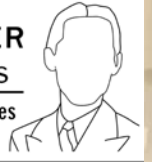


**BULOSAN CENTER  
FOR FILIPINO STUDIES**  
UC Davis, Asian American Studies



# **BULOSAN CENTER ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019**







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# Introduction - Words from Director

“Will the struggles and victories of Filipinos in America be obscured and forgotten through time? Will issues like that of Filipino union organizing in the Alaskan canneries and housing rights of the International Hotel tenants be learned and appreciated by future generations of Filipinos? If the lessons of Filipino history are not preserved and retold in our history books how will the significance of the growing Filipino population in American ever be realized and recognized as it should?”

These were questions posed by Jessica Ordoná in June 1977, in a paper entitled “Fight Against Racist Textbooks.” Ordoná was a member of The Filipino Far West Task Force on Education.



Ordoná’s questions remain as relevant and urgent today as they were in 1977. It was only in 2013 when AB123 required that Filipino contributions to the farmworker struggle be covered by the K-12 curriculum in California. And yet, at the University of California—where we create the research that K-12 textbooks draw upon—there is an average of less than one Filipinx tenured professor across each of the ten U.C. campuses whose work focuses on Filipino Studies. 42 years ago, Ordoná asked, “Will the struggles and victories of Filipinos in America be obscured and forgotten through time?” It is now 2019, and the answer is still “yes.”

The Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies aims to change that by providing support for Filipino Studies scholars in the state of California and beyond. The Center aims to continue Carlos Bulosan’s legacy of uplifting the voices of the most marginalized in the Filipino community in the United States and the diaspora. This will be done through community-engaged research that broadly disseminates knowledge about Filipinos for the purpose of advancing our rights and welfare.

The Bulosan Center’s establishment and sustained growth is only possible through support from the community. Our underrepresentation among the professoriate is less an indication of our lack of interest in pursuing research—the Bulosan Center’s vibrant internship program is a testament to our collective love for learning and study—but more symptomatic of the systematic failure of academia to value and support research on Filipinos in the diaspora. Your donations ensure that our stories will continue to be collected, preserved, and told for generations to come. Maraming Salamat!

Dr. Robyn Rodriguez

# About the Bulosan Center

## Early Plans for a Filipino Studies Center at UC Davis

Dr. Rodriguez's vision for a Filipino Studies Center began taking shape when she accepted a position at UC Davis' Asian American Studies department in the fall of 2011. Historically, UC Davis has deep ties to the Filipino community. Indeed, the Department of Asian American Studies emerged from the efforts of students who fought for the inclusion of Ethnic Studies programs in California colleges while standing in solidarity with Filipino immigrant farmworkers struggling in the Central Valley. It was this solidarity that sparked protests in 1969 at UC Davis in favor of Ethnic Studies programs, eventually culminating in their implementation.



More broadly speaking, the University of California has a historic relationship to educational institutions in the Philippines—as well as to scholarship on the Philippines—largely because of the country's status as a former colony of the United States (1899-1946). Former University of California President David Barrows served as Director of Education in the Philippines from 1903-1909. UC Berkeley history and political science professor (ca. 1876) Bernard Moses was a member of the U.S. Philippine Commission from 1900-1902. UC Berkeley anthropology professor Alfred L. Kroeber published the handbook *Peoples of the Philippines* (American Museum Press) in 1919.

There were several earlier iterations of what eventually became the Bulosan Center. The first was Project Bulosan, which sought to democratize Asian American (including Filipino American) Studies through digital media campaigns and the popularization of the hashtag #projectbulosan. The second was the Welga Project, which marked the first major step towards the establishment of the Bulosan Center.



## Preserving Filipino American Farmworker History: AB123 and the Welga Project, 2013

In 2013, Assemblymember Rob Bonta successfully passed Assembly Bill 123 (AB123), which introduced Filipino American farmworker history into the K-12 California curriculum. Bonta received widespread support from grassroots activists and UFW veterans such as Dolores Huerta. On October 2, 2013, AB123 was chaptered into California law. To support AB123, Dr.

Robyn Rodriguez worked with Professors Joi Barrios and Chat Aban to conduct workshops on Filipino American history with K-12 teachers and was later able to secure funding from California Humanities and the UC Humanities Research Institute to launch the Welga Project. "Welga," the Tagalog word for "Strike," pays homage to the Filipino American strikers of the Delano Grape Strike and their contributions to labor history.

The Welga Project was a multi-faceted initiative to preserve and promote Filipino American farmworker history. Doing so required creating the Welga Digital Archive, which consists of 12 archival collections and roughly 900 digitized items.





# The Bulosan Center

## **The Welga Project (continued)**

To supplement the collections, the Welga Project team conducted twelve oral history interviews, recording the experiences of Filipino Americans who participated in the 1965 Delano Grape Strike and the farmworker movement. Interview participants included Agbayani Village manager Lorraine Agtang, former UFW Vice President Gilbert Padilla, and farmworker volunteer Cynthia Bonta. Through collaboration with the Filipino American Educators Association of California (FAEAC), primary source material from the Welga Digital Archive was used to draft K-12 course curriculum, which helped to advance the aims of AB123. The pinnacle of the Welga Project was the “Bold Step” 50th anniversary of the Delano Grape Strike event organized in partnership with the Filipino American National Historical Society-Delano in 2015. This anniversary event highlighted the successes and sacrifices of the Filipino “manongs” who risked everything to ensure that fair labor conditions and wages were secured for farmworkers. After financial support for the Welga Project ended, its staff and supporters continued to preserve and promote Filipino American farmworker history on a volunteer basis, continuing to exhibit items from the archive, lecture on Filipino American farmworker history, and develop K-12 curriculum.

## **Tumulong Tayo! Benefit Dinner for Filipino Studies, 2018**

By 2018, Dr. Rodriguez was able to assemble a critical mass of incoming graduate students, undergraduates, staff, and past Welga Project members to launch a grassroots fundraising campaign in support of creating what eventually became the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies. Originally, the goal was to raise \$10,000 and use it to continue the work of the Welga Project, invite Filipino Studies scholars to the UC Davis campus, and provide some modest funding for graduate student research. A benefit dinner was organized to launch the Center. Notable Filipino American artists were invited to perform including:

Doble Bara, Janice Sapigao, Little Manila Dance Collective, Dj Kuttin Kandi, Mga Kapatid Vintage Dance Troupe, Power Struggle.

The initial goal of \$10,000 was greatly exceeded with the Center securing nearly \$30,000 solely from community donations. The following report illustrates the research, education, community engagement, and public history projects completed from the launch of the Tumulong Tayo benefit dinner (September 29, 2018) to September 29, 2019. These programmatic accomplishments were funded entirely through the \$30,000 donations.



# Research

## Overview

Research is one of the core pillars of the Bulosan Center. Here we encourage undergraduate, graduate, and community-based scholars at and around UC Davis to pursue projects that prioritize the needs of our community. The Center also creates spaces to promote Filipino Studies scholarship more broadly through its Affiliate Program, which launched at the annual meetings of the Association for Asian American Studies in April 2019, and the Filipinx Studies Research Conference in May, 2019.

In addition to the work produced by members of Bulosan’s core staff, the Center developed “Filipin[x]s Count: A National Survey on Filipinx American Health and Well-Being” in the 2018-2019 academic year. The survey will launch in 2019-2020 alongside a “Working Paper Series” on topics significant to the fields of Filipino American and Filipino Studies. Throughout the year we will also pursue plans for a peer-reviewed journal and a book series with a major academic press.

## Bulosan Center Research Projects



### **“Filipin[x]s Count: A National Survey on Filipinx American Health and Well-Being”**

Primary researcher: Roy B. Taggug Jr., MA.  
Graduate Student, Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis

Despite being one of the oldest and largest migrant communities in the United States, Filipinos are often underrepresented in research. Filipinos are typically aggregated into broader Asian or Asian/Pacific Islander categories, and, as a result, there is a glaring lack of quantitative data focusing on the Filipinx diaspora in the United States.

The information collected from this project will center the Filipinx diaspora as the locus of study. This data will also be made available to the public, so that it can be utilized both by future generations of Filipinx scholars and our community partners to generate, affect, and pursue policies that benefit all Filipino Americans. This survey is the Center’s signature research project and will be launched in late 2019.

# Research



## **Filipino Migrant Workers in the United States**

Primary researchers: Dr. Robyn Rodriguez, Chair and Professor of Asian American Studies; Wayne Silao Jopanda, Cultural Studies PhD Student, University of California, Davis; Katherine Nasol, Cultural Studies PhD Student, UC Davis.

This research involves multiple Bulosan Center members mentored by Dr. Rodriguez, an expert on this topic. In her first book, *Migrants for Export: How the Philippine State Brokers Labor to the World*, Rodriguez describes the Philippines' transformation into a "Labor Brokerage State" in which Filipinos are actively recruited to become Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). In particular, a growing mode of

Filipino labor migration to the United States has been the temporary guestworker program, where hundreds of thousands of migrants come to the country in order to work on a temporary visa. These programs have been criticized as failing to protect OFWs from labor exploitation and human trafficking due to employer control over migrant's immigration status. As a result of mass labor rights violations, Filipino migrant workers in the United States have developed grassroots campaigns and community organizations as a way to respond to Philippine and US immigration systems, which some argue act as state-sponsored trafficking. In collaboration with migrant grassroots groups, the Center will be conducting community-based research and policy analysis on the transnational labor trafficking of Filipino migrants to further understand the consequences and experiences created by neoliberal immigration regimes.

## **Core Scholar Research Projects**



### **Historic Filipino Sites in California**

Primary researcher: Jason Sarmiento, MA, Bulosan Center Archivist and Public Historian

This research project focuses on identifying and cataloging Historic Filipino American Sites in California. Although Filipinos comprise of one of the earliest Asian American immigrant groups in California, there are few Filipino sites listed on the National Register, California Register, or local (city or county) historic registers. Places such as Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles and Little Manila in Stockton are recognized as historic sites, but face constant attack from redevelopment, demolition, and gentrification. The goal of this research is to survey and identify Filipino American sites in California that are 1) listed on local, state, and national historic registers, 2) previously evaluated





# Research

sites not listed on said registers, and 3) sites nearing the 50th year threshold for evaluation. The purpose of this research survey is to 1) create an inventory of buildings, structures, neighborhoods, and districts related to Filipino Americans and 2) identify endangered Filipino American historic sites for future evaluation.



## **Peminist & Pinay Activist History**

Primary researcher: Stacey Anne Baterina Salinas, MA, Cultural Studies PhD Student, UC Davis

The history of Filipina immigrant and Filipina American women prior to World War II has received less attention than their male counterparts, the Manong Generation. The imbalance in the gender ratio of Filipinas to Filipinos in America (1: 20) during the early twentieth century—particularly during the Great Depression

Era—restricted Filipinas to acting as supportive and community-oriented maternal figures. Despite their status as minorities within a minority, the manang generation managed to navigate patriarchal barriers commonly found in their Filipino immigrant households and communities—as well as the broader segregated white American landscape—in order to secure the survival of their families and cultural heritage.

Ultimately, the goals of this outlet of Bulosan Center research is to 1) record, recover, and preserve both the written and oral histories of the first and second generation Filipina-Americans who lived in the earlier Fil-Am communities of California and the greater Pacific Northwest, 2) expand the Filipino-American labor history of the Manong Generation beyond the male dominant narratives to include the women who labored among them, and 3) locate the Peminist consciousness behind the Pinay identity, which helped to establish and ground the earliest and most socio-politically active Filipino American communities in the United States.

## **Early American History, Colonialism**

Primary Researcher: Nicholas A. Garcia, History PhD Student, UC Davis

Trained as a historian of the United States, Garcia is most interested in studying the mechanisms and institutions that have marginalized various populations for centuries—namely racism, slavery, classism, and colonialism. It is for this reason that he decided to write his dissertation on seventeenth-century New England's missionization project and its negative effect on Native Americans. His goal is to further illuminate how English colonizers used missionization as a tool to ensure that New England became a region inhospitable to all except for white Englishmen.

# Research

Of course, a related process worked to marginalize Filipinos in the United States. In the future, Garcia hopes to use his experience as a historian of English colonialism to try and better understand the kinds of colonialism that affected Filipinos and Filipino-Americans from the sixteenth to the twentieth century. By doing so, he hopes to create a comparative history bridging two stories that are rarely—if ever—told together.

## Scholarly and Other Presentations

September 28, 2018, Brown University  
Liminality Legal Asians Conference.  
Providence, RI

October 28, 2018, 4th Annual Larry Itliong  
Day, Assemblymember Rob Bonta's District  
Office, Alameda, CA

October 29, 2018, UC Davis Medical School  
Larry Itliong Day Celebration, Sacramento, CA

November 3, 2018, #Imready Movement  
Conference, Berkeley, CA

November 9-11, 2018, American Studies  
Association Conference, Atlanta, GA

January 11-15, 2019, Robert Wood Johnson  
Foundation Annual Leadership Institute,  
Indianapolis, IN

January 24, 2019, Contemporary Asian  
American Activism: Activist-Scholar  
Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA

February 20, 2019, Institute for the Humanities  
and Global Cultures, University of Virginia

September 28, 2018, Brown University  
Liminality Legal Asians Conference.  
Providence, RI

October 28, 2018, 4th Annual Larry Itliong  
Day, Assemblymember Rob Bonta's District  
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Indianapolis, IN

January 24, 2019, Contemporary Asian  
American Activism: Activist-Scholar  
Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA

February 20, 2019, Institute for the Humanities  
and Global Cultures, University of Virginia

April 4, 2019, Asian Pacific Americans in  
Higher Education Conference: Rooted  
in Community & Thriving in Partnerships,  
Oakland, CA

April 17-20, 2019, Pinay Power II, McGill  
University, Montreal, Canada

April 29, 2019, AAAS Southeast Asian Post  
Conference, Madison, WI

May 11, 2019, The Bulosan Filipinx Studies  
Research Conference, Davis, CA

May 18, 2019, Sacramento Asia Pacific Film  
Festival, Sacramento, CA

May 30, 2019, Celebrate Asian Pacific  
American Heritage Month, UC Davis Health

June 6, 2019, Social Justice of Ethnic Studies  
in High Schools, UCLA Institute of American  
Cultures

June 20, 2019, Seeding Change Fellowship  
Reception

July 13, 2019, Filipinos for a Complete Count  
with the Philippine National Day Association,  
Sacramento, CA

July 31-August 2, 2019 Pacific Coast Branch -  
American Historical Association Conference.  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

September 28, 2019, 2019 FAEAC  
Conference: Equity Through Ethnic Studies  
Conference, Davis, CA

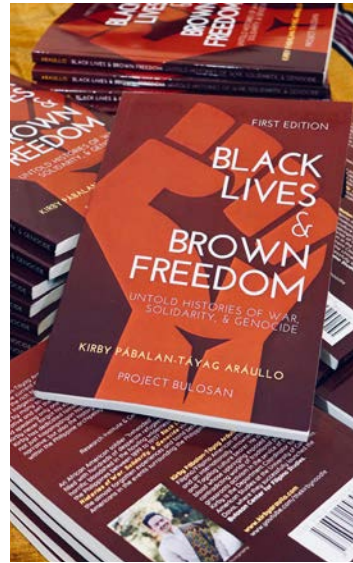


# Research

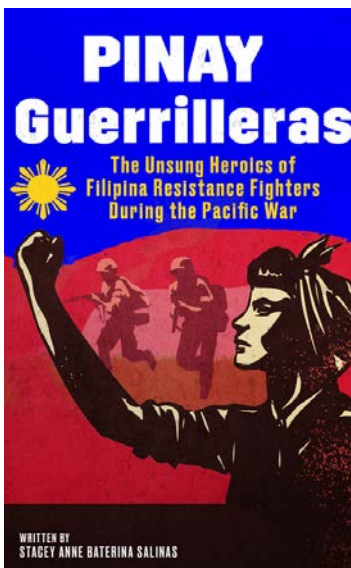
## Publications by the Bulosan Center



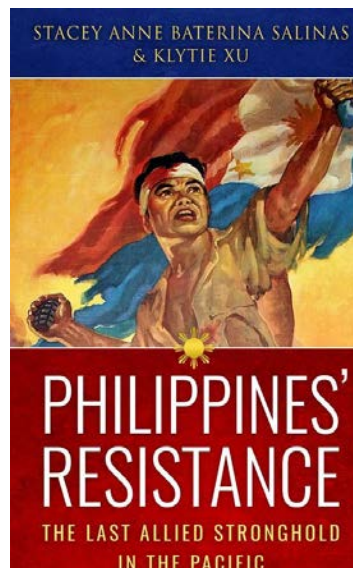
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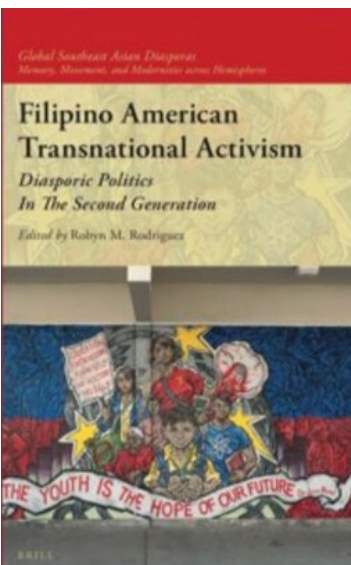
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Barba, M.S., Taggweg, R.B., and Stein, S.A.H. (2018). Public Scholarship in a Time of Crisis," special issue of *Public* Vol. 5, no. 1 (2018).

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Cruz, M., Jordan, J., Salinas, S.A.B., Jones, J., Thomas, S., Ney, A., & Giordano, S. (2019). Using the Feminist Science Shop Model for Social Justice: A Case Study in Challenging the Nexus of Racist Policing and Medical Neglect. *Women's Studies Journal*, Special Issue: Futures of Feminist Science Studies. Spring 2019.

Garcia, N. (2018 November 25). "Diversity" in Academia: How the Ivory Tower Stays White. Garcia, N. (2019 April 13). Why Higher Education Needs The Humanities. Retrieved April 16, 2019

Nasol, K. and Taggweg, R.B. (2019). Housing and the Filipinx Community. *Scholars Strategy Network*.

Rodriguez, R. (2017) Towards a Critical Filipino Studies Approach to Philippine Migration," in *Filipino Studies: Palimpsests of Nation and Diaspora*. Martin Manalansan and Augusto Espiritu, eds., New York: New York University Press.

Rodriguez, R., and Kohl-Arenas, E. (2018). Introduction, Public Scholarship, Place, and Proximity: Imagining America at the University of California at Davis. *Public* 5 No.1.

Rodriguez, R. (2019). "Introduction to Guests and Strangers: Asian Workers in Transnational Perspective," special issue of *Journal of Asian American Studies* Vol. 22, no. 1 (2019): vii-xvi.

Rodriguez, R. "Public Sociology and Scholar Activism in the U.S.-Filipino Labor Diaspora Research," Dip Kapoor and Steven Jordan, (eds), *Political Engagement and Dispossession Indigenous, Peasant and Urban Poor Activisms in the Americas and Asia* (New York: Zed Books, forthcoming).

Rodriguez, R.M. & Fujino, D. (forthcoming) "Introduction, Special Issue on Asian American Activism," *Amerasia Journal*.

Rodriguez, R., ed. *Filipino Transnational Activism: Diasporic Politics Among the Second Generation* (Leiden, Netherlands: Brill Press, forthcoming).

Salinas, S.A.B. and Sarmiento, A.J. (2019). The Legacy of Dawn Mabalon: Preserving Little Manila in the Heart of California. *The Journal of California History*, forthcoming.

Sarmiento, A.J. (2014). From the Shadows: The Emergence of Filipino Farmworker Activism in the American Collective Memory. *Clio History Journal* 25.

Taggweg, R.B. (2019). Book Review: *The Latinos of Asia*. *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 1(2).





## Advocacy and Community Engagement

One of the Bulosan Center's guiding principles is advocacy—much as it was for our namesake, migrant worker and labor activist Carlos Bulosan. By partnering with grassroots community organizations across the state, the Center ensures that its research equips marginalized Filipino communities with the tools they need to promote equity and justice and create systemic change. The Center's major programming supports legislative advocacy and community-based research through the following initiatives:

### Filipino Community Policy Symposium



The Bulosan Center—along with its community partner, LEAD Filipino—collaborated to organize the first Filipino Community Policy Symposium in September 2018. The first symposium gathered over 100 participants and 25 organizations from across the state. Organizations discussed eight policy issue areas: health, education, workers' rights, and immigrant rights, which culminated in the creation of the 2019 Filipino Policy Agenda, a platform that shares the lived realities of California Filipino population and proposed policy solutions. The 2019 Filipino Policy Agenda was the basis for the 2019 Filipino Advocacy Day in April, 2019. The Symposium will gather annually to highlight the grassroots power and policy recommendations made by California's Filipino community.

### Policy Briefs and Infographics

Although Filipinos represent one of the largest Asian immigrant groups in the state, we lack data about the specifics of this population and its particular needs. The Bulosan Center conducts policy-oriented and community engaged research in tandem with partners on the ground to gather information on various issues impacting the Filipino population. The Center's researchers have written briefs on the following topics:

- Immigration
- Gender Justice and Trans Rights
- Workers Rights
- Ethnic Studies
- Housing Access





# Advocacy and Community Engagement

## Filipino Policy Platform

Through the 2018 Symposium, the Bulosan Center and participants developed a California state-wide policy platform focused on eight major areas: Gender Justice, Housing, **Health**, Community Development and Small Businesses, Immigration, Workers Rights, Human Rights, Criminal Justice, and Education. This platform shares the lived realities experienced by the California Filipino population and their proposed policy recommendations. The 2019 Filipino Policy Platform can be utilized by policy makers, community-based organizations, and the larger public as an educational resource to develop policies and further engagement with the Filipino community.

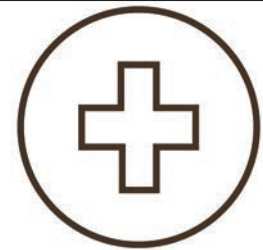
Although the platform is separated into eight categories and focused specifically on the Filipino population, the Bulosan Center recognizes that many of the issues discussed below impact one another and are not unique to only the Filipino community. To view the platforms, please visit the Bulosan Center website.

## Filipino Advocacy Day



Filipino Advocacy Day is an annual lobbying day that brings together organizations and communities across California to push for policies that will uplift and protect the rights and welfare of the Filipino community and other marginalized groups. Advocacy Day was established by the Bulosan Center and LEAD Filipino in collaboration with a network of community based organizations and policy makers dedicated to building the statewide political power of the Filipino community.

The first Filipino Advocacy Day in 2019 was one of the first major Filipino-focused mobilizations at the State Capitol recorded in the last fifty years, with over twelve Filipino and Filipino-American nonprofits, student organizations, and grassroots groups from across California coming together to address the problems facing their communities. Around 70 participants—primarily high school and college-aged youths—joined in meeting 25 legislators throughout the day.



### Health

Filipinos are one of the largest ethnic groups in California as well as in the United States, yet there is a lack of recent disaggregated data around physical and mental health issues. surveys focused on mental and physical health in the Filipino community.





## Education and Public Programming

Since we began creating the Welga Digital Archive, the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies has been committed to sharing Filipino Studies with wider audiences. For the 2018-2019 year alone, we addressed hundreds of community members all across the state of California through exhibitions and lectures on Filipino American history and contemporary experiences.

### Exhibitions



October 27, 2019, 4th Annual Larry Itliong Day Celebration

February 8-10, 2019, Journey for Justice National Book Tour Kick-Off and Delano Pilgrimage

**May 2, 2019, APCN Asian Night Market (Pictured)**

October 7, 2018, Filipino Barrio Fiesta, Livermore, CA

October 17, 2018, "Keeping Our History Alive," Friends of the Alameda Library, Alameda, CA

October 17, 2018, Filipino American History Month Celebration, Kapor Center, Oakland, CA

October 18, 2018, Pilipinx American History Month Celebration, Yuchengco Center for Philippine Studies, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

October 18, 2018, Filipino American History Month Assembly, Jesse Bethel High School, Vallejo, CA

October 21, 2018, ULAM Main Dish Documentary Panel, Sacramento  
October 25, 2018, Larry Itliong Day, UC Davis Medical School, Davis, CA

October 27, 2018, Filipino American History Month Celebration, Itliong Vera Cruz Middle School, Union City, CA

October 28, 2018, 4th Annual Larry Itliong Day, Assemblymember Rob Bonta's District Office, Alameda, CA  
November 3, 2018, Filipino Empowerment Conference, UC Davis, Davis, CA \*Keynote\*

January 23, 2019, Call Her Ganda Screening and Community Panel, Sol Collective, Sacramento, CA.

March 28, 2019, Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, Larry Itliong Celebration, Cal State Stanislaus  
March 22, 2019, Public Allies Presentation on the United Farm Workers Movement: Interracial Solidarity and Collective Action, El Cerritos, CA.

May 18, 2019, Mga Kapatid Gala, UC Davis, Davis, CA

# Education and Public Programming

## Events Sponsored or Co-Sponsored By Bulosan Center:

Jack Meets Agyu and Black Lives and Brown Freedom, UC Davis, Davis, CA (December 15, 2018)

Contemporary Asian American Activism: Activist-Scholar Symposium, Santa Barbara, CA (January 25, 2019)

The Labor of Care: A Book Talk w/Dr. Valerie Francisco Menchavez (February 15, 2019)

Filipinx For Black Lives: Workshop & Book Talk w/ Kirby Araullo (February 26, 2019).

Pinay Power II Conference, McGill University, Montreal, Canada (April 17-20, 2019)

Rise Up! | Current Situationer on Activism in the Philippines (April 23, 2019)

## Groups Hosted and Group Trips

Bulosan Center UC Davis Medical School Trip (pictured right)

In collaboration with the Filipino Americans in Medicine (FAIM), the Bulosan Center interns toured the UC Davis medical school and nursing school campus. Following the tour, FAIM hosted a roundtable discussion regarding issues and obstacles Filipino identified medical students face within their programs and post-medical school.



Balikbayans visit Bulosan Center (Pictured left)

During APCN Night Market at the UC Davis International Center, Ruby Ibarra, the Balikbayans and Astro Logik stopped by the Bulosan Center to promote the \$1 Million.

KMU “Makibaka Speaking tour”

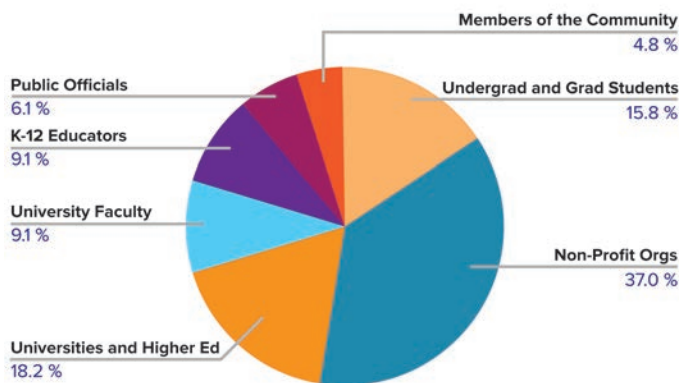
Ed Cubelo, the Chairman of the Metro Manila Chapter of Kilusang Mayo Uno (May First Movement-KMU), visited with members of Migrante Napa Solano to speak on the current labor conditions in the Philippines.



# Education and Public Programming

## Conferences

### SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEES



### 2018 Filipino Policy Symposium

The Bulosan Center—along with its community partner, LEAD Filipino—collaborated to organize the first Filipino Community Policy Symposium in September 2018. The inaugural symposium gathered over 100 participants and 25 organizations from across the state to discuss policy issues regarding health, education, workers’ rights, and immigrant rights (for more information, please see the **Advocacy** Section).

### 2019 Journey for Justice Kick Off

To celebrate the launch of Journey for Justice: The Life of Larry Itliong and to commemorate both Larry Itliong and the late Dr. Dawn Bohulano Mabalon, the Bulosan Center assisted in planning and conference preparation for the kick-off book tour. The kick-off consisted of a three-day pilgrimage in Delano, California, which included a historical tour of Delano, panel discussions, children’s readings, Q & A with the co-author and illustrator, dinner, performances, a dedicated mass for Larry Itliong and Dr. Dawn Bohulano Mabalon, and closing reception at the historic Filipino Community Hall in Delano.





## Education and Public Programming

### 2019 Bulosan Filipinx Studies Conference

In collaboration with BRIDGE Recruitment and Retention, the Bulosan Center launched the inaugural Filipinx Studies conference. Presenters and attendees included faculty, independent researchers, graduate students, undergraduate students, and community organizers. Panel sessions ranged from Immigration and migration, resistance against patriarchal norms and forces within the Filipinx community, transnationalism, the politics and cultures of Filipinx communities, Queer and LGBT issues within the Filipinx community, issues of education and activism in regards to the Filipinx communities, health and health policy, and Filipinx and Filipinx-American histories, narratives, and movements.



### 2019 FAEAC Conference: Equity Through Ethnic Studies Conference

This was a collaborative conference organized in tandem with the Filipino American Educators Association of California. The conference focused on issues pertaining to Filipino identified educators, scholars, and students, with the overarching theme being the state of ethnic studies within K-12 public education and higher education. There were 76 registered attendees and 27 presenters ranging from educators, scholars, graduate students, undergraduate students, and community organizations. The conference included a banquet celebrating the fight for ethnic studies in California and honoring legendary Filipina community organizer and advocate Cynthia Bonta.







# Archives & Public History

The mission of the Welga Archive, Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies is to provide access to archival material regarding the Filipino American history and the Filipino diaspora. To supplement the collections, the Bulosan Center manages an oral history program that lets members of the community tell their own histories and experiences through their own words. Additionally, the archives promotes their collections to the public through digital essays, historical timelines, and exhibits.

## Collection Highlight: Morgan-Yanes Family Collection

Laura and Jeanette Morgan donated digital reproductions from their family archives containing photographs and documents of family patriarch George Yanes. Immigrating to the United States in 1927, Gregorio defied miscegenation laws by marrying Rachael Harding of Nebraska in 1936. George and Rachel eventually settled in Livermore, California, where the former worked alongside several Filipinos in Livermore's rose fields. The collection provides great insights in interracial marriages in the mid-20th century, along with uncovering an overlooked aspect of Filipino agricultural history.



## Collection Usage: West Point Guide to Immigration

For the upcoming *West Point Guide to Immigration* textbook, the United States Military Academy at Westpoint incorporated several photographs from the Welga Archives, particularly photographs depicting farmworker labor and activism from the Lorraine Agtang collection.

**Digital Preservation with the UC Davis Library** In an effort to digitally preserve collections in the Welga Archive, the Bulosan Center collaborated with the UC Davis Library Special Collections to digitally preserve their collections in their Archivematica Digital Preservation System, ensuring the long term preservation of the collections.

## Oral Histories - Filipino American History Month 2018

In anticipation of the 2018 Filipino American History Month, Katrina Asuncion and Allan Jason Sarmiento conducted several oral history interviews to record aspects of Filipino American history, including civic leadership, agriculture, and political organizing.



# Archives & Public History

The interviews with Tim, Nina, and Ben Fenkell detailed their involvement with the anti-Marshall Law movement, the Katipunan ng Demokratikong Pilipino, and the Philippine National Day Association. Former City of Davis Mayor Ruth Asumundson recollects her life saga from growing up in Japanese-occupied Manila, immigrating to the United States, receiving her Ph.D in Agricultural Chemistry, and her rise to Mayor of Davis. Laura and Jeanette Moran explain their family history in Livermore, California and providing a detailed look into Filipino agriculture labor in Livermore's rose fields.



## Exhibit Highlight: CollectingHERstory - Honoring Pinays in Women's History



The narrative timeline exhibit is dedicated to Filipina and Filipina Americans in commemoration of Women's History Month. Highlighted in this exhibit include Filipina revolutionaries prior to the Philippine American War, guerrilleras of World War II, war brides, literary scholars, historians, and community organizers. Many of the women shown also provided oral histories for the Bulosan Center's Welga Digital Archive. This biographical exhibit showcases some of the many Filipinas in the past and present who have made a significant impact within their communities.

## Pinay Trailblazers: Filipina American oral history interviews

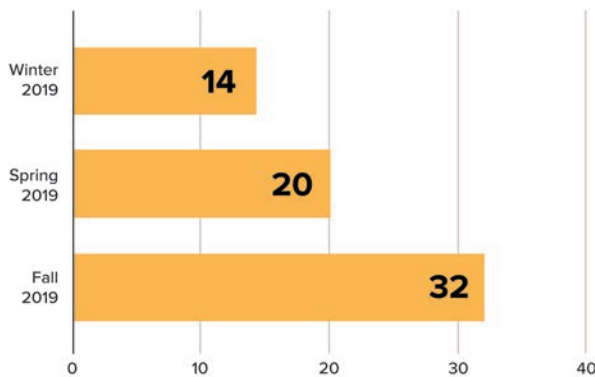
Oral histories conducted by Stacey Anne Salinas include interviews with Filipina Americans who participated in World War II, immigrated as War Brides, and contributed to the pre-1965 Filipinx American communities. These women and their families represent the Filipinx American communities of San Francisco, Sacramento, Los Angeles, the larger Central Coast, and San Diego. Their narratives demonstrate the various cultural and economic roles first generation Filipinas adhered to while trying to secure roots for their families in a new racially charged environment like the United States during the 1930s-1960s. These women often worked in the fields alongside their husbands (the manong generation) while also participating in Fil-Am community organizing and politics. Their daughters were also interviewed, many of them teachers and retired nurses. Their experiences paint the second generation Filipinx experience during cornerstone moments in Asian American history - the I-Hotel Protests, and the Asian American and Third World Liberation Front Movements.



# Internships: Supporting a New Generation of Scholars, Educators and Advocates

## Bulosan Center Internship Program:

### Number of Interns per Quarter



Beginning in Winter 2018, the Bulosan Center launched its internship program, offering quarter-long and year-round internships for undergraduate and graduate students interested in Filipinx studies research, policy initiatives, community centered advocacy, and education.

Students are able to register for units via the internship program, with 30 hours of work generating one unit per quarter. Interns are vital to our programs, research teams, and overall

operation of the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies. For example, several interns are helping to conduct research and interviews in support of the Filipin[x]s Count national health survey. Ranging from the Journey for Justice book launch to the FAEAC Conference, Bulosan Center interns have consistently performed various logistical, planning, and management duties. In total, we have hosted 105 interns since the Fall of 2018.

### Intern Listing

Abbygayle Principe  
Alejandro Doctor  
Alexandra Slusser-Banh  
Angel Truong  
Angela Alejandro  
Angela Mariya Alejandro  
Anna Pak  
Anneliese (Nelle) Garcia  
Arianna Danao  
Bailey Franzen  
Brittany Biggs  
Catherine DeGuzman  
Celin Corpuz  
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Jus Lim  
Katrina Asuncion  
Kimi Villaroman  
Lalaine Berube  
Leonard Asican  
Linda Nguyen  
Maria Kristha Fernandez  
Marika Candelaria

Maryam Kaalim  
Matthew Lawrence  
Melanie Manuel  
Michael Viray  
Michelle Galat  
Miguel Paulo Flores  
Mina Acebu  
Nancy Martinez  
Neil Bryan Castro  
Nicole Lorente-Hernandez  
Nicole Osorio  
Paulo S. Nulud  
Robert Vergara  
Venera Chalize Mandanas  
Vianca Mendoza  
Vin Arado  
Wesley Sosa

# Internships

## **Intern Highlight: Abby Principe**

Early Plans for a Filipino Studies Center at UC Davis Abbygayle Reynoso Principe is currently a lead intern at the Bulosan Center for Filipino Studies, majoring in History and minoring in both Education and Asian American Studies. Her primary contribution to the Bulosan Center this past year was in helping members of the core staff to create various museum exhibits. Currently, she is writing an honors thesis on Filipino Farmworkers during the Delano Grape Strike of 1965 that promises to break new ground on that topic.

Though raised in the diverse city of Vallejo, California, Abbygayle attended a private high school that left Asian Americans out of American history. Driven by curiosity and frustration, Abbygayle dove deeper into trying to understand the Asian American perspective in American history. She finally found the answers she sought while taking a course with Dr. Robyn Rodriguez on the Filipino American experience.

From that point on, Abbygayle became invested in learning the stories of Filipinos in America and recording their history. For instance, Abbygayle's history honors thesis discusses how Cesar Chavez's leadership led to the exodus of Filipino farmworkers from the United Farm Workers Movement in the 1970's. She has done extensive archival research in Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, and continues to work under the guidance of History PhD student and Bulosan Center Senior Historian Stacey Salinas. After completing her thesis and graduating this upcoming December, Abbygayle hopes to continue researching and writing on Filipino American history via a Masters or PhD program.





# Awards and Accomplishments



## UC Davis Community Service Award

The UC Davis Community Service Resource Center recognizes students, staff, and faculty who significantly contribute to community service initiatives with the Community Service Award. Thanks to the combined efforts of the Bulosan Center's staff, interns, and volunteers, we were awarded the Community Service Award for the 2018-2019 academic year!

## Commendation by the City of Vallejo on Carlos Bulosan Day

Carlos Bulosan was posthumously honored by the City of Vallejo on the anniversary of his birthday, November 24th, 2018, a date now officially recognized as Carlos Bulosan Day. Mayor Bob Sampayan and the City Council issued a proclamation about Carlos Bulosan Day on November 13th, 2018 at the John F. Kennedy Library, which also included a commendation recognizing the work of the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies.



## Individual Awards

Nicholas Garcia: Reed-Smith Dissertation Year Fellowship (2019-2020), Massachusetts Historical Society's W.B.H. Dowse Fellowship, Reed-Smith Travel Award (2019)

Wayne Jopanda: The Mellon Research Initiative on Racial Capitalism Travel Award (2018), UC Davis Asian Pacific American System Alliance Travel Award (2018), 2019 UC Davis Mellon Research Initiative on Racial Capitalism Summer Fellowship (2019)

Katherine Nasol: Mellon Public Scholars Fellowship, Davis Humanities Institute (February 2019)

Robyn Rodriguez: Northern California Representative, National Executive Board, Association for Asian American Studies; Faculty Director, Women of Color/Non-Binary Scholars of Color Inclusion Project; Worklife Champion, UC Davis Worklife (2019)

Stacey Anne Salinas: Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, University of California, Davis (2019), Reed-Smith Travel Award (2019), PCB-AHA Travel Award (2019). Women's Research & Resources Center, Graduate Summer Fellowship, Davis (2018). Phi Kappa Phi, University of California Davis Chapter (2018-Present)

Jason Sarmiento: Spectrum Diversity Scholar, American Library Association (2019-2020)

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