



Calendar of Events

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Articles Inside:

- ★ CAPA ELECTS 4 OFFICERS AND 5 DIRECTORS
- ★ CAPA APPEALS FOR FUND DONATIONS TO TYPHOON VICTIMS IN THE PHILIPPINES
- ★ CAPA NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARS AWARD
- ★ SPLENDOR OF THE EAST 2014: GROUPS NOW FINALIZING THEIR DANCE NUMBERS
- ★ MAPAAC CHAIRMAN URGES PUBLIC TO CONTRIBUTE TO RELIEF DRIVE FOR TYPHOON VICTIMS IN THE PHILIPPINES

CAPA elects 4 officers and 5 directors

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) elected last Nov. 6 four officers and five members of the board of directors. The election was held at the Philippine American Community Center of Michigan (PACCM) in Southfield.

The newly elected officers are Aneesa Rashid, president-elect; Becky Tungol, vice president; Pina Chhaya, executive director; and Jeff Vedula, assistant treasurer.

The five new members of CAPA's board of directors are Theresa Tran, Jenny Wang, Steven Shang, Ryan Rosario and Betsy Henry.

Two of the newly elected officers are Filipino-Americans. They are Tungol and Vedula, who are incumbent president and treasurer, respectively, of PACCM.

Two of the new board directors are also Filipino-Americans. They are Rosario and Henry, president and vice president, respectively, of the Filipino American Community Council (FILAMCCO).

New director Tran is the president of APIAVote-Michigan. A Vietnamese-American, Tran was elected in absentia.

CAPA appeals for fund donations to typhoon victims in the Philippines

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) has issued an appeal for fund donations to the hundreds of thousands of victims of super typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) that devastated the Eastern and Western Visayas Regions of the Philippines in the first week of November.

CAPA President Robert D. Riparip aired the call for donations to the Asian Pacific American community in Michigan.

The collected amount will be turned over to the Filamcco Foundation, the charity arm of the Filipino American Community Council, which has launched a Michigan-wide fund-raising campaign for the typhoon victims.

In a letter sent to various Asian Pacific American groups in Michigan, Riparip stated, "On behalf of the Council of Asian Pacific Americans, I am appealing for your monetary donation and prayers for all the victims. The monetary contributions will provide the much needed basic and essential items such as food, water and medicine to those affected by the disastrous typhoon."



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“Please consider making an online contribution (PayPal) at www.filamccomichigan.org or www.filamccomichigan.org/donate or send your check (payable to Filamcco Foundation) by regular mail to: FILAMCCO Foundation, 17356 Northland Park Court, Southfield, MI 48075.

The response to CAPA’s appeal was encouraging with many of the board members chipping in for the fund drive.

The appeal was echoed by the Epoch Time, a USA-based Chinese newspaper. Charlie Lu, Detroit office director of Epoch Time, stated in a letter to Riparip, “Our hearts and prayers are with the Philippine people who suffered the typhoon disaster.”

Earlier, CAPA also appealed for monetary donations for the victims of an Intensity 7 earthquake that hit Cebu and Bohol Provinces in Central Visayas, Philippines in October.

In a report to Riparip, CAPA Treasurer Phil Chan stated that CAPA had collected \$525 from the CAPA board members for the Philippine earthquake/typhoon victims.

The amount collected was \$525, and CAPA will match the amount and will send a check for \$1,025 to Filamcco Foundation.

CAPA now accepting applications for Scholars Award

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) is now accepting applications for its 2014 Scholars Award.

The prestigious Scholars Award was established by CAPA to encourage the educational advancement of APA youth in Michigan and to foster youth involvement and leadership in the APA community.

In a press statement, Adrienne Lim, chairperson of CAPA’s Education Committee, stated that the 2014 Scholars Award are intended for full-time high school seniors who will attend an institution of higher education in Michigan and who will continue to reside in Michigan.

Lim said that to be eligible for the Scholars Award, candidates must have Asian Pacific American (APA) heritage and should be willing to serve on CAPA’s Youth Committee so they could give back to the APA community.

The winner(s) will receive a \$1,000 Scholars Award at CAPA’s Splendor of the East reception in May 2014. The recipient(s) will be chosen by CAPA’s Education Committee, which will base its selection upon applicants’ potential to provide outstanding APA leadership and/or community service in Michigan.

To apply for the 2014 Scholars Award, eligible candidates must complete an application form available at CAPA website: www.capa-mi.org/scholars-award/

The deadline for the submission of applications is February 10, 2014. Completed application forms must be submitted by email to scholarsaward@capa-mi.org.

For more information, high school seniors interested in applying for the scholarship award may write to CAPA Education Committee at scholarsaward@capa-mi.org.

Splendor of the East 2014: Groups now finalizing their dance numbers

Asian Pacific American groups are now in the process of finalizing their dance numbers for the “Splendor of the East” (SOE) cultural presentation set on May 17, 2014 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center in Dearborn.

SOE is a major dance-musical produced every year by the Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA),

In an email sent to the choreographer, Toni Lee Martinez, CAPA cultural advisor and SOE production director, stated that January 14, 2014 is the tentative date for the review of all SOE presentations.

Earlier, Martinez met with the choreographers and dancers and discussed the proposed dance numbers for SOE.

The ethnic groups participating in the SOE are three Chinese groups (Troy troupe, Susan Qu and Ning, Korean, Filipino, Polynesian and Indian.

During the casting call meeting, the participating groups discussed their routine numbers and ideas.

The participants in the meeting agreed on the following:

- 1) Korean choreographer Sun Mi will collaborate with Susan Qu group on a Korean-Chinese medley;
- 2) Troy Chinese group will collaborate with Chinese and Taiwanese group on a dance routine.
- 3) Sun MI will choreograph another routine that will showcase the cultures of three countries -- Japanese/Korean/Chinese --



tapping performers from different groups;

- 4) Annabelle Cudilla and Aimee Calasara will work with a Filipino group on the presentation of dance numbers showcasing the cultures of two countries.

Martinez said the goal is to produce at least 10 to 12 routines.

She said more groups are welcomed to make presentation "as long as they will represent countries that are not among those already represented. These countries include those in the mid-eastern regions, Hmong, Vietnamese and Thai.

Martinez also said all participating groups must present their finished choreographed numbers by January.

MAPAAC chairman urges public to contribute to relief drive for typhoon victims in the Philippines

LANSING — Jamie Hsu, chairman of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC), has issued the following statement on Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines:

"The devastating super typhoon Haiyan ravaged the central Philippines last Friday (Nov. 8). As rescue workers struggled to reach survivors, news of the immense damage and loss of life is gradually coming to light.

"The death toll is estimated to exceed 5,000 people, over 630,000 have been forced out of their

homes, and more than 9.5 million have been affected.

"The members of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission wish to express our condolences and extend our prayers to the victims of this disaster and to the families of those who have been affected.

"The relief effort is under way, but aid agencies must contend with the complicated logistics of getting people and aid out to the affected areas. The disruption and damage to ports and airports and the inaccessibility of roads is making the effort extremely difficult. We encourage you to support relief efforts in any way you feel appropriate. Please note that when disasters like this occur, the victims are helped most by financial contributions to aid agencies rather than donations of consumer goods.

MAPAAC has compiled a list of agencies involved in the disaster relief efforts in the Philippines. Please share this information with your contacts and networks, and please consider making a charitable donation today."

The list of the agencies follows:

- 1) To contribute to the American Red Cross, visit www.redcross.org or call 1-800-helpnow.
- 2) Catholic Relief Services is accepting donations on its website as it deploys staff and supplies.
- 3) World Vision is providing food and water to evacuation shelters; donate at www.worldvision.org.

- 4) CARE has created a webpage specifically for donations toward Typhoon Haiyan.
- 5) Doctors Without Borders is dispatching medical teams to impacted areas. Visit www.doctorswithoutborders.org to contribute.
- 6) To donate to International Aid, visit www.internationalaid.org and click 'donate now'.
- 7) International Rescue Committee accepts donations at www.rescue.org
- 8) Oxfam America is deploying clean water and sanitation materials to the region. Donate to Oxfam America here.
- 9) Donate \$10 to The Salvation Army by texting 'TYPHOON' to 80888.
- 10) World Food Program USA is providing emergency food assistance. Click here to donate.
- 11) AARP: www.aarp.org/disasterr elief AARP will match 1:1 up to \$500,000 in donations.

MAPAAC was established to advance the full and equal participation of Asian and Pacific Americans in the building of a greater Michigan. The Commission, composed of 21 individuals appointed by the Governor, advises the Governor and state legislature on policy matters and serves Michigan's Asian and Pacific American population by promoting their development and welfare and recognizing their achievements. Each member of the commission has a specific interest or expertise in Asian or Pacific American concerns.



CAPA in Michigan P.O. Box 407, Northville, MI 48167

Council of Asian Pacific Americans

CAPA in Michigan

Diversity is our Strength

Please visit the website: www.capa-mi.org for more information
Public Relations/Media Contact, Pina Chhaya at pina@capa-mi.org

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