



NAFFAA NV CELEBRATES A POWERFUL AND JOYFUL 6TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AWARDS

By: Gloria T. Caoile

NaFFAA NV proudly hosted its 6th Annual Women's History Month Awards on Sunday, March 29, 2026, at the elegant Milan Ballroom of the M Resort Spa Casino -- and the afternoon was nothing short of extraordinary.

"This year's celebration honored five remarkable women whose leadership, service, and advocacy have strengthened and uplifted Filipino Americans and Asian Pacific American Hawaiian Islanders across Nevada. Their acceptance speeches were everything we hoped: succinct, heartfelt, and filled with gratitude, each one reflecting the pride they carry or their communities and

the responsibility they embrace as leaders," proudly states Dr. Michael Sta Juana, President, NaFFAA NV.

One of the highlights of the program was the Fireside Chat with the Awardees, a lively and inspiring conversation that revealed the depth of their journeys -- their challenges, their triumphs, and the values that guide their work. The audience was fully engaged, laughing, and applauding as each honoree shared insights that were both personal and universal.

And then came the moment that got folks applauding with additional joy and laughter -- Our GOOD GUY AWARD -- our awardee, honored for his steadfast support of women's leadership and community

empowerment -- was completely stunned when his name was announced. His family who thought they were attending solely to support another awardee, erupted in joyful surprise. The room lit up with cheers, laughter and a standing ovation that captured the spirit of the entire afternoon: community, gratitude, and genuine celebration.

This year also marked a special milestone. For six consecutive years, the visual identity of our Women's History Month Awards has been shaped by the creativity and consistency of Luna Design. Their WHM logo has become a recognizable symbol of excellence, unity, and celebration -- and we extend our heartfelt thanks for their artistry and partnership.

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EDITORIAL

DR. MICHAEL STAJUANA
PRESIDENT

As members, your collective strength is the driving force behind our shared triumphs.

By embracing a personal pledge to excellence, amplifying each other's aspirations, and navigating challenges with resilience, we can forge lasting progress. Your contributions extend far beyond financial backing - your distinct perspective and innovative thinking are pivotal in propelling our initiatives and events forward. Your expertise and active participation in committees are crucial to creating a profound impact. Together, let's unlock fresh opportunities and elevate our contributions to the community.

Key upcoming events include our **Candidates Forum** on May 16 at 6:00 pm at the Celebrity Center Las Vegas, and our **128th Philippine Independence Day Gala** on June 13, 2026, at 6pm at the Orleans Hotel & Casino. Your active engagement is vital - we need your participation to move forward.



EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Michael Stajuana
Gloria Caoile
Marylaine Louise Viernes
Johann Sayson
Liesel Trinidad Jacobsen
Sol Llasos

SAVE THE DATE

General Membership Meeting

MAY 16, 2026

2:00 – 4:00 PM
at Transpacific Office
5450 W. Sahara Ave

SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

2:00 – 4:00 PM
at Transpacific Office
5450 W. Sahara Ave

Navigating Help:

A Resource Guide to Government Support

- Essential workers become homeowners with \$20,000 in down-payment assistance
- Free Speakers Bureau to raise awareness about veteran benefits and services
- Medicaid Waiver provides home and community-based services including respite and case management for those with dementia and related conditions.
- SB185 - requires Medicaid to reimburse family members for caring for disabled or chronically ill children.
- Application guidance in SNAP, Medicaid, and Cash Assistance
- Overview of 2027 legislation



SCAN
QR CODE
TO RSVP
BY 4/24/26



Date
2 May 2026



Start At
10:30AM-END



Address
**Enterprise Library
8310 S. Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89123**

Free Admission

Lite lunch to be provided



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES
Serving Nevada's Veterans



Questions?
Call: 702-241-3617 Geri Inciso
or 725-321-4648 Doc Mike StaJuana



FIL-AM POWER. NAFFAA NEVADA.

CANDIDATES FORUM

Join Now!

MAY

16

2026



Time
05:30 PM



Location
2761 Emerson Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89121

DONATION: \$30.00

For details, please contact:

LEO BELMONTE
702-429-2346

DR. MICHAEL STAJUANA
725-321-4648



**Join Us for the 2026
NaFFAA NEC and Help
Shape Our Future Together**

National Federation of Filipino American Associations

NaFFAA

**16th NATIONAL EMPOWERMENT
CONFERENCE (NEC)**

AUG. 14-15, 2026



NaFFAA.org f @NaFFAA.National X @NaFFAAnational



**128TH PHILIPPINE
INDEPENDENCE DAY Gala**

*Many Voices, One Community,
One Celebration*

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026 - 6 P.M.

**MARDI GRAS BALLROOM -
ORLEANS HOTEL**

Attire:

FILIPINIANA OR FORMAL ATTIRE

Prepaid Donation per Person:
\$100.00

Zelle Payments to: **Payments@NaffaaNV.Org**
On or Before May 15, 2026

For details, please email:

Dr. Michael Sta. Juana
Naffaanvpresident@gmail.com

Gloria T. Caoile
gloriacaoile@gmail.com

For sponsorship opportunity, please email:

Anna Ladao
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Jacque de Joya
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None of this would have been possible without the dedication and heart of the Women's History Month Team. Their months of planning, creativity, and teamwork shaped an event that was meaningful, and deeply memorable. From program design to honoree engagement to the beautiful flow of the program, the WHM Team delivered excellence at every step.

"This year's Women's History Month Awards reminded us of the power of women's voices when they are uplifted, honored, and heard. Our honorees brought wisdom, courage, and authenticity to the state – and our community responded with overwhelming love. I am deeply grateful to our WHM Team, our volunteers, and every partner who helped create a celebration worthy of these remarkable women. Together, we didn't just host an event – we strengthened the legacy of Filipino American leadership in Nevada," exclaimed Jacque de Joya, Chairwoman, WHM '26.

IN PHOTOS: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

A visual recap of NaFFAA's Women's History Month celebration honoring the trailblazing Filipino-American women who lead, inspire, and shape our community







M E M B E R S

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Organizational:



PAMPANGA SPECIALTY DELICACIES

Mildred Cadag
Owner



IMAJ SKIN AND WELLNESS

Cherry Johnston
General Practice



FIESTA CARGO

Roro Lindo
Owner



AAPI CHAMBER

Catherine Francisco
President

Individual:

1. Jose Engracia
2. Nicey Wallace
3. Margarita Vandam
4. Roger Salvosa
5. Doris Gomez
6. Joel Carlos
7. Patrick Nadal

PATRICK NADAL
DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP

EDEN GALIDO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



CMC BOUTIQUE

**BARONG TAGALOG &
FILIPINIANA WEAR**

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LAS VEGAS, NV 89108
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ON THE SPOTLIGHT

CIRIMILLE PAGLINAWAN SCAGGS SECRETARY-NAFFAA - NV

A University of Nevada, Las Vegas alumna, I hold a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and have been crowned Miss Nevada Regency International 2023 and Miss United States Global Icon 2024. My journey began in physical therapy, where I managed 12 clinics, but ultimately, I heeded the call to return to my roots and join the family business. As a third-generation entrepreneur, I've had the privilege of growing up around CMC Boutique, Las Vegas' premier Barong Tagalog and Filipiniana store, which my parents founded in 1997.



After a successful corporate career, I rejoined the business in 2021, determined to revitalize and expand its presence locally and online.

Through CMC Boutique, I've discovered my passion for community service and advocacy. My platform, 'Embrace Your Cultural Legacy,' celebrates the richness of Filipino heritage and empowers the younger generation to connect with their roots, fostering confidence and purpose.

I've had the honor of sharing my story with students across the Las Vegas Valley, from elementary to college levels. Additionally, I advocate for children with special needs, supporting organizations like Sing Out for Autism and the Down Syndrome Organization of Southern Nevada.

My involvement with various Filipino organizations has led to leadership roles, including Membership Director for FACCGN and Youth Director for NaFFAA Nevada, and now, Secretary for NaFFAA Nevada starting 2026. I've received recognition for my community work, including an award from a Women of Impact organization partnered with the Las Vegas Aces and a feature in a book profiling Filipino Women of Impact in Las Vegas. Outside of community work and running the boutique, I enjoy modeling, fashion, and hosting events. Recently married, I'm excited for the next chapter of my life, potentially starting a family and continuing to make a positive impact.

