

2021 - 2022

BULOSAN CENTER FOR FILIPINX STUDIES

ANNUAL REPORT



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Message from the Director

Dear *kababayan*,

This year marks our 4th year in existence and the final year of funding from the allocation our community secured, together with then-Assemblymember-now-Attorney General, Rob Bonta, from the California legislature. We at the Bulosan Center have taken up the mantle of fighting for Filipino (Filipina/Filipinx) Studies from our forebears, the student leaders of the Pilipino American Collegiate Endeavor (PACE) at San Francisco State University (SFSU), who went on strike in 1968 not only for the establishment of Ethnic Studies, but for Filipino Studies specifically. Though Filipino Studies has yet to be established at SFSU, thankfully it thrives under the leadership of Filipino faculty there. The lesson we draw



from PACE is that where institutions of higher learning fail to invest in Filipino Studies, our collective power as a community can successfully ensure its growth. In this year's annual report, we offer you just a glimpse of all of our exciting on-going and new projects. We hope that we've done the community proud with all of our endeavors.

Though the 2021-2022 academic year is our last year of CA state funding, the Hewlett Foundation has recognized the work we have done as part of the Stop AAPI Hate movement and has generously invested in our work for the 2022-23. Unfortunately, our future beyond next academic year is uncertain. Unless we get major investment from the UC Davis campus administration or the UC Office of the President or some other funders, we will likely have to reduce our offerings. We invite you to consider working together with us towards ensuring that the Bulosan Center can continue to serve the community. Please consider donating and/or advocating for continuing funding from the CA legislature. Additionally, we invite you to consider participating in future town hall meetings as our thought-partners to discuss how Filipino Studies can better serve our community.

With love and solidarity,

Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez
Founding Director, Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies

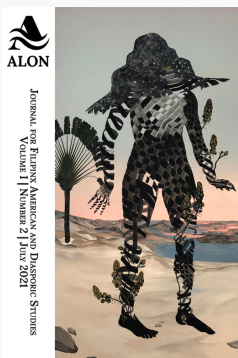
RESEARCH

Alon: Journal for Filipinx American and Diasporic Studies

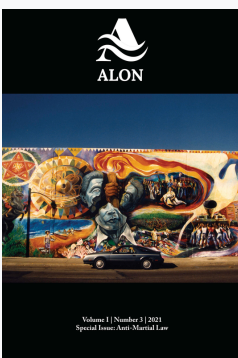
We released the entirety of Volume 1 of *Alon: Journal for Filipinx American and Diasporic Studies*, a peer-reviewed, open-access journal published with eScholarship. *Alon* is the first academic journal of its kind. The journal brings together works that grapple with the ways that Filipino/a/x identities are always in process, that our locations are always unsettled, and that our communities are always in states of transition, in ways that may be unstable, anxiety-provoking, or pleasurable. *Alon* features research articles, symposia, forums, special issues, artwork, and reviews.



Volume 1 Issue 1 was released in March 2021, and it featured articles on labor and exploitation in Filipinx lives with a focus on migrant workers and caregivers.



Volume 1 Issue 2 was released in July 2021, and it discussed struggle and resistance in Filipinx communities, particularly among trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming communities. It also addressed Filipinx battles against racism and racial politics.



Volume 1 Issue 3 was released in November 2021, and it was a special issue guest-edited by José B. Capino and Martin F. Manalansan IV covering Martial Law in the Philippines, particularly during the “Marcosian Era” signified by the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos.

RESEARCH

Bulosan Center Research Conference "Healing, Care, and Resistance"

The Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies, UC Berkeley PASS, and UC Davis BRIDGE co-hosted 2021 Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies Research Conference "Healing, Care, and Resistance", on Friday and Saturday May 28-29, 2021 from 1-4:30pm PST. Held virtually, this conference continued our first conference's conversations and dialogues around Filipinx Studies' legacy and scholar activism. This year's conference theme was "Healing, Care, and Resistance". Given the continuing pandemic and political climate, our communities have been forced to alter ways of building, organizing, caring, healing, and resistance. This conference shined light on how our Filipina/o/x community organizes, heals, and builds community both within the U.S. context, in the homeland, and throughout the diaspora. We gathered 2021 over 200 attendees from around the world and organized 30 presentation panels and workshops on transnational activism, virtual care, healing work, activism, and various modes of community building.

To view the virtual program of the conference, please go to tinyurl.com/ProgramBuloCon2021



RESEARCH

Press Conference: Health Data on Region's Filipinos, Impacts of COVID

More than a year and a half into the COVID-19 pandemic, we're now learning the data on the real impacts on the region's communities, including the Filipino American community, who are the second largest Asian ethnicity in the Sacramento region and in the State.

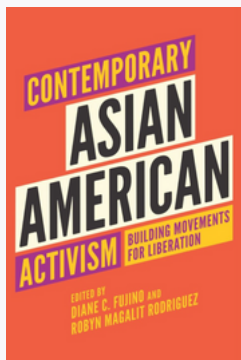
On 10/14, Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez, along with community leaders, spoke about the data from the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies' recent Filipinx/Filipinx American Health and Well-being Survey, which detailed critical information on the state of Filipinos and Filipino Americans in the pandemic and the invisibility of those reeling from the pandemic. Findings include statistics on health care coverage, worker experiences, and mental health implications. In addition to the findings, the press conference highlighted the stories of the pandemic's impacts on the region's Filipino population, what has been done to serve the Filipino community during the pandemic, and why this data is critical to decision makers when it comes to improving the outcomes and overall well-being of our Filipino population, beyond just recovery from COVID-19.

To view the recording of the press conference, please go to <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CVBKT8uBk8T/>

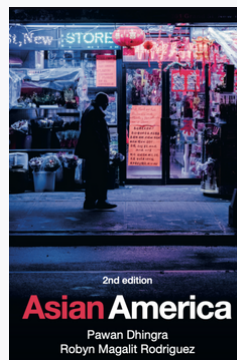


RESEARCH

Recent Publications



Fujino, D. C., & Rodriguez, R. M. (Eds.). (2022). *Contemporary Asian American Activism: Building Movements for Liberation*. University of Washington Press.



Dhingra, P., & Rodriguez, R. M. (2021). *Asian America*. John Wiley & Sons.

Cabante, Angelica and Katherine Nasol. "Ch. 3: The Streets of SoMa: Building Community amid Displacement in San Francisco." *Contemporary Asian American Activism: Building Movements for Liberation*. The University of Washington Press. (2022)

Garcia, Nicholas A. (Spring 2021) "'Subdue Them Under Us': Oliver Peabody and the Limits of Acculturation in Eighteenth-Century Massachusetts," *The New England Journal of History* 77, no. 2 : 49–78.

Jopanda, Wayne. (2021). "Book Review: America is Not the Heart." *Alon: Journal for Filipinx American and Diasporic Studies*.

Nasol K. and Valerie Francisco Menchavez. "Filipino Home Care Workers: Invisibilized Frontline Workers in the COVID-19 Crisis in the United States." *American Behavioral Scientist*. January 2021.

Nasol, K. "How has the CARES Act Affected California's Filipino Families?." *AAPI Nexus: Policy, Practice and Community: 2020*, Vol. 17, No. 1 & 2, September 2020.

Rodriguez, Robyn M. and Wayne Jopanda. "'Ch. 11: Pete Wilson Trying to See Us All Broke:' Asian American Cross-Racial Student Activism in the 1990s California" *Contemporary Asian American Activism: Building Movements for Liberation*. The University of Washington Press. (2022)

Sabado-Liwag, M. D., Manalo-Pedro, E., Taggug Jr, R., Bacong, A. M., Adia, A., Demanarig, D., Sumibcay, J. R., Valderama-Wallace, C., Oronce, C. I. A., Bonus, R., & Ponce, N. A. (2022). "Addressing The Interlocking Impact Of Colonialism And Racism On Filipinx/a/o American Health Inequities." *Health Affairs*, 41(2), 289-295.

Forthcoming Publications

Garcia, Nicholas. "Filipino-Native American Relations" Sage Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies (2022)

Jopanda, Wayne. "Labor Trafficking" Sage Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies (2022)

Salinas, Stacey, and Jopanda, Wayne. "The Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies History" Sage Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies (2022)

Salinas, Stacey, and Jopanda, Wayne. "Labor Movements" Sage Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies. (2022)

Taggug, Roy Jr. B. and Rodriguez, Robyn M. "The Limits of "Immigration" Frameworks: Centering Empire in Analyzing Migration and the Diaspora." *Filipinx American Studies: Reckoning, Reclamation, Transformation*.

Policy and Community Engagement

FIERCE Coalition

The Bulosan Center, as a part of the FIERCE coalition, supported a number of advocacy and educational opportunities around a platform of Ethnic Studies and Racial Justice.

In February, we supported the community formation of Justice for Angelo Quinto! Justice for All! coalition, which began after the tragic murder of Angelo Quinto, a young Filipino man from Antioch, CA who was experiencing a mental health crisis and was killed by Antioch police through the knee-to-neck tactic. The coalition successfully passed AB 490, or the Angelo Quinto Act, which bans positional asphyxia as a police tactic.

We held a successful virtual Filipinx Policy Symposium in March 2021, which gathered over 4000 views across the country and different parts of the globe. We had guest speakers such as Attorney General Rob Bonta, Assemblymember Alex Lee, and San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria join us to speak about racial justice and police accountability.

We also hosted our 2021 Filipinx Lobby Day in April 2021 and spoke with over a dozen elected officials to push forth our agenda around Ethnic Studies and Racial Justice.



Policy and Community Engagement

Going Viral: Racism, Asian Americans and COVID-19 Podcast

In response to the rise of anti-Asian hate and violence, the Bulosan Center developed a podcast that humanizes the Asian American experience of COVID-19. This community-engaged project, led by Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez and produced by Asian American Studies student, Jennifer Bernal Nguyen, supports efforts already underway in the Greater Sacramento region, led by the API Regional Network, to amplify the experiences of APIs who are not only suffering from the virus itself but are suffering from anti-Asian hate and violence as well. This project was supported by a grant from the UC Davis Humanities Institute.

Podcast Episodes

1. Dr. Cirian Villavicencio - Professor of Political Science at San Joaquin Delta College
2. Anna Pak - Undergraduate Student at UC Davis
3. Survivor of COVID-19
4. Debra Louie - Counselor at San Joaquin Delta College
5. Anti-Asian Hate and Violence Incidences in the Sacramento Region

To listen to our podcasts, please go to:

<https://bulosancenter.sf.ucdavis.edu/going-viral-racism-asian-americans-and-covid-19>



Policy and Community Engagement

Stop AAPI Hate Reports

The Bulosan Center has partnered with the STOP AAPI HATE Reporting Center to produce a series of reports for the greater Sacramento region.

To view the reports, please go to:

Recent Anti-Asian Hate and Violence Incidences in the Sacramento Region

<https://bulosancenter.ucdavis.edu/recent-anti-asian-hate-and-violence-incidences-sacramento-region>

Stop AAPI Hate Regional Report

<https://bulosancenter.ucdavis.edu/news/stop-aapi-hate-regional-report>

Incidents of Coronavirus-Related Discrimination in Sacramento and Davis, CA

<https://bulosancenter.ucdavis.edu/news/report-incidents-coronavirus-related-discrimination-sacramento-and-davis-ca>

REPORT MAY 23, 2021

**Recent Anti-Asian Hate and Violence Incidences
in the Sacramento Region**
Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies
in partnership with Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center

Key Facts

66

incidents of discrimination were reported in Sacramento regional counties

Policy and Community Engagement

Hewlett Foundation Grant

We are proud to be one of 22 organizations receiving grants from the Hewlett Foundation to support the increasing needs of AAPI communities. Particularly in a time of rising anti-Asian hate and violence, these grants give this diverse group of organizations the ability to continue supporting and uplifting AAPI communities. With these funds, we will continue to support Filipinx Studies, our greater Asian American Communities, and work in solidarity towards collective liberation for all.

Learn more: <https://hewlett.org/newsroom/hewlett-foundation-to-award-5-5-million-to-nonprofits-serving-aapi-communities/>



Archives & Public History

Exhibits, Public History

The Bulosan Center is proud to present "Filipinx American History: A History of Community, Activism, and Persistence." This digital exhibit and essay highlights broad aspects of Fil-Am History, including the pre-to-colonial periods, labor and social activism in the 20th-early 21st century, the communities of the Manong/Manang generation, and prominent Fil-Am labor leaders such as Carlos Bulosan, Larry Itliong, and Philip Vera Cruz.

This project was led by Stacey Salinas, Ellen Hickman, and Abby Principe, and features guest curators Kirby Araullo, Michael Salgarolo, Kirin Agustin Rajagopalan, Nicholas Garcia, Joy Sales, Manny DeLeon, Jen Amos, Nani Rodriguez, and Felwina Opiso-Mondina. The digital exhibit was designed by Jason Sarmiento.


To view the exhibit, please go to tinyurl.com/BCfahTimeline

BULOSAN CENTER

DIGITAL EXHIBIT & ESSAY

**FILIPINX
AMERICAN
HISTORY**

A CELEBRATION
OF COMMUNITY,
ACTIVISM, AND
PERSISTENCE



tinyurl.com/BCfahTimeline



Archives & Public History

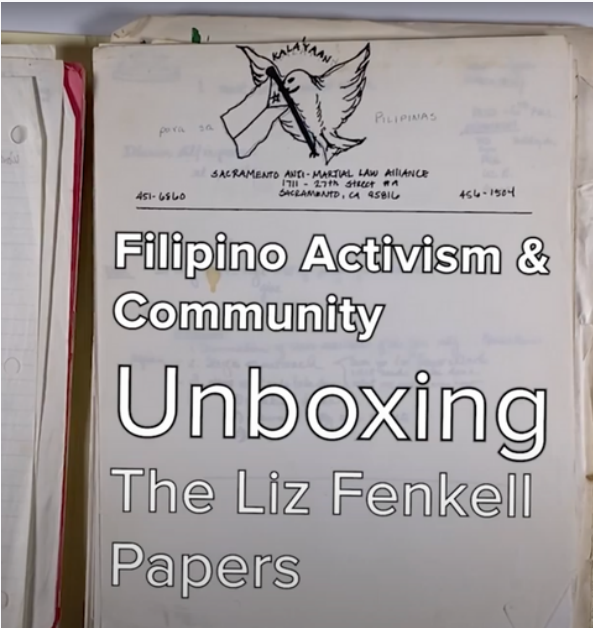
New Collection: FANHS Sacramento-Delta Oral Histories

The Bulosan Center recently digitized the various oral history interviews from the Filipino American National Historical Society, Sacramento Delta Chapter. These oral histories document the experiences of Filipino veterans of the American Legion Hall Post 604 and family histories in the Sacramento-Delta.

To view the oral histories, please see this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/BCfahnsOH>



Public Outreach: “Unboxing” Series



The Bulosan Center recently digitized the various oral history interviews from the Filipino American National Historical Society, Sacramento Delta Chapter. These oral histories document the experiences of Filipino veterans of the American Legion Hall Post 604 and family histories in the Sacramento-Delta.

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Archives & Public History

FAHM Reading Suggestions

In collaboration with the UC Davis Social Media programs, Bulosan Center Archivist Jason Sarmiento recommended books and journal from Filipinx authors, including the Alon journal, Migrants for Export, Carlos Bulosan and His Poetry, and Little Manila is in the Heart. The videos are available on youtube and tiktok.

To watch the Tik Tok, please see this link: <https://www.tiktok.com/@ucdavis/video/7018677535240178949>



Library Guides

	Cannery Workers
	Filipino American Farmworkers (2015)
	Philippine-American War
	Nurses

Working with Bulosan Center Intern Daniel Nero, the Archives and Libraries team published four digital library guides on Filipinx American and Diasporic histories, such as Nurses, Canneryworkers, and the Philippine American War.

To view the library guides, please see this link: <https://welgadigitalarchive.omeka.net/library-guides>

Archives & Public History

Community & Family Archives through Digital Humanities Workshop

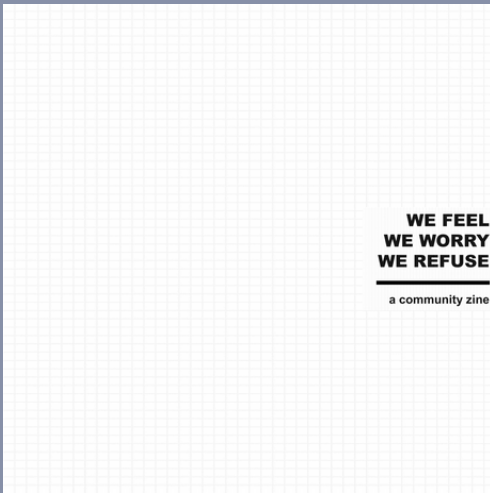
As ‘the archive’ has strong connotations towards exclusivity and the ivory tower, there is a growing movement to keep heritage, history, and culture within community spaces as opposed to donating their personal keepsakes to university libraries or historical societies. This on-demand workshop (hosted on youtube.com) provides a crash course in creating Community & Family Archives through various digital humanities platform and cloud storage platforms, such as Omeka, the Internet Archive, and Google Drive. The workshop provides basic digitization guidelines, archival description best-practices, and recommendations for digital archives and exhibit platforms.

To watch the workshop, please see this link:
<https://youtu.be/0nB3RmKNO50>



Public Education & Community Events

Arts Humanities



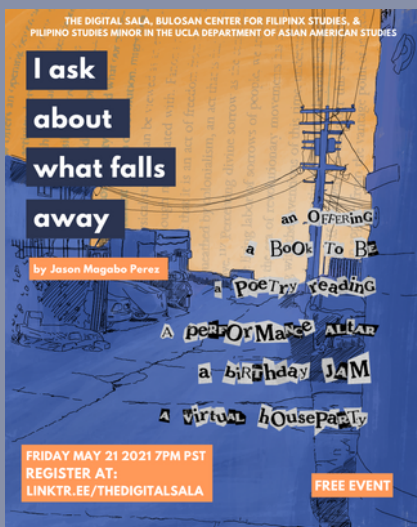
We Feel We Worry We Refuse: A Community Zine January 2021

To view the zine, please see this link:
tinyurl.com/feelworryrefusecommunityzine



Nurses in the Diaspora March 2021

To watch the event, please see this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8FLueqc6ZA>



I ask about what falls away: a poetry reading May 2021



Of Everywhere: A Virtual Exhibition of Filipino American Visual Art October 2021

To view the exhibit, please see this link:
tinyurl.com/OfEverywhere

Public Education & Community Events

Scholarly and Other Presentations

The Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies has been committed to sharing education around the experience of the Filipinx community. For the 2021-2022 year, we continued to educate thousands of community members on Filipinx Studies through educational social media posts, conferences, lectures, and scholarly presentations. This is a sampling of the events where the Bulosan staff has spoken:

The Filipino American Woman Project Podcast, "EP: Anti-Asian Hate Roundtable Discussion." (March 24, 2021)

"The Pilipina Diaspora: A Tapestry of Women of Color P/Feminism(s), ABG Counterculture, and Pinay Coalitions" (March-April 2021)

Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Heritage Month: "Filipinx Beauty Pageants as Acts of Activism" (May 20, 2021)

Anti-Asian Hate Community Convenings, Sacramento City Council, Sacramento, CA, (June 2 & 30, 2021)
 Sacramento Community Human Rights Forum (July 21, 2021)

Reflections on the Sacramento Asian American Community: A Dialogue with Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez and Local Leaders (September 14, 2021)

Filipino American Educators Association of California Biennial Conference (October 2-3, 2021)

The Unfolding History of Filipinos in Greater Sacramento, Cosumnes River Community College (October 7, 2021)

The Living Legacy of Larry Itliong, Central Valley Empowerment Alliance, Poplar, CA (October 24, 2021)

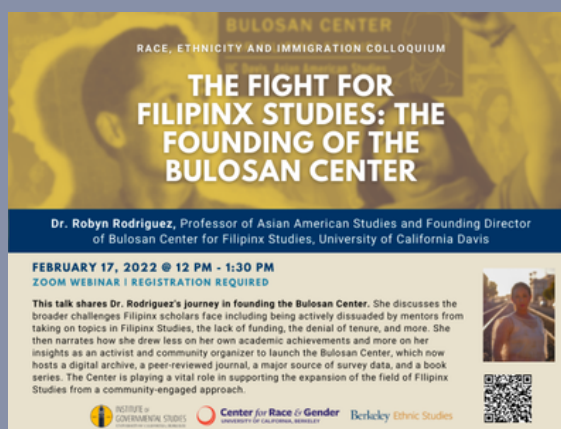
Decolonizing Children's Book Publishing with Justine Villanueva (January 5, 2022)

Reimagining Filipino History at St. Malo, Louisiana with Michael Menor Salgarolo (January 11, 2022)

"Don't Stay Out in the Sun": Understanding Filipinx and Colorism with Dr. Joanne Rondilla (January 12, 2022)

How the US Prison System Traces its Roots to the Philippines with Dr. Benjamin Weber (February 10, 2022)

Race, Ethnicity and Immigration Colloquium - The Fight for Filipinx Studies: The Founding of the Bulosan Center (Feb 17, 2022)



Top Media Mentions



Filipino Americans reported higher Covid mental health toll than Asian Americans collectively

- *NBC Asian America*. June 18, 2021, Agnes Constante

To address Filipino American health disparities in future, experts look to past inequality

- *NBC Asian America*. June 28, 2021, Agnes Constante

Family issues, racism compounded stress on Filipino-American college students during the pandemic

- *CNBC*. August 20, 2021, Annika Kim Constantino

How the Philippines' colonial legacy weighs on Filipino American mental health

- *Los Angeles Times*. October 12, 2021, Agnes Constante

Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies on Asian Pacific America

- *NBC Asian Pacific America*. October 18, 2021, Robert Handa

A complicated love story: Author Carlos Bulosan's critique of America gave Filipino migrants a voice

- *USA Today*. November 18, 2021, Phaedra Trethan

The First Year of COVID: Filipinos Were Among Hardest Hit, But Hidden by Data

- *Voice of San Diego*. December 6, 2021, Maya Srikrishnan

Bulosan Center Internship Program

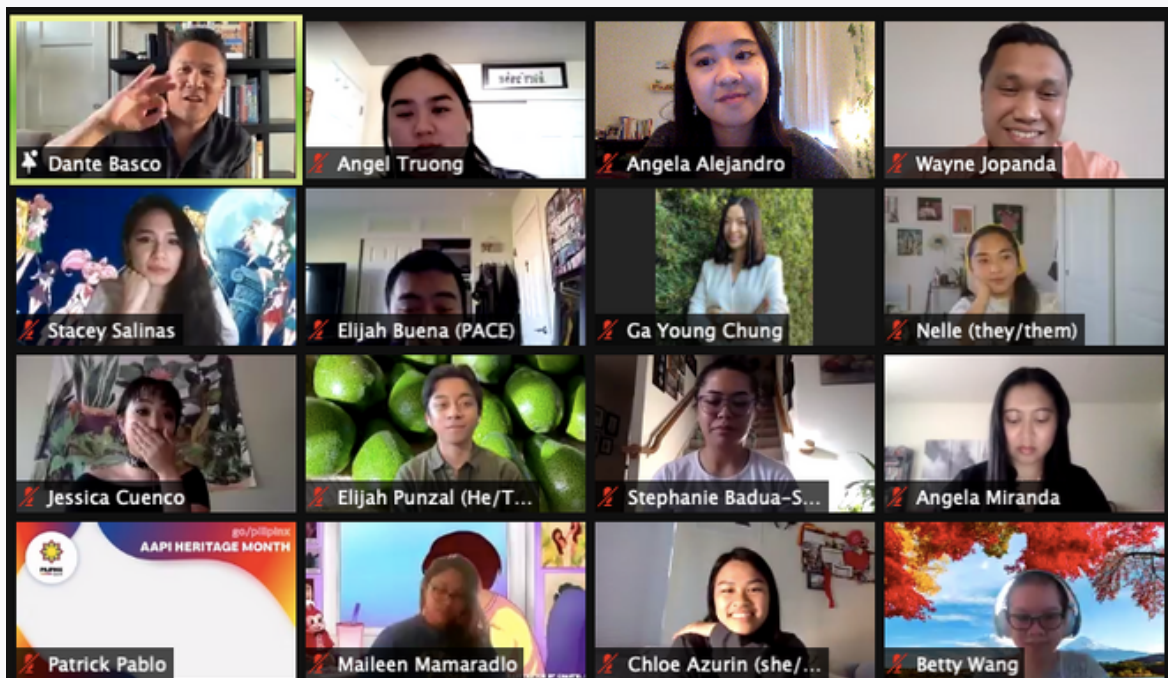
Spring 2021 Highlights

For this year, the Spring 2021 Bulosan Center Internship Program had over 150 interns from around the world, including the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada. They were formed into over 12 intern teams led by staff, Bulosan affiliates, and community partners. In the Fall internship, we had around 105 interns forming their own research interests and programming teams for the coming new year.

Our 2021 Intern meeting special guest speakers included: Dante Basco, Dr. Tracy Buenavista, Dr. Valerie Francisco Menchavez, Dr. EJR David, Dr. Michael Viola, LolaXKenneth, Dr. Joy Sales, Michael Atienza, MT Vallarta, Dr. Rod Labrador, RJ Taggug, Stacey Ann Salinas, Jason Sarmiento, and Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez

Our intern teams helped organize and lead the following programming:

- 2021 Filipinx Studies Research Conference
- Mental health and self-care circles
- Amado Khaya Black-Filipinx Solidarity Open Mic
- Volunteer opportunities at Sacramento based Covid 19 vaccination center
- Support for original research led by Dr. Robyn Rodriguez, RJ Taggug, Stacey Ann Salinas, and Dr. Dale Maglaglang



Intern Testimonial

Nikki Basas

Time and again, the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies illustrates the definition of radical love. As an intern with the center for three terms, I have worked with several inspiring individuals whom I will never forget. From Bulosan's staff, youth leaders, to fellow interns, this sense of love and community is instilled in every aspect and in every level of the program's structure to the point that the confines of hierarchy cease to exist. In its place, collective leadership is cultivated. Because of my internship, I have been inspired to practice a similar structure of community care in my respective organizations. I am encouraged to move with gentleness and to hold space for one another in the wider community. It is this attention to community care that the Bulosan Center has encouraged in me that also inspires the practice of self-love and accountability.



With community care also comes the awareness of the need for self-love and accountability

I am a more loving organizer today because of the love that I have experienced within the Bulosan Center community.

Intern Testimonial

Chloe Azurin

Reflecting back on my time with the Bulosan Center, it is quite clear that I found a home I had been missing for most of my life. My time with the Education Team during the first virtual internship allowed me to find community in very isolating times, and gave me direction for many goals. I learned how to conduct a literature review and prepare a research proposal. But the most important lesson I learned was the power of a loving community: I never learned alone, and facing it all was not something I ever had to do by myself.



Bulosan radiates care. I experienced it when a staff member asked me: “are there any more ways I can support you?” I remember it in Manong TJ’s conviction in our greatness when he said “Let’s be real. You are about to make history.” I feel it now when I spend time with my chosen family I first met as fellow interns. Bulosan also means signing up for the painful and powerful process of learning, growing, and building with people who came before you. We are not merely passing the torch, but taking our place alongside each other to grow our hope.

Donate to Our Center

Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies Fund

The Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies aims to continue Carlos Bulosan’s legacy by uplifting the voices of the most marginalized in the Filipinx community in the United States and the diaspora through community-engaged research and by broadly disseminating knowledge about Filipin@s for the purpose of advancing their rights and welfare.

The Center was created through the grassroots efforts of the the Filipinx community at UC Davis and our allies. If you would like to be an integral player in the growth of the Center, please donate to our cause!

To donate: <https://give.ucdavis.edu/CLAS/ASAFILS>

Meet the Team

Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez
Founding Director

Wayne Jopanda
Associate Director

Allan Jason Sarmiento
Director of Archives and Public History

RJ Taggug
Director of Research

Katherine Nasol
Director of Policy and Community Engagement

Stacey Salinas
Senior Historian

Nick Garcia
Senior Editor

Glenn Philip Martinez Aquino
Filmmaker

Jason Magabo Perez
Inaugural Community Arts Fellow

Angela Alejandro
Personal Assistant to the Founding Director

Angel Truong
Administrative Assistant

Kit DeGuzman
Student Assistant

Chelsea Soriano
Student Assistant

Angel Trazo
Student Assistant

For more information, visit us online at:
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