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FACCOC To Honor Young Achievers At 15th Annual Awards Night

Anaheim – The search is on for the 2009 young Filipino American achievers awardees of the Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Orange County (FACCOC) who will be given due recognition on Oct. 24 at its gala night event at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Garden Grove.

FACCOC has issued an invitation for Southern California Fil-Am associations to nominate up to three young entrepreneurs and/or students “who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in three categories –Young Entrepreneurs Achievement Award, Young Academic Leadership Award and Young Community Service Award”.

Contenders for the Young Entrepreneurs award must be of Filipino descent, 21 to 35 years old and has started or led a successful business for at least one year.

Those vying for the Young Academic Leadership award must be also of Filipino descent, from 18-35 years old and an undergraduate or graduate student in a college or university and “well-rounded in academics and student body leadership and extra-curricular activities”. For the Young Community Service Award, contenders must not only be of Filipino descent and be from 18-35 years old but also must have a “proven track record of leadership and involvement in community outreach”.

This year’s 15th awards ceremony focuses on the achievements of the youth sector and aims to “develop, recognize and motivate the next generation of Filipino community leaders and entrepreneurs”, according to its president Edith Andres

Winners who will be known only at the night of the banquet will be selected by an “impartial board of judges composed of leaders in the Filipino American community and appointed by the Board of Directors of FACCOC” in a secret balloting.

Last year’s FACCOC gala night recognized the achievements of eight Fil-Am entrepreneurs in the fashion industry which included Gina Alexander, Edmyr Barayang, Rose Marie E. Blandina, Rich Cofinco, Eugene Conde, KristaAnn Ashley Filardo, Mark Sacro and Oliver Tolentino who recently opened his own boutique in the fashionable section of Los Angeles. A fashion show featured the creations of Oliver Tolentino modeled by Filipino international fashion models under the direction of Edith Andres.

By featuring the achievements of the youth sector in this year’s gala, FACCOC organizers say it hopes to “create a positive impact and leave a legacy for the next generation of Filipino American entrepreneurs and professionals”. Also highlighting this year’s events are a special Broadway preview" JV Inc "by multi-awardee Dr. Ramon Sison Geluz, a dance performance by the famous Kaba Modern, dinner, raffle drawings and dance.

For more information on the October event, please call (877) 732-2262 or e-mail FACCOC at info@faccoc.org or visit its web site at www.faccoc.org.