partnerships

FPACC 2025 Conference...

Continued from Page 4



EAST meets WEST
FPACC Global Business Conference

June 19 - 22, 2025
Rosen Shingle Creek, 9939 Universal Blvd.
Orlando Florida, USA

Scan to secure your spot before it's gone!

Brought to you by:

hola@eastwestconference.com 321.626.4793

Breaking Barriers. Building Global Partnerships

PCCI

FPACC will also host a “Pitch & Partner” session, where small businesses and startups can pre-sent their ideas to investors and supporters.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Since its founding in 1996, FPACC has been a voice for Filipino American businesses. It started as a united effort of Filipino chambers of commerce in the U.S. and has grown into a federation with over 40 member chambers across the United States and beyond—including Canada, Italy, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Over the years, FPACC has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with important organizations like PCCI, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, New Clark City, PEZA, and Philippine Airlines, among others. These agreements help create real business opportunities for Filipino entrepreneurs in different industries, including agriculture, tourism, tech, and fashion.

In addition to trade, FPACC also leads humanitarian missions in the Philippines. Past missions have helped communities in Oriental Mindoro, Davao, Leyte, and Iloilo with health services, food, and school supplies.

CONFERENCE LOCATION: ROSEN SHINGLE CREEK

The event will be held at Rosen Shingle Creek, one of Orlando’s most luxurious hotels. Located just minutes away from major theme parks and the airport, it offers beautiful scenery, relaxing amenities, and great conference facilities. It’s the perfect place for business and bonding.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS MAY 15

The early bird registration deadline was May 15, 2025. By registering early, attendees save money and reserve their spots for popular events and networking sessions.

Whether you’re a small business owner, an investor, a professional, or someone who simply wants to help build a better future for the Filipino community, this conference is for you.

JOIN US IN ORLANDO THIS JUNE TO BE PART OF A POWERFUL MOVEMENT IN GLOBAL FILIPINO BUSINESS.

• *Conference Dates:*
June 19–22, 2025

• *Venue:*
Rosen Shingle Creek,
Orlando, Florida

• *Register:*
www.fpaccunited.com

• *Inquiries:*
info@fpaccunited.com

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BUILDING BRIDGES: *Uniting Chamber, Strengthening Communities*

In an increasingly interconnected world, the strength of a community lies in its ability to come together, embrace collaboration, and drive progress. Building Bridges: Uniting Chamber, Strengthening Communities embodies this spirit by emphasizing the essential role chambers of commerce play in fostering unity, economic growth, and social cohesion.

At the heart of every thriving region is a chamber that serves as a bridge—linking businesses, government entities, nonprofit organizations, and residents. Through strategic partnerships and inclusive initiatives, chambers help break down barriers, amplify diverse voices, and build trust among stakeholders. These bridges are not merely symbolic; they are the infrastructure for innovation, advocacy, and opportunity.

Uniting the chamber means creating a space where all members—regardless of industry, size, or background—feel valued and engaged. This unity enhances the chamber’s collective voice, enabling it to advocate more effectively for policies that drive sustainable growth and support local entrepreneurs.

Strengthening communities goes hand-in-hand with this mission. As chambers lead efforts in workforce development, education, and civic engagement, they empower individuals and businesses to thrive together. When communities are strong, they attract investment, nurture talent, and provide a high quality of life for all.

Uniting the chamber means creating a space where all members—regardless of industry, size, or background—feel valued and engaged.

This theme is a call to action: to connect across differences, align our efforts, and work toward shared prosperity. Together, by building bridges, we are shaping a future where chambers are catalysts of unity—and communities are built to last.

A portrait of Mairama 'May' Deza-Dominguez, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a light-colored off-the-shoulder top. She is resting her chin on her hand. The background is a soft, light purple.

Mairama 'May' **DEZA-DOMINGUEZ**

- EMPOWERED LEADER
- REAL ESTATE VISIONARY
- CHAMPION OF WOMEN & CULTURE

MAIRAMA 'MAY' DEZA-DOMINGUEZ

MAIRAMA "MAY" DEZA-DOMINGUEZ is a dynamic Filipino-American leader whose journey blends business excellence, heart-led service, and cultural pride.

Born in Iloilo City, Philippines on September 24, 1965, May is the eldest of seven siblings. Her father, Aladin Deza (deceased), was from Dumangas, Iloilo City, and her mother, Daisy Estrabon Lozada, is a native of Lambunao, Iloilo City. She completed her elementary and high school education at the University of San Agustin, graduating in 1977 and 1981, respectively. With hard work and determination, she became a grants-in-aid scholar of the University of the Philippines, allowing her to pursue her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, major in Accounting, at the University of the Philippines Visayas—Class of 1985.

Prior to graduating, May became an apprentice at the Philippine National Bank (PNB), which paved the way for her to

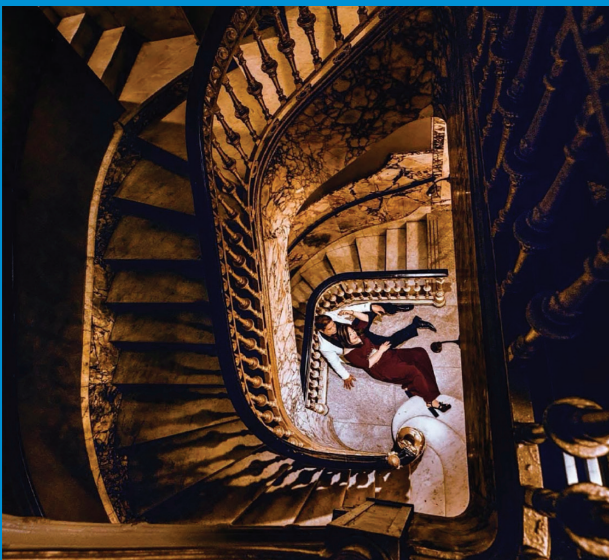


work full-time at PNB after graduation. She served the bank with dedication for 14 years before migrating to the United States—an experience that strengthened her foundation in finance, professionalism, and leadership.

With a deep sense of duty and love for her family, May became the breadwinner at an early age, working hard to support them and create a better life—an early experience that shaped her resilience, empathy, and drive. With over three decades of experience, she has become a respected force in real estate and community empowerment across both the U.S. and the Philippines. With the guidance of my mentor, Ellen Abellera, she has become someone deeply committed to serving and uplifting the community.

A licensed Real Estate Broker since 1993, May brought her thriving career to the United States in 1999. Through dedication and perseverance, she became an Associate

Turn to next page >>>





May Deza Dominguez' with her family.



Broker by 2003, and in 2020, she founded her own firm, MDP Realty—a remarkable achievement launched during the heart of the global pandemic.

As the current President of the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, she leads transformative programs that promote entrepreneurship, economic opportunity, and cross-cultural collaboration in the region. The FCCPNW, in collaboration with partner organizations, supports the outreach mission of the Philippine Consulate in San Francisco.

Her influence also spans the creative and cultural world—from organizing international fashion tours and landmark concerts, to co-producing global events and collaborating with Miss Universe Philippines. As the founder of Colors N Bloom, a nonprofit organization that uplifts women and youth through pageantry, leadership, and empowerment programs,



MDP Realty is a real estate company that May Deza-Dominguez launched during the global pandemic in 2020.



Colors N Bloom is a nonprofit organization that uplifts women and youth through pageantry, leadership, and empowerment programs.



Our mission is to provide personalized and convenient healthcare services that prioritize your well-being and improve your quality of life.

May continues to create spaces where dreams are nurtured, and voices are heard.

She is currently connected as District Director of Visiting Doctors Management of Washington, working alongside Dr. Marylou Oro—whom she met through the international trade initiatives of FPACC. May continues to support and help in Consular Outreach Missions in Washington State under the San Francisco Consulate team.

A mentor, connector, and tireless advocate, May leads with both vision and heart. Her story honors the spirit of the “East Meets West” movement—bridging tradition and innovation, heritage and progress, the past and a better future.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” — Eleanor Roosevelt

#AlwaysBeKind — because kindness is not just what she believes in, it is how she leads.



48th Philippine Business Conference & Expo

The Philippines is ready and open for business



Dr. Marylou Oro, owner of VDMW; May Dominguez; Atty. Marlene Gonzales, Immigration Attorney; and Chavha Israel.



With Senator John Lovick and Karen Lovick at the Colors N Bloom launching.



With my esteemed mentor, Fil-Am REACT President Ellen Abellera, and the Honorable Consul General Neil Ferrer.



With Jonas Gaffud, Miss Universe Philippines National Director.



The Filipino Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest



MISSION *and* VISION

To empower Filipino American and under-represented entrepreneurs in the Pacific Northwest by fostering innovation, providing resources, and creating opportunities for economic success both locally and globally.

We aim for a future where Filipino American and under-represented entrepreneurs in the Pacific Northwest lead the way in innovation and business success, locally and globally, promoting economic growth for our communities.



**The Filipino Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest**

FCCPNW OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON



MAY DEZA DOMINGUEZ

*President of Filipino Chamber
of Commerce of the Pacific
Northwest,
CEO of MDP Realty,
District Director of Visiting Doctors
Mgt of Washington
Empowered Leader, Real Estate
Visionary, Champion of Women &
Culture*

Dear FCCPNW Members,
Partners, and Community,

It is an honor to serve as the President of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest (FCCPNW). Our chamber stands as a pillar of empowerment, collaboration, and economic growth for Filipino entrepreneurs and professionals across our region.

At FCCPNW, our mission is clear: to uplift and support our business community by providing valuable resources, networking opportunities, and advocacy. We believe in fostering an environment where businesses—small and large—can thrive, innovate, and expand their reach. Through our workshops, business forums, and strategic partnerships, we aim to equip our members with the tools and connections they need to succeed in today's competitive market.

More than just business, FCCPNW is about community. It is about celebrating our rich Filipino heritage while embracing the future with confidence and resilience. As we move forward, I invite you all to be active participants in shaping the future of our chamber. Whether you are an entrepreneur, a corporate leader, or someone looking to grow professionally, FCCPNW is here to support you.

I look forward to working together to build a stronger, more vibrant Filipino business community in the Pacific Northwest. Thank you for your trust and commitment to our shared success.

Mairama Dominguez
President, Filipino Chamber
of Commerce of the Pacific
Northwest (FCCPNW)



VINCE TOVES

*Vice President, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce of the
Pacific Northwest Technology
Management graduate from the
University of Washington with a
strong background in tech and
innovation.*



GALILEO TAN

*Secretary, Filipino Chamber of
Commerce of the Pacific Northwest
Business Deposits Services Manager
at Sound Credit Union.*



MAILENE SMITH

*Treasurer, Filipino Chamber
of Commerce of the Pacific
Northwest, Experienced in
financial management and
accounting, ensuring fiscal
responsibility and transparency
for the Chamber.*



ARLENE PEREZ
Auditor, Filipino Chamber
of Commerce of the Pacific
Northwest,
CEO of AAPerez
Bookkeeping Solutions.



The Filipino Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest



JET CASTRO
President Emeritus, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce of
the Pacific Northwest ,
CEO of Solutions Resource
and Bountiply.



JHEMA LUCAS
Board Member, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest,
Financial professional
at Strategem Financial
Associates and pageant
advocate.

FCCPNW OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON



ALEX ROLLUDA
Board Member, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest,
Owner and CEO
of Rolluda Architects.



PITA CASTRO
Board Member, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest,
Finance Manager at
Solutions Resource.



MARY VILLASIN-TU'IFUA
Board Member, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce of the
Pacific Northwest,
AFH Consultant and CEO
Services Director at Elder Village
Partners.



SALLY ESMENA
Board Member, Filipino
Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest,
Founder of Beautè Me
Skincare



DORCAS OLEGARIO serves as a Board Member of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, CEO-Majestic Productions LLC



FRANCIS FRANCO Board Member, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, Founder of Franco Financial Strategies, LLC



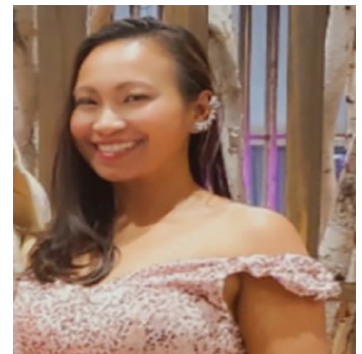
MARICRES VALDEZ CASTRO Membership Ambassador, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, City of Tacoma Commissioner for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Former Miss Tacoma, Washington.



NICOLE PEREZ LIPA Youth Ambassador, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest Miss Universe Philippines 2025 representative for Ilocos Sur and Filipino Society of Washington State



The Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest



JESIBEL TRUELOVE Public Relations Officer, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest.

FCCPNW OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON



VINCE & GIANINA GISELLE DOMINGUEZ Chairpersons of Community Resources and Research, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, Founders of BizCulture



MARY CHARMAINE GODINO (MARY CHAVEZ) AND PAOLO FRANCISCO, Director of Marketing Strategy & Project Management – E-Kings Company (UK & USA) and CEO of Charms & Paolo



MICHELLE FADERA wellness advocate, business coach, and event producer. She leads Dimond Dotted Line NW, and MPowerNation, and serves as Secretary of the Filipino-American Scholarship Fund.



The Filipino Chamber of Commerce
of the Pacific Northwest

PAST PRESIDENTS AND BOARD OFFICERS AWARDEES OF FCCPNW INSTALLATION (January 16, 2025)



BERT GOLLA

Presidential Adviser, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, Founder at Golla CPA Services



ALEX BORROME0

President and Board Advisor, United Diversity Organization, Inc.



DR. ANTHONY OGILVIE

President Emeritus Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest



ROY NUDO

Former Board Member, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest & CEO of Sazan Group Inc.



ALEX ROLLUDA

Board Member, Filipino Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest, Owner and CEO of Rolluda Architects

NEW FCCPNW CORPORATE MEMBERS



ATTORNEY MARLENE F. GONZALEZ
US JOURNEY
IMMIGRATION SERVICES

Many Filipinos want to live the American dream and not everyone gets to realize it. Immigration lawyer Atty. Marlene Gonzalez' primary goal is to help and provide awareness to her kababayans both in the Philippines and abroad, especially the abused Filipinas in the US. She mentions her mantra is being an instrument to helping clients, and that she doesn't want her attorney's fees to be a hindrance to that commitment.





FEATURED DESIGNER

JEAN PISO

The Featured Designer for the FPACC Gala, Jean Pioso is an international fashion designer and founder of Mahal Kita Global Foundation. Known for her couture, Filipiniana, jewelry, and eco-friendly footwear made in the Philippines, her work has been featured at Paris and New York Fashion Weeks, the Oscars, Miss Universe, and Cannes.

FEATURED MODELS OF JEAN AMOUR COLLECTION



MARICRES CASTRO
Ms. Tacoma, Washington



SUSAN CHIN
Mrs. Supermodel Worldwide 2024



KIARA LANDON
Miss Earth Finalist 2025



FILIPINO AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NORTH CAROLINA

4th Anniversary

Gala & Awards Night

*Honoring Successful Businesses,
Professionals,
and Individual Achievements*

INVOLVE. EMPOWER. CONNECT.



FILAMCCNC

*Saturday,
November 22, 2025*

- ★ 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Red Carpet Arrival & Reception
- ★ 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM | Dinner, Guest Speaker, Awards Ceremony & Fashion Show
- ★ 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM | Raffles, 50/50 Draw, and Dancing

*Floor-length gown or Filipiniana for women
Suit, Tuxedo, or Barong Tagalog for men*

TICKETS \$100

**VIP TABLE
(10 SEATS NEAR THE STAGE)
\$1,500**

DINNER * ENTERTAINMENT * AWARDS * FASHION SHOW * DANCING

PREPAID TICKETS ONLY BY OCTOBER 20TH. AN ADDITIONAL \$25 FEE APPLIES AFTER THE DEADLINE.

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FOR SPONSORSHIP EMAIL: FILAMCCNC@GMAIL.COM

Empowering FILIPINO ENTERPRISES *in a Global Market*

In an increasingly interconnected world, the global market presents both a challenge and an opportunity for Filipino enterprises. With a rich pool of talent, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit, the Philippines stands poised to expand its economic footprint beyond its borders. Empowering Filipino enterprises to compete and thrive globally requires a multifaceted approach—one that emphasizes innovation, quality, sustainability, and strategic support.

At the heart of this empowerment lies the promotion of a globally competitive mindset. Filipino entrepreneurs must be encouraged to think beyond traditional markets, embracing digital transformation and aligning their products and services with international standards. This means investing in upskilling the workforce, improving infrastructure, and fostering a culture of excellence and adaptability.

Government support plays a crucial role through policies that ease doing business, enhance access to financing, and facilitate international trade. Programs like the Department of Trade and Industry's (DTI) Go Lokal! and export development initiatives are already paving the way by giving local businesses a global stage.

Equally important is the collaboration between the private sector, academe, and civil society to build resilient ecosystems that nurture startups and MSMEs. Access to technology, mentorship, and global partnerships can help Filipino enterprises scale effectively and sustainably.

Empowering Filipino enterprises for the global market isn't just about economic growth—it's about showcasing the Philippines' innovation, resilience, and cultural richness to the world. By investing in our entrepreneurs, we create a future where Filipino products, services, and ideas make a lasting mark on the global stage.



Empowering Filipino enterprises for the global market isn't just about economic growth—it's about showcasing the Philippines' innovation, resilience, and cultural richness to the world.



#PHILIPPINES 2025 Global Business Club

**CREATE MORE:
MAKING INVESTMENTS HAPPEN
IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Strategic Incentives,
Boundless Opportunities for Investors

Photo credit: DTI

rolludaarchitects
architecture planning interior design



FCCPNW PRESENTS

2025 Annual Summer

GOLF TOURNAMENT

BUSINESS NETWORKING

SÄZÄN GROUP



BEAUTÉ ME



Majestic Productions
PNA Emerald City

SATURDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER

**WASHINGTON NATIONAL GOLF CLUB
(AUBURN, WA)**

7:30 AM PST

PRICE

Early Bird \$160

Take advantage of the early bird discount until June 30th. Join now to secure a spot and save money from the original price of \$175.



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JOIN NOW
www.fccpnw.org



IT'S A NEW DAY FOR **Health Care** AND **Technology**

By LORNA LARDIZABAL DIETZ

On May 6, 2025, the Health Horizons Summit brought together community leaders, healthcare professionals, small business owners, and government officials at AHMC Seton Medical Center in Daly City.

Co-hosted by the San Francisco Filipino American Chamber of Commerce and AHMC Seton, the event was part of San Francisco Small Business Week. It highlighted how healthcare, business, and community are deeply connected—and how new tools like Artificial Intelligence (AI) are helping improve health care for everyone.

One of the summit's highlights was a talk by Tim Schulze, Associate Chief Operating Officer of AHMC Seton. He spoke about the hospital's efforts to improve care for Daly City and nearby neighborhoods. He reminded the audience that supporting small businesses also means supporting better health. "Jobs help people afford care," he said. "And many local businesses provide health services too. You can't have healthy communities without healthy businesses."

A major focus was the transformation of AHMC Seton's Emergency Department (ER). Nine months ago, under the leadership of Jacqueline Maturan, RN-BSN, MBA-HA,

TNCC, the ER became faster, friendlier, and more efficient. Many residents had assumed it was closed, but Jacqueline cleared up the misunderstanding: "We are open 24/7, fully staffed, and ready to care for anyone who comes through our doors."

She explained how the hospital hired more multi-lingual nurses and launched a Fast Track system to see patients with less serious conditions in under 30 minutes. The upgraded ER also includes in-house lab and radiology services. Jacqueline showed data proving that patient satisfaction has increased since the changes. "I invite you to visit our ER and see how we care for our community," she said.

Another key topic was how AI is changing healthcare. Kathleen Rose Reyes, a San Francisco wound care nurse and founder of Wound Scan AI, presented her new health tech tool. It uses AI to help nurses check and measure wounds more quickly and accurately. "Right now, nurses spend a lot of time doing paperwork," she said. "With AI, they'll have more time to care for patients directly."

Dr. Herminigildo Valle, a wound care expert at AHMC Seton, talked about the dangers of untreated wounds—especially for people with diabetes. He said Filipino

Americans are at higher risk, which can lead to complications like amputations. "With proper care and modern tools, many of these problems can be prevented," he said. "AHMC Seton is leading the way."

Dr. Tom Feeney, Chief of Cardiology at AHMC Seton, discussed using advanced tools to detect and treat heart disease. While heart attacks remain a leading health concern, new treatments are helping patients recover faster and live longer. "The key," he said, "is catching heart problems early—even before symptoms appear."

Throughout the afternoon, speakers stressed the importance of teamwork. Daly City Councilmembers Juslyn Manalo and Teresa Proaño, Mayor Rod Daus-Magbual, and San Mateo County Supervisor David Canepa attended to show their support. Local business sponsors like Redwood Credit Union and OpenClassRooms spoke about how they support job training and small business growth.

Other sessions focused on supplier diversity, fair contracting, and community wellness. These programs give small businesses and culture-driven entrepreneurs opportunities to grow while improving health through caregiving, advocacy, and innovation. Attorney Patrick Hall, Chair of Rotacare Northern Peninsula Free Medical Clinic, shared how his clinic helps fill healthcare access gaps.

Guests also enjoyed food and refreshments from sponsors like Seafood City and Heavenly Ice Cream. Other partners—including SuccessLink Outsourcing and Veewz—were also acknowledged for their support.

The Health Horizons Summit was more than just a learning event. It was a celebration of progress—and a look at what's possible when healthcare, technology, and business come together. As Jacqueline Maturan said, "Daly City is my home, and I want to help take care of it."

At the Health Horizons Summit, from left to right: Felicia Leong, CEO, Daly City Chamber of Commerce; Daly City Councilmembers Juslyn Manalo and Teresa Proaño; Daly City Mayor Rod Daus-Magbual; Tom Feeney, MD, Chair of Cardiology, AHMC Seton Medical Center; San Mateo County Supervisor David Canepa; and Tim Schulze, Associate Chief Operating Officer, AHMC Seton Medical Center.



chamber matters

An update on business news, developments and events from The Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Nevada (FACCGN).

by: **JOEL ENRIQUEZ**, President



Join us and be part of the chamber that loves small businesses. Log in to our website <https://www.faccgn.org/> Or email us at info@faccgn.org

TINDAHAN A Post Event Report

On a warm Tuesday evening in Las Vegas, something extraordinary unfolded along Maryland Parkway—something that felt both like a homecoming and a quiet revolution.

TINDAHAN—the Tagalog word for store—was more than just a pop-up market. Held at Mang Felix Kitchen, located in the heart of newly designated Filipino Town, the event was a vibrant convergence of community, commerce, and cultural storytelling. Organized by the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Nevada (FACCGN), this culminating event for Filipino Food Month brought together local vendors, community allies, and cultural advocates under one roof.

From traditional and stylized Filipiniana and reproduction antique gold jewelry to sustainable bamboo utensils and proudly Pinoy pantry staples, the vendor tables told a larger story of Filipino ingenuity and identity. Each product had a tale to tell—of heritage passed down, of migration and adaptation, of bold dreams brought to life through small business.

But perhaps the most powerful stories that evening came from the women seated at the center stage for the Fireside Chat and second launch of the book, *WOMEN OF IMPACT: Stories From The Women Of Las Vegas*. Featuring several of the book's authors and contributors, this intimate segment drew the audience in, offering a window into the lives of Filipina leaders,



TINDAHAN'S Special Display located at the venue entrance featured an arresting collection of traditional Filipino utensils and objet d' arts associated with cooking and food preparation, as a fitting tribute to the Filipino Food month celebration in Las Vegas.

entrepreneurs, educators, and creatives shaping the Southern Nevada landscape.

The atmosphere was celebratory yet soulful—anchored by raffle prizes from participating Filipino restaurants, a serving of classic Halo-Halo, and a collective sense that something new was blooming in this corridor of the city. This was not just a pop-up—it was a marker of momentum.

As our community continues to grow, TINDAHAN reminded us that markets are more than transactions—they're traditions reimaged, spaces of belonging, and springboards for the future.

25 vetted vendors, with a good balance of products and services. Product categories included books, FilipinoTown magazine, art, Philippine sourced coffee, pastries, Filipiniana wear, jewellery (gold and pearls), sustainable tableware and utensils. Services included health care, realtors and affordable mortgages.

About 250 guests in attendance led by Clark County Commissioner Tick Segerblom, representative of the office of NV Gov. Joe Lombardo, Sonny Vinuya, officers and members of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations, the Cavite Association of Nevada, Filipino American Media Association, and the FilipinoTown Executive Committee.

Happy guests, satisfied vendors, inquiring "when is the next one?"



THE CREATIVE PLANT launched disposable party ware with banana leaf print and were displayed with strong graphic references. **THE KAMAYAN PAPER PLATES** are culturally referenced, practical and hygenic.



RAM NIEVERA's setting for his artworks featured a fresh garden like installation by Magnolia Magat.



DENISE MAYANG WONG presented her original painting of a **KAMAYAN** feast together with a limited print edition making it affordable art.



BABAYLAN BREWS' counter display did not show coffee because they have a kiosk inside Mang Felix, but it surely referenced the coffee beans' origin in Bohol, Philippines. Heirloom salt (**ASIN TIBUOK**) used in their coffee with caramel sea-salt.



CIRIMILLE FAYE PAGLINAWAN of **CMC BOUTIQUE** knew her stylized **VENUS** Filipiniana wear would be a hit among young Filipinas.



Artist **RAM RIVERSA** was kept busy by guests wanting an on-the-spot illustration by him. The finished artwork always brought smiles of approval.



CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONER TICK SEGERBLOM was introduced to vendors as he patiently engaged with each one, guided by Margie Gonzales who was instrumental in inviting the commissioner to the event..



SPECIAL GUEST MARTIN NIEVERA joined the women authors in a photo-op together with Book Publisher Gloria Caoile, Editor Esmeralda Padilla-Gould, and Book Designer Olive Enriquez of Luna Design.



Olivia Enriquez

Sisig to Sinigang.

Inside the Las Vegas Filipino Food Crawl

What do you get when you mix sinigang, karaoke, and a Google map lit up with lumpia-laden pit stops? A tropical-dessert-meets-comfort-food culinary crawl like no other. Welcome to the Las Vegas Filipino Food Crawl—a joyous, full-belly adventure celebrating the second official Filipino Food Month in Las Vegas, served hot and heartfelt with a side of community pride. Backed by the Presidential Proclamation No. 469 in 2018—yes, there's a law for this deliciousness—this crawl is a tribute to *Buwan ng Kalutong Pilipino*, a month-long salute to Filipino cuisine, culture, and creativity... one sizzling plate at a time.

Welcome to the Las Vegas Filipino Food Crawl—a full-belly adventure celebrating the second official Filipino Food Month in Las Vegas, backed by the Philippine Department of Trade and Industry and anchored in law by Presidential Proclamation No. 469 in 2018, which made April the official “*Buwan ng Kalutong Pilipino*”.

Now, let's get one thing straight—this isn't your average food crawl where influencers pose next to overpriced sliders. No, no. This is where crispy pata meets karaoke, where you bring your



aunties, titos, even the cousin who just came from Cebu with a balikbayan box still half full of dried mangoes. It's food with a mission—and a side of bagoong.

SO, WHAT EXACTLY IS A FOOD CRAWL?

The term “food crawl” is borrowed

The Participating Restaurants:

- Truffles N Bacon
- Full House BBQ
- Evergreen Coffee
- Max's Restaurant
- Tiabi Coffee & Waffle
- Mountain West Eatery
- Mang Felix Kitchen
- Manila BBQ
- Winnie & Ethel's
- Antidote
- Tambayan
- Palate
- Rang's Cocina Moderne
- Blooming Buns Bakery
- Gyu +
- Fuku Burger
- Moignet
- Aloha Kitchen
- and more to come

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THESE RESTAURANTS, SCAN THE QR CODE



from the equally ambitious) but often less savory) “pub crawl. Only here, instead of bar-hopping, you restaurant-hop. Filipino Americans, never to be outdone in anything involving food or fun, have upgraded the idea into a full-blown cultural buffet. Crawling in this context means exploring—plate by plate, town by town, or in our case, Maryland Parkway to Henderson—with an unrelenting appetite and perhaps stretchy pants and antacids.

In true Pinoy fashion, it’s not just about eating. It’s about eating together. Loudly. Dramatically. With lots of *“Uy, tikman mo ito!”* and *“Saan ba ang susunod na stop?”*

A SALUTE TO A CULTURAL CORRIDOR

This year’s food crawl also tips its hat to the growing cultural designation of the Maryland Parkway corridor—from Flamingo Road to Desert Inn—an area that’s about to become **“Filipino Town”** in Las Vegas. It’s where you’ll find Seafood City, a community anchor where shopping turns into social hour. And right alongside it: Jollibee with its legendary Chickenjoy, Red Ribbon’s silky ube cakes, Chow King’s mami, and halo-halo haven, Magnolia Ice Cream, keeping Pinoy summer cravings alive all year long.

This cluster of iconic Filipino brands don’t just serve food—it serves identity, nostalgia, and the taste of home for thousands of Filipinos in the valley. And intrinsically, wherever there are Filipinos.

WHY NOW?

Filipino Food Month is a relatively new celebration stateside but gain-

BAHAY BUKO
FILIPINO FOOD MONTH LAS VEGAS 2025

Filipino Food Crawl

April 15-28, 2025 at the following restaurant venues

Dine at **four or more** participating restaurants during the event, and get a chance to win **\$50 gift cards** from any of them.

in cooperation with the Filipino Food Movement

In these uncertain times, food is more than nourishment—it’s redemption and a coping mechanism. It’s a reminder that even when the world feels out of sorts, we can find comfort in our shared heritage and a hearty meal. By joining the food crawl, you’re supporting innovative, creative businesses and strengthening a local ecosystem that includes everyone from ingredient suppliers to the dedicated workforce behind these culinary gems.

ing steam— especially in foodie cities like Vegas, where the Filipino population is over 220,000 strong and proud. It’s the perfect pre-game to **AAPI Heritage Month in May**, and on May 17- 18 at the Craig Ranch Regional Park, the Fiesta Extravaganza kicks off. In June, our very own Philippine Independence Day on June 12, giving Filipino cuisine the spotlight with all the depth, humor, and the bite it brings to the table. **Basta kain tao!**

The Las Vegas Filipino Food Restaurant is a Movement. *Kain pa more!*



The final destination is Tindahan on April 29, where the crawl culminates in a festive finale at the marketplace for FilAm products and services. Not only do you stand a chance to win a \$50 dining gift certificate from any of your favorite participating restaurants, but you also become part of a broader mission.

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Left to right, seated: Olive Enriquez, Pearl Parmelee, Magnolia Magat, Jose Enriquez, Walbert Castillo and Joel Enriquez.

This event is a proud initiative of the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Nevada (FAC-CGN). The Chamber's mission goes beyond celebration; it's about advocacy and sustainable growth for FilAm food businesses.

With an eye on the long view, FAC-CGN is spearheading the formation of the Filipino American Restaurant Association, a coalition designed to unite chefs, restaurateurs, and industry innovators. They're also developing a comprehensive learning program complete with certifications and standards for food business operations – ensuring our kitchens not only serve unforgettable dishes today but thrive tomorrow.

SO, WHAT'S THE TAKEAWAY?

Yes, explore as many restaurants as you can on the Food Crawl. Savor every bite, every laugh, and every shared story at these vibrant stops. And remember, make sure to be at Tindahan on April 29 – the culminating event where the culinary celebration meets community spirit in a marketplace pulsing with FilAm pride.

In Las Vegas this April, let every bit be a salute to our heritage, every smile a nod to our resilience, and every

shared plate a step toward a future where Filipino food takes its rightful place at the American table.

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE PLATE: HOW IT ALL STARTED

Like all great Filipino stories, this one started over food.

It was last year, in February at the window-table at Full House BBQ, where three community movers – Pearl Parmelee, Olive Enriquez, and Joel Enriquez – shared more than just a platter of sizzling barbecue. They talked about possibilities. About how Las Vegas, with its booming Filipino population and vibrant local flavors, could become part of the growing global Filipino Food Movement.

As the sisig sizzled and ideas sparked, the conversation turned to Filipino Food Month, a national observance in the Philippines that hadn't yet found footing in Nevada. With community and cultural development always top of mind, the trio brought their vision to the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Nevada, where Magnolia Magat and Walbert Castillo didn't hesitate – they jumped in with full heart and fork. Then several Zoom meetings ensued with Sonia Delen, Pearl Parmelee, Keesa Ocampo and PJ Quesada, directors of the Filipino Food Movement give their nod to the FACCGN as the Nevada chapter.

The result? Las Vegas' first-ever Filipino Food Month celebration was launched in 2024 with 15 participating restaurant, a major social media campaign that reached over 400,000 people, and 524 enthusiastic food crawlers who explored, posted, tagged, shared – and ate their way into history.

WAS IT WORTH IT?

Absolutely. The buzz was real. The impact was measurable. The appetite was insatiable. And now, we're back – bigger, bolder, and hungrier than ever.

WHAT MAKES FILIPINO CUISINE UNIQUE?

What is it about Filipino food that truly makes it unique and delightfully tasty?

Just as the Filipino is a product of cultures; a true embodiment of East meets West, the same can be said about its cuisine. The diversity, character, and geography of the far remote islands collectively contributed to making its cuisine unique and special.

Each dish in Philippine cuisine reflects the people, history, and culture of a region, city, or island. Philippine cuisine is a direct fusion of indigenous ingredients, flavors, and outside influence. That is why Filipino cuisine brings a unique experience to the table.

Filipino food is a mixture of sweet, salty, tangy and sour. Hearty stews, grilled and fried meats and seafood, spicy coconut milk-based regional dishes, vegetables with fermented shrimp and fish sauce, and the popular Filipino street food all make up Filipino cuisine with its heavy use of onion, garlic, ginger, vinegar, soy sauce, and fish sauce.

Among the flavors, sourness is the most common. Sourcing is done through the use of souring fruit agents like tamarind or guava, or processes like fermentation. While there are not many spices homegrown in the Philippines, the flavor profile consists primarily of garlic, onion, and ginger.

Meticulous preparation and extended cooking time are also characteristic of most Filipino dishes. The trick is to let each flavor have its way without having to blend producing that mélange of sweet, salty, and tangy tastes.

Filipino dishes are not just full of flavor, they are colorful and have an enticing aroma. Being in a Filipino kitchen is a full sensory experience from smell, taste, sight, texture, and sound. Food is a love language for many Filipinos that brings together not only the whole family but extended family members as well.



THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

America's Most Scenic Area

Arguably America's most scenic area, The Pacific Northwest's expansive plains, mountains, rainforests, rugged beaches, volcanoes,

and abundant wildlife will inspire your next road trip. Here are some of the destinations that should belong to your bucket list.

OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK, WASHINGTON



Cape Flattery in Olympic National Park, Washington.

Olympic National Park is in the Northeast corner of Washington State and protects 922,651 acres of wildlife and breathtaking scenery. This national park is home to three entirely different ecosystems: temperate rainforests, the rugged coast and the glacier-topped mountains.

THE OREGON COASTLINE



Haystack Rock, Cannon Beach along The Oregon Coastline.

The Oregon Coast is famous for its jaw-dropping sea stacks, coastal adventures and its incredible beaches. There are 363 miles of dramatic coastline to explore. Before heading to the coast, you may want to explore the city and enjoy Portland's distinctive hipster scene. With alternative dining spots all over the city, you'll be spoilt for choice.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Pikes Place Market, Seattle waterfront, Washington

The iconic skyline, the World's Fair, and the exciting and delicious coffee culture are just some of the many reasons people visit Seattle. Pike Place Market is full of vibrance and buzz, while Ballard's quirky neighborhood along the waterfront offers trendy restaurants, stylish indie and vintage shops and craft breweries.

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK, OREGON



Crater Lake, Oregon

One of the most stunning scenes on earth. The giant cliffs reach over 600 metres high, surrounding the brilliant blue Lake, which reaches depths of nearly 600 metres; in other words, this Lake is huge! The mesmerising crater was created by a collapsed volcano that erupted more than 7,700 years ago. There are no inflow or outflow streams; the freshwater comes only from snow or rainfall.

LEAVENWORTH, WASHINGTON



Front street, main street in Leavenworth and it is lined with Bavarian shops, restaurants, parks, breweries and more.

This picturesque Bavarian town has been voted one of Conde Nast Travellers '28 Most Beautiful Towns in America'. Deep in the North Cascade Mountains, this small town is just off the Cascades Loop, Leavenworth is a popular Christmas destination, this town is excellent all year round, hosting its own Oktoberfest.

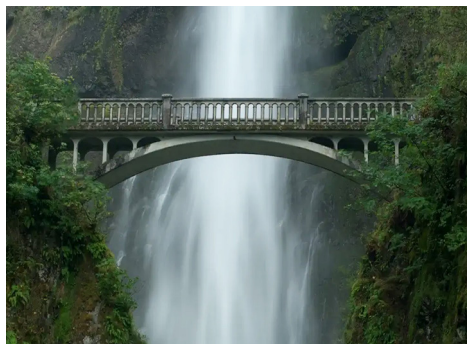
MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK



Mount Rainier, Washington

Mount Rainier is a giant icon amid the Washington Landscape. Standing at 4,410 metres above sea level, Mount Rainier is an active volcano topped with glaciers which feed into five major rivers.

MULTNOMAH FALLS, WASHINGTON



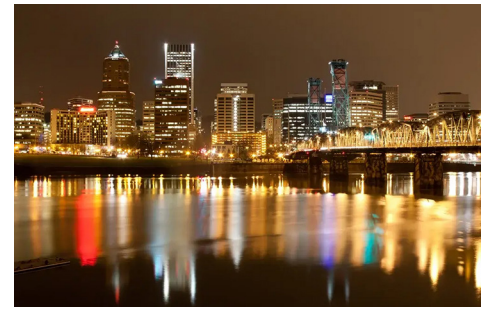
The highest waterfall in the Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls, is an excellent stop along your road trip and certainly makes a perfect photo opportunity.

WINTHROP, WASHINGTON



Winthrop's small main street is built like an old western town with wooden sidewalks where you wander in and out of quaint, touristy shops,

PORTLAND, OREGON



Portland Skyline, Oregon

Portland is Oregon's largest city, brimming with a cool coffee culture and a refined taste for a craft brew! Natural beauty is abundant in Portland, with leafy parks dotted all over and snow-capped Mount Hood watching over the city.

FORKS, OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK



Olympic National Park, Washington

Take note of the 'Vampire count' signs and the small mythical nods as you drive to this small US town, especially on a grey and drizzly day. Forks is well known for being the setting of Stephenie Meyer's 'Twilight' Series.

This tiny, western-themed town is well worth a visit. You'll get an authentic cowboy feel as you walk along the antique boardwalks. Browse the fabulous boutiques in addition to the many restaurants along the way.



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