



KOMUNIDAD 5: *BE THE CHANGE*

FEBRUARY 24, 2024
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

UC LAW SF
200 McAllister St,
San Francisco, CA 94102





WELCOME REMARKS

Hello and welcome to Komunidad 5. This year marks the fifth year FBANC has hosted Komunidad!

The Komunidad Conference was founded in 2020 to empower law students and junior attorneys by providing them with speakers and professional development workshops. The conference is co-organized by Filipinx students for Filipinx students, with guidance from FBANC's Mentorship Co-Directors.

We welcome all the law students throughout the Bay Area, as well as aspiring attorneys and policymakers with us today. We want to welcome our panelists, practicing attorneys, and our supportive FBANC members. We are thankful for all of you.

Komunidad 5 is a collaboration between FBANC and Fil-Am student organizations from the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, University of San Francisco School of Law; Santa Clara University School of Law (FALS); and University of California, Davis, School of Law (FLSA).

We also want to acknowledge FBANC's Mentorship Committee members who have been instrumental in assisting the law students and the Mentorship Co-Directors in making Komunidad 5 a reality.

Thank you.

Jamie F. Martinez and Ryan O. Manuel
FBANC 43 Mentorship Co-Directors



KOMUNIDAD 5: BE THE CHANGE

This year's theme for Komunidad is reflective of FBANC 43's overall theme: "Be The Change."

As Filipino/a/x law students, attorneys, and community members, "Be The Change" us that we have already defied societal expectations. Despite the challenges that society has presented, we chose to be advocates in a country that may not always appreciate us. We refuse to conform to the "model minority" stereotype. Our very existence is a testament to our resilience and determination to be agents of change.

"Be the Change" is a call to action that urges us to recognize our power to make a difference. Despite being the second-largest Asian minority in the US, Filipino/a/x people are still underrepresented in the legal profession. Racism and discrimination against Asian Americans continue to exist, as evidenced by the alarming increase in hate crimes and violence. Therefore, we must continue challenging the status quo and striving for progress.

Komunidad 5 and FBANC 43 aim to push us beyond limitations, break down barriers, and exceed expectations. Through Komunidad 5, we hope that our panelists and speakers will inspire us all to take action and become agents of change in our Fil-Am communities today and in the future.

KOMUNIDAD 5: THE SCHEDULE

9:00am

**Registration and Breakfast/Coffee (Outside of LL-01 and LL-02)
Headshots Available (optional)**

10:00am

Welcome Remarks (Room: LL-01)

10:30am

**PANEL 1 - Exploring the Depth and
Breadth of the Legal Profession (Room: LL-01)
Presented by: UC LAW SF, PALS**

11:30am

**PANEL 2A - “Kababayan sa Bar: Young Attorney Stories for
Law Students and Undergraduates” (Room: LL-02)
Presented by: USF LAW, PALS**

**PANEL 2B - Diversity and Today’s Legal Job Market (Room LL-01)
Presented by: SCU LAW, FALS**

12:30pm

Lunch (Sky Deck)

1:00pm

**Komunidad Keynote Speaker: Rudy Corpuz (Sky Deck)
United Playaz Founder and Executive Director**

2:00 pm

**PANEL 3 - Mentorship as a Vehicle for Change (Room: LL-01)
Presented by: UC Davis Law, FLSA**

3:00 pm

Group Activity 1 (Room: LL-01)

3:30pm

Resume Review and Interview Tips (Room: LL-02)

4:00 pm

Group Activity 2 (Sky Deck)

4:30 pm

Closing Remarks (Sky Deck)

5:00 pm

Happy Hour and Networking (Sky Deck)



PANEL 1:

Exploring the Depth and Breadth of the Legal Profession

This program invites lawyers from public and private sectors to discuss their personal journey in the legal profession and its perpetual twists and turns (ooooh). Audience members will gain valuable perspectives on the diversity of job opportunities in the legal world, the flexibility of moving into varying practice areas, and the pros and cons of being in the private or public sector.

Presented by: UC LAW SF, PALS

PANEL 1 PANELIST:



Hon. Benjamin T. Reyes II

Superior Court Judge,
Contra Costa County

Governor Edmund “Jerry” G. Brown, Jr. appointed the Honorable Benjamin T. Reyes II to the Superior Court of California on May 22, 2017. On July 12, 2017, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye administered the oath of office to Judge Reyes in a private family ceremony at the Supreme Court. Judge Reyes is the first Filipino American judge appointed the Contra Costa bench, and only the second Filipino American trial court judge appointed in the nine San Francisco Bay Area Counties.

Judge Reyes serves as the Supervising Judge of the Family Law Division of the Court and sits on the Court’s Executive Committee. He previously served as Supervising Judge of the Civil Grand Jury. He was honored as the Trial Judge of the Year by the Alameda Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association.

Judge Reyes is an Eagle Scout and served as the President of the Boy Scouts of America, Alameda Council. He previously served as the President of the Alameda Free Library Foundation, as a Board Member of the California Alumni Association (Berkeley) and as the Chair of the Contra Costa City Attorneys Association. He is active in the California Asian Pacific Judges Association, Filipino Bar Association of Northern California, the National Filipino American Lawyers Association, the Asian American Bar Association, and the Contra Costa County Bar Association.

Judge Reyes teaches on the faculty of the University of California Berkeley School of Law and on the University of San Francisco School of Law.

Judge Reyes earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He, and his wife, Susan, have two adult children, Benjamin Adam III, and Isabel Reyes.



Rhean Fajardo

Associate General Counsel
Oakland Athletics | San Jose
Earthquakes

Rhean Fajardo is Associate General Counsel with the Oakland Athletics and San Jose Earthquakes. In her role, Rhean works on some of the most exciting issues in Major League Baseball and Major League Soccer including real estate matters related to the relocation and development of a new ballpark for the Oakland A's. Rhean's day to day practice also includes support of the corporate partnerships, stadium operations, baseball/soccer operations, ticketing, marketing, and community and events teams.

Prior to joining the A's and Quakes front office, she served as Corporate Counsel at several Bay Area companies focusing on fin tech, bio tech and, most recently, cybersecurity and digital safety at Norton LifeLock where she advised on a wide range of innovative business development initiatives and strategic partnerships, including commercial and technology licensing agreements for both domestic and international deals. Her experience also includes a 6-year stint in the public sector as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Daly City focusing on code enforcement and administrative law. Rhean earned her J.D. from the University of San Francisco, School of Law and her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Alexander Padua

Associate

Dentons US LLP

Alex Padua is an associate attorney at Dentons US, where he practices in the firm's Commercial Litigation group. Prior to joining Dentons, he served as a Deputy Attorney General in the California Department of Justice's Civil Division. In that role, he represented various government entities and officials, law enforcement, and medical personnel in civil rights and tort-law matters across the state. Alex obtained his JD from UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) in 2019. As a student, Alex served as Co-President of the Pilipinx American Law Society, was a member of the Hastings Law Journal, a board member on the Hastings Moot Court Team, and a teaching assistant for legal writing and appellate advocacy classes. Alex currently serves as an alumni coach for the UC Law SF Moot Court Team.



Dana Bass

Associate Attorney
Bass and Benabou, LLP

Dana is an attorney at Bass & Benabou, LLP, a small general practice in Walnut Creek.

Prior to joining the firm, Dana clerked for the Honorable Mark E. Recktenwald, Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, and worked at the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, designing and implementing the Whole Child Project, which provided comprehensive and accessible legal services to Windward Oahu's children and families.

Dana received her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law in 2018 and her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2012.

PANEL 1 MODERATORS:



RJ Abarquez (2L)

University of California College
of the Law, San Francisco
Pilipinx American Law Society
(PALS)



Genevieve Fermin (2L)

University of California College
of the Law, San Francisco
Pilipinx American Law Society
(PALS)



PANEL 2A:

“Kababayan sa Bar: Young Attorney Stories for Law Students and Undergraduates”

Embark on a journey towards legal success! This session puts the spotlight on attorneys with 0-5 years of post-law school experience. The panel is tailored for ambitious undergraduates and 1L/2L students. Get ready for an exploration of crucial topics essential for your thriving legal journey. Dive into the intricacies of job security in the legal field, uncover valuable insights into navigating summer jobs, clerkships, and internships, and immerse yourself in the perspectives of recent graduates. From deciphering the nuances of transitioning from school to the workforce Public vs. Private practice to honing essential skills during internships, this panel, features attorneys in their early professional years, offers hands-on guidance for shaping a secure and fulfilling legal career.

Don't miss out on this dynamic discussion filled with practical advice and firsthand experiences, designed to equip you with the knowledge needed to thrive in the legal profession. Whether you're just starting your law school journey or seeking insights for the early years, this panel is your exciting gateway to a successful legal future and **BE THE CHANGE!**

Presented by: USF LAW, PALS

PANEL 2A PANELISTS:



Vannalee Cayabyab

Associate Attorney

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher

Vannalee Cayabyab (she/her) is an associate attorney at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP in San Francisco in the general litigation department. Prior to joining private practice, she began her year-long judicial clerkship for the Honorable U.S. District Judge Ana de Alba in Fresno. Vannalee graduated from UC Davis School of Law in 2022 and was inducted into the Order of the Coif and Order of Barristers. During her time at law school, Vannalee served on the Moot Court Honors Board and UC Davis Law Review. She was involved in the Filipinx Law Student Association as both treasurer and co-chair. Through the Immigration Law Clinic at UC Davis, she engaged in a wide variety of projects and received the annual King Hall Outstanding Clinic Student Award. Vannalee also worked as a Pre-Law Academy Advisor for the Gonzalez Pre-Law Academy at UC Davis, developing programming for undergraduates interested in attending law school. Vannalee is originally from the Central Valley in Clovis, California and is a double aggie!



Idrian Mollaneda

Associate

Farella Braun + Martel LLP

Idrian Mollaneda (he/him) is an associate in the employment practice group of Farella Braun + Martel and a 2021 graduate of Berkeley Law. In law school, Idrian interned with the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, the East Bay Community Law Center, and the Hon. Jon S. Tigar of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. He was also co-president of PALS and Queer Caucus. Idrian has served on the FBANC Board as Social Co-Director for the past two terms, and recently began serving on the AIDS Legal Referral Panel Board. Idrian is a proud Cebu native, and speaks fluent Cebuano and passable Tagalog.



Raymond Magsaysay.

Judicial Law Clerk

Supreme Court of California

Raymond Magsaysay currently clerks for Justice Goodwin Liu of the California Supreme Court and then for Judge Jacqueline Nguyen of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit beginning fall of 2024. He was previously an Associate at Latham & Watkins, working on white-collar investigations and defense litigation, billion-dollar government contract disputes and transactions, and pro bono immigration matters. Raymond is also a published legal scholar, writing "Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and the Prison Industrial Complex" in the Michigan Journal of Race & Law. His scholarship has been reviewed as groundbreaking and cited by several scholars.

Before his legal career, Raymond taught at both university and elementary school levels in Madrid, Spain. He also worked in prisoner advocacy and labor organizing, efforts that earned him various awards, including the Fulbright and Truman scholarships.

Raymond obtained his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania where he was an inaugural First Generation Professional Fellow and Don H. Liu Scholar. He holds a master's degree in teaching from the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares and a bachelor's degree in sociology, with general and departmental honors, from Vassar College. He is licensed to practice law in Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. In his free time, Raymond loves to shop at museum stores and eat, eat, eat.



Kelsea Villanueva

Associate Attorney
Lepera + Associates

Kelsea graduated with a Juris Doctorate from the University of San Francisco, School of Law in 2023 and received a Public Interest Law Certificate due to her community service and studies in the public sector. During her time at USF, she was an active member and historian for the Pilipino American Law Society, and a co-chair of Mentorship in the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. To be an advocate for her community she was also a member and Secretary of Pride Law, and participated in community service through the USF Public Interest Law Foundation.

Kelsea has experience in Immigration doing asylum work as a legal intern for Oasis Legal Services, as well as working with trademark management for a tech company. Kelsea is currently an Associate Attorney for Lepera + Associates, which practices civil litigation for personal injury, contract, and employment claims.

PANEL 2A MODERATOR:



Raniele Reyes (2L)

University of San Francisco
School of Law
Pilipinx American Law
Society (PALS)



PANEL 2B:

Diversity and Today's Legal Job Market

This panel will consist of lawyers (and non-lawyers) involved in the hiring process of lawyers at their respective firm/business/government agency or influence the hiring of new attorneys. The panel will focus on young associates with 0-5 years of experience in practicing law. It aims to provide practical advice and insights on enhancing one's marketability in today's job market.

We hope their experience and background as practicing attorneys or someone who has transitioned from practicing law to recruiting and/or working with new associates would be valuable to this panel. We are also interested in hearing their thoughts on the current hiring trends. Lastly, we would like to listen to their perspective and insights as a person of color in shaping the demographics and composition of lawyers in their offices.

Presented by: SCU LAW, FALS

PANEL 2B PANELISTS:



Komal (Chaddha) Chokshi

Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
SF City Attorney's Office

Komal Chokshi is the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the San Francisco City Attorney's Office. She earned a Bachelor of Art degree in English from the University of California, Berkeley and a Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Davis.

Prior to joining the City Attorney's Office, Komal served as the first Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer at the University of California's Legal Department, where she designed and implemented DEI initiatives, including an innovative outside counsel DEI "report card" program. Before heading up UC Legal's DEI efforts, she was a litigator at the University of California. Komal previously spent 13 years as a litigator at a number of private law firms and coordinated several firms' participation in programs aimed at increasing diversity in the profession.

With a deep foundational knowledge on DEI programs and best practices, Komal is a frequent panelist and speaker on diversity in the legal profession and has received numerous honors over the course of her career. Komal served as a California Minority Counsel Program Ambassador, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach Board Member, and Commissioner on the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women. In 2008, she received the South Asian Bar Association's Young Lawyer of the Year Award.



Krissy Ocampo

Specialist,
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Goodwin Law

Kristian Marie Lirio Ocampo (she/her/hers), also known as Krissy, is an intersectional Pinay-scholar activist. She credits her passion for human rights and social justice education to her mom, *titas* (aunts), grandmother, friends, and so many other elders and peers.

Her work in diversity, equity & inclusion is guided by Pinayism praxis (Dr. Allyson Tintiango-Cubales) which centers 4 P's: understanding and engaging in the process of humanization, self-determination, liberation, and relationship building; creating places for dialogue, as well as programs, scholarship, advocacy, and action for perspectives; and embodying a pedagogy that includes teaching, learning, mentoring, and caring for other people. This praxis allows Krissy to be a changemaker and empowering team member in the spaces she is involved in.

Krissy currently serves as a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Operations Specialist at Goodwin Law. She manages CRED, the affinity group for attorneys of color, and Pride, the affinity group for LGBTQ+ attorneys, DEI sponsorships, and the firm's inclusion speaker series. In addition, she is currently leading the efforts on disability justice and accessibility across the firm.



Adam Harris

Director of Candidate Development
Major, Lindsey & Africa

Adam Harris is a Managing Director of Candidate Development at Major Lindsey & Africa, the world's leading legal search firm. Adam joined Major Lindsey and Africa in 2020 after graduating from UC San Francisco College of the Law, and since joining has advised hundreds of attorneys and legal professionals. He specializes in delivering tailored guidance in all aspects of the job search and career transition process, including providing in-depth market insights, marketing and resume support, and general career consulting.

In his current role, Adam leverages his legal expertise and industry knowledge to connect talented legal professionals with fitting opportunities, thereby facilitating the growth and success of both individuals and organizations within the legal sector.

PANEL 2B MODERATORS:



Ramon Asuncion (2L)

Santa Clara University
School of Law
(Filipino American Law Society
(FALS))



Pauline Loyola (3L)

Santa Clara University
School of Law
(Filipino American Law Society
(FALS))



KOMUNIDAD 5

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

RUDY CORPUZ

Founder and Executive Director, United Playaz

UNITED
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PLAYAZ

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RUDY CORPUZ

United Playaz Founder and Executive Director

Rudy Corpuz is the Founder and Executive Director of United Playaz.

United Playaz is a violence prevention and youth development organization that has worked in San Francisco for 25 years. The UP Clubhouse is located in the heart of San Francisco's SoMa district. It's dedicated team share similar backgrounds with the youth they serve, and they work with the key insight that communities prosper from within. They provide kids with a safe and positive environment in which they can grow. Their goal is to maintain a consistent 'home' that most of the kids lack in other facets of their daily lives.

United Playaz's programs provide youth with adult support, academic enrichment, and leadership skills to prevent them from entering and re-entering the justice system. Their programs reframe kids' perceptions, attitudes and beliefs about their future and the positive effect they can have upon their community. Youth gain the knowledge and empowerment needed to tackle daily exposure to social and cultural pressures.

United Playaz (UP) provides year-round individual case management services to youth geared towards reducing cycles of destructive behavior. They work to improve their kids' overall health by increasing their knowledge and access to ancillary services through a well-established network of partners and referral services.



UNITED
PLAYAZ



For more Information about United Playaz, visit:
<https://unitedplayaz.org/>

UNITED PLAYAZ's programs provide youth with adult support, academic enrichment, and leadership skills to prevent them from entering and re-entering the justice system. UP's programs reframe the perceptions, attitudes, and beliefs of the kids they support about their future and the positive effect they can have on their community. Youth gain the knowledge and empowerment needed to tackle daily exposure to social and cultural pressures.

In School Violence Prevention

UP has a presence at 7 high schools in San Francisco in order to provide in-school violence prevention and support. This program provides youth with a way to get to know UP's organization while developing leadership skills and participating in violence prevention events.

Case Management

UP provides year-round individual case management services to youth geared towards reducing cycles of destructive behavior. UP improves the kids' overall health by increasing their knowledge and access to ancillary services through a well-established network of partners and referral services. UP has taken on 375 case-management clients so far.

Workforce Development

UP provides skill development and workforce training, academic assistance with the GED and HSE, as well as college enrollment services and referrals to vocational training and other employment programs. UP ensures their kids that they will become self-sufficient adults. Currently, UP has assisted more than 100 kids who have completed their GED, enrolled in college, or completed vocational training.



PANEL 3:

Mentorship as a Vehicle for Change

Although Filipinxs have been forced to advocate for themselves in the legal profession, many actively choose to use their power to advocate for others. Often this is seen through the transformative power of mentorship: a vehicle used to make space at the table for our Filipinx community. Each of our panelists, Judge Patrice De Guzman Huber, Judge Jeffrey Javinar, and Judge Marlo Nisperos, represent the value of intergenerational mentorships that continue to create change in the profession. Join us to hear how mentorship has been instrumental in shaping their legal careers and how Ruthe Ashley's mentees-turned-mentors are charting the path for the next generation of legal professionals.

Presented by: UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW, FLSA

PANEL 3 PANELISTS:



Judge Marlo Nisperos
Administrative Law Judge

Judge Marlo Nisperos has been an Administrative Law Judge for the State of California since 2019. Prior to becoming an ALJ, she had a successful practice specializing in criminal defense and family law. After graduating from law school, she worked as a deputy district attorney for 10 years in Solano County where she prosecuted over 75 cases to trial.

In 2005, she graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, and was ranked in the top 20% of her class. She graduated from Mills College in 1999 with a degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She was the inaugural President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Solano County, was a Regional Governor for NAPABA, and served on the Solano County Bar Association board. Currently she is the vice president of SacFALA.



Judge Patrice De Guzman Huber
Administrative Law Judge

Judge Patrice De Guzman Huber is an Administrative Law Judge for the State of California. Previously, she was enforcement counsel at the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, staff attorney for the Department of State Hospitals, and a public defender.

Judge De Guzman Huber is a first generation immigrant from the Philippines and is dedicated to serving the community. She actively serves as a mentor to high school law academy students and law school students in the Sacramento area. She also serves on the boards of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association (SacFALA), and the Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento. She is a barrister in the Schwartz Levi Inn of Court and a member of the California Asian Pacific American Judges Association (CAPAJA) and California Women Lawyers.

Judge De Guzman Huber earned her J.D. from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 2014 and her Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from California State University, Fresno in 2011. For fun, she enjoys practicing hot yoga, veganizing recipes, and taking photos of the ocean.



Judge Jeffrey Javinar
Administrative Law Judge

Honorable Jeffrey Javinar is an administrative law judge for the California Office of Administrative Hearings, General Jurisdiction.

Before joining the bench, he practiced before state, federal, administrative, and private tribunals. He previously served as a Vertical Advocate with the Department of Corrections, as a Hearing Officer at the California State Personnel Board, and as a Deputy Attorney General with the California Department of Justice, as an associate with Littler Mendelson, P.C., and as a prosecutor with the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office.

Judge Javinar has been active in the APA community. He served as a Regional Governor and Secretary for NAPABA. He also assisted in forming the California Asian Pacific American Bar Association (Cal-APABA), where he served as Secretary for several years.

Currently, Judge Javinar serves as the President of SacFALA. He also chairs the Leadership Education and Attorney Development Task Force for the National Filipino American Lawyers Association (NFALA). He founded the NFALA Leadership Academy, which is designed to empower emerging Filipino American attorneys (recent law school graduates to 5 years of practice), by cultivating their leadership abilities and fostering career advancement.

PANEL 3 MODERATORS:



Meghan Imperio

UC Davis School of Law
(Filipinx Law Students
Association (FLSA))



Katrina Siason

UC Davis School of Law
(Filipinx Law Students
Association (FLSA))

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NAPABA

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association



**THANK YOU TO OUR
KOMUNIDAD 5:
PLANNING
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UC LAW SF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



R.J. Abarquez (2L)

RJ Abarquez is a 2L from San Jose, California. He was previously studied Pre-Law at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. At UC Law SF, he stays busy with UC Law Associated Students, APALSA, Law Empowerment & Access Project, UC Business Law Journal, and the Legal Education Opportunity Program.



Kaitlin Alcontin (2L)

Kaitlin Alcontin is a 2L from Alameda, California. She majored in Public Affairs at UCLA. Currently, she's involved in the UC Law Environmental Journal and UC Law SF's new Disability Rights Association.

UC LAW SF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Edward Sabalbuero Jr. (2L)

Edward Sabalbuero is a 2L from Lancaster, CA. He majored in Computer Science at UCLA and is a UC Law SF Moot Court competitor as well as a TA for Legal Research and Writing.



Genevieve Fermin (2L)

Genevieve Fermin is 2L from Rancho Cucamonga, CA. She majored in Political Science at UCLA. She's also on UC Law SF's Moot Court team and a TA for Legal Research and Writing.

USF SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Kirsten Mauban (3L)

Kirsten-Audrey is a first-generation, third year law student at the University of San Francisco School of Law. She is USF PALS' Treasurer and APALSA's Co-Mentorship chair. Kirsten's background as an immigrant has rooted her commitment to social justice. Kirsten interned at the Contra Costa Public Defender's Office and worked in their misdemeanor, felony, post-conviction, and juvenile units. In her second year, she was a clinician for USF's Criminal and Juvenile Justice Clinic helping people charged with misdemeanors in SF. During her 1L summer, she externed in Cambodia at NGO-CEDAW (the U.N. Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination Against Women). There she focused her research on human rights abuses in women's prisons and Southeast-Asian garment factories. Prior to law school, she worked at a non-profit and interned at the Clark County Public Defender's Office in Las Vegas. For her dedication to public defense, she received the Alameda-Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association 2024 Diversity Scholarship and was the inaugural recipient of FBANC's Ernie and Mila Llorente Scholarship.

Fun fact: her favorite Filipino dessert is hot taho!

USF SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Raniele Reyes (2L)

Raniele Reyes (he/him) was raised in Hawai'i and moved to San Francisco to pursue his J.D. at the USF Law after graduating from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with a B.A. in Political Science and Filipino Language and Culture. He currently serves as the 2L PILF Co-Chair, Co-Vice President of the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association and the Vice President of the Pilipino American Law Society. His passion lies in the intersection of land usage and affordable housing development. In his free time, Raniele loves to hike, swim at the beach, cook, and try different boba places around the city.



Kasey Isobe (3L)

Kasey Isobe is currently a third-year law student at the University of San Francisco School of Law. Originally from Mililani, Hawai'i, she completed her undergraduate studies at Portland State University (PSU), where she was a member of the PSU Women's D1 Soccer team and earned a B.S. in Business Administration Finance. Currently, Kasey holds positions as the Professional Development chair for USF PALS, Co-President of USF APALSA, and the Symposium Editor of USF Law Review Volume 58.

During her 1L summer, Kasey worked as an in-house legal intern for American Savings Bank, a federally chartered bank based in Honolulu. In her 2L summer, Kasey served as a law clerk for Wood, Smith, Henning, & Berman LLP. Last fall, she had the opportunity to extern with the Oakland A's and San Jose Earthquakes' in-house counsel.

SCU SCHOOL OF LAW

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Ralph Dimarucut (3L)

Ralph is a 3L at SCU Law and is the current Treasurer and former President of the Filipino-American Law Society. Ralph has a Master of Public Administration degree as well as a B.A. in Asian Studies from San Diego State University. He is interested in Employment Law as well as Municipal Law. He is currently a research assistant looking into Artificial Intelligence in the workplace and its impact on humans. In his spare time he enjoys going to crossfit classes and riding his bike.



Pauline Loyola (3L)

Pauline is currently a 3L at SCU Law and serves as Co-President of the SCU Filipino-American Law Society (FALS). She is interested in tech transactions and working in-house post grad. For fun, Pauline likes to spend quality time with her dog and try dessert places with friends!

SCU SCHOOL OF LAW

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Jose Ramon Asuncion (2L)

Ramon Asuncion is a 2L at SCU Law and is the Co-Vice President of the Filipino-American Law Society. Ramon is an immigrant and first generation student. He is interested in Labor/Employment Law. He is currently a Law Clerk at the SCC PDO working in the Post-Convictions Unit focusing on the application of the new Racial Justice Act. In his free time, he enjoys playing golf and traveling.



Rochel Marie L. Go (3L)

Rochel is currently a 3L at SCU Law and serves as Co-President of the SCU Filipino-American Law Society (FALS) alongside Pauline Loyola. Rochel is interested in a career in public interest and has experience in land use work. Beyond that, she is an avid bodybuilding fan, powerlifter, and builder of legos!

SCU SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



David Gutierrez (2L)

David is a 2L at Santa Clara Law. He is interested in the practice areas of privacy law and tech transactions. In my free time, I enjoy spending time outside and trying new restaurants with friends.

UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Ellena Cullen

Elena, a first-generation college and law student from the Bay Area, is a member of UC Davis School of Law's 2L class. She is a Co-Chair for the Filipinx Law Students Association, a board member for the First Generation Advocates Student Board, and the Law Student Association's Council on Student Affairs and Fees Representative. She is also a member of the UC Davis Law Review and last year, Elena volunteered with the Workers' Rights Clinic to conduct client intakes for the Center for Workers' Rights in Sacramento.

Over her 1L summer, Elena was a judicial intern for Judge Brand in an Alameda County Superior Court. Next summer, Elena will be a summer associate with McDermott Will & Emery's San Francisco office.



Meghan Imperio

Meghan is a 1L at UC Davis School of Law. She is a first generation American and college student. At King Hall, she is a 1L Rep for FLSA, involved in the Social Justice Law Review and a recipient of the Reynoso Academic Achievement award in Criminal Law.

Before law school, Meghan served two terms with AmeriCorps's JusticeCorps program in Los Angeles where she worked with self-represented litigants in the Superior Court's self-help resource centers. This summer, she will be joining the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley in the Legal Advocates for Children and Youth division as a summer law clerk.

UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Katrina Siason

Katrina is a current 1L at UC Davis School of Law. Prior to law school, she worked as a legal assistant for a boutique business litigation firm. She has also previously interned for a public interest law firm and worked as a student assistant for her undergraduate institution's legal services office. At King Hall, she is a 1L representative for the Filipinx Law Students Association, a 1L section representative for the Law Students Association, and is also a below-line editor for the Business Law Journal. She is also a recipient of the Reynoso Academic Excellence Award in Legal Research and Writing.



Lexi Vitangcol

Lexi Vitangcol is a current 1L of UC Davis' Class of 2026. She is a 1L representative for Filipinx Law Students Association, general member of Asian Pacific Law Students Association, and 1L Representative of Business Law Society. She is also a member of Business Law Journal and Journal of International Law and Policy.

During her 1L summer, Lexi will be externing for the Federal Eastern District Court for Honorable Troy Nunley.

UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Jason Braun

Jason is from Los Angeles and is a 1L at UC Davis School of Law. At King Hall, he is a member of the Business Law Journal, Environs Journal, and the Journal of International Law and Policy. He also serves as the liaison between the Filipinx Law Students Association and the Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association. He is also a member of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association.

Before law school, Jason established the UC Merced Law Clinic, the first official sub-department legal service available to all UC Merced undergraduates. He aspires to work within the field of Food and Beverage Law.

KOMUNIDAD 5

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Leoangelo Cristobal
Tax Attorney
FBANC Attorney Panel 1 Leader/Advisor

Leo serves as Tax Counsel for the California Franchise Tax Board. Prior to public service, he worked in the private sector as a Tax Associate at Andersen in San Francisco and as an Associate Attorney in the tax group at Boutin Jones, Inc. in Sacramento. His practice has included tax controversy, tax compliance, and business and transactional tax planning involving tax laws across the federal, state, and local levels. He has an LL.M. in Taxation and is also admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court.

Prior to law school, Leo received his B.A. from the University of California, Davis. He earned his J.D. from Golden Gate University School of Law, where he competed in Mock Trial, wrote for Law Review, and clerked for the Hon. Judge Teri L. Jackson. He also served as co-President for the Pilipino American Law Society and was a recipient of the FBANC Raymond L. Ocampo, Jr. Family Scholarship. Leo has been an active FBANC member since 2013, and at the Annual Gala on June 14, 2024, he will be installed as the 44th President of FBANC.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Riane Briones
Associate Attorney
Manning Kass
FBANC Attorney Panel 2A Leader/Advisor

Riane is an Associate in the San Francisco office of Manning & Kass, Ellrod Ramirez Trester. She is a member of the Premises Liability, Product Liability, and Retail, Restaurant, and Hospitality Litigation teams.

Riane received her Bachelor of Arts in Literature from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she was an active leader in Bayanihan, formerly known as the Filipino Student Association. She then received her Juris Doctor from the University of San Francisco School of Law, where she received several accolades, including the Edward J. McFetridge Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy and the Pro Bono Bronze Award. As an executive board member for USF's Pilipino American Law Society, Riane also helped organize the inaugural Komunidad Conference in 2020. She has served on the FBANC Board of Directors as a Co-Director of Operations for the past two terms.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Ryan Louie O. Manuel
Attorney

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard and Smith, LLP
FBANC Attorney Panel 2B Leader/Advisor

Ryan Manuel (He/Him) is an Attorney at Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard and Smith LLP (“LBBS”) in the San Francisco Office. He is a General Liability Litigation Practice Group member specializing in complex personal injury cases such as construction site accidents, premises liability, landlord/tenant disputes, roadway safety, and automobile/trucking accidents. Ryan has extensive experience in defending serious personal injury cases, including wrongful death and traumatic brain injury. Ryan represents contractors and subcontractors in cases involving catastrophic injuries and wrongful death. Ryan has also represented an AV event production company and various grocery stores in alleged workplace injury and premises liability matters.

Before joining LBBS, Ryan defended professionals in civil lawsuits and administrative claims, such as real estate brokers, appraisers, lawyers, insurance agents, accountants, engineers, architects, contractors, subcontractors, etc. Ryan is also experienced in handling employment and labor matters.

Ryan earned his B.A. in Political Sciences and Global Studies from UC Santa Barbara. At UCSB, he served as the Co-Chair of Kapatirang Pilipino.

Ryan received his J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law. While in law school, Ryan was the PALS Co-Chair, President of APALSA, Pride Law Secretary, ELSAS Media Chair, and Symposium Editor of the USF Law Review. In 2019, Ryan was recognized for his achievements with the Student Bar Association Award. He has been an active board member of the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California (FBANC) since 2022, serving as the Social Co-Director, and is currently the Mentorship Co-Director.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Alyssa V. Daatio
Trusts and Estates Attorney
Candelaria PC
FBANC Attorney Panel 3 Leader/Advisor

Alyssa V. Daatio is an associate attorney in Candelaria PC's estate planning, trust administration, and probate litigation group. It is Alyssa's goal to provide creative and efficient solutions for her clients, while balancing the emotional aspect of this area of law. In addition to estate planning, Alyssa's practice and experience also includes protective proceedings, such as conservatorships, limited conservatorships, guardianships, probate administrations, and trust administrations. Alyssa also assists clients with trust and probate litigation matters.

Prior to joining Candelaria PC, Alyssa worked at a prominent estate planning firm in Redwood City, California. During her time there, Alyssa gained valuable experience representing various clients, including private professional fiduciaries, in all areas of probate law, including contested probate proceedings in San Mateo County and Santa Clara County.

Alyssa earned her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 2019, where she graduated with a Public Interest Law Certificate and as the recipient of the Pursuit of Justice Award, given to one graduating student for their demonstrated commitment to provide service to others through legal experience, community and volunteer service, and service to the law school and students. While in law school, Alyssa interned at various non-profits in the Bay Area, such as Asian Law Alliance, Public Advocates, and the ACLU of Northern California.

Prior to law school, Alyssa worked as an immigration paralegal for three years, where she assisted individuals with employment-based immigration matters. Alyssa obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology/Law and Society from UC Riverside in 2013 and received an Academic Excellence Award for her major. In college, Alyssa worked as a legal assistant, where she assisted individuals applying for asylum in the United States.

Alyssa is a Bay Area native. In her free time, she enjoys hiking with her dog, Nombre, watching basketball, listening to true crime podcasts, and baking. She also speaks conversational Tagalog.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Melani Tiongson
Attorney
ChangeLab Solutions

Melani is an attorney at ChangeLab Solutions, where she supports local governments, public health professionals, and community organizations in addressing the upstream drivers of health through equity-centered law and policy change. Melani is also on the Board of Directors for FBANC and is this year's Historian Director. Melani earned her B.A. in English and Psychology from Stony Brook University and her J.D., with a specialization in law and technology, from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Alexander Padua
Associate
Dentons US LLP

Alex Padua is an associate attorney at Dentons US, where he practices in the firm's Commercial Litigation group. Prior to joining Dentons, he served as a Deputy Attorney General in the California Department of Justice's Civil Division. In that role, he represented various government entities and officials, law enforcement, and medical personnel in civil rights and tort-law matters across the state. Alex obtained his JD from UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) in 2019.

KOMUNIDAD 5

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Jamie F. Martinez **Sr. Employment Counsel** **Applied Materials**

Jamie is a Senior Employment Counsel at Applied Materials, where he is a trusted legal partner for various teams including Employee Relations, Human Resources, and Mergers & Acquisitions. He supports several DEI Initiatives, such as Applied's Culture of Inclusion and is a member of Applied's AAPI affinity group - Asians in Motion.

Prior to Applied Materials, Jamie worked for several preeminent law firms in the Bay Area, focusing on a variety of Labor and Employment issues such as: discrimination, sexual harassment, wage & hour class action. As a litigator, Jamie tackles each stage of litigation from all angles. With substantial experience in litigation, Jamie analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of claims and defenses to obtain the most favorable result in the best interest of the client.

Jamie earned his B.A. in Political Science - International Relations from UCLA and his J.D. from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Since 2022, he has served on the board of FBANC. In his spare time, Jamie enjoys traveling, improving his golf game, and spending time with his dog Max.

KOMUNIDAD 5

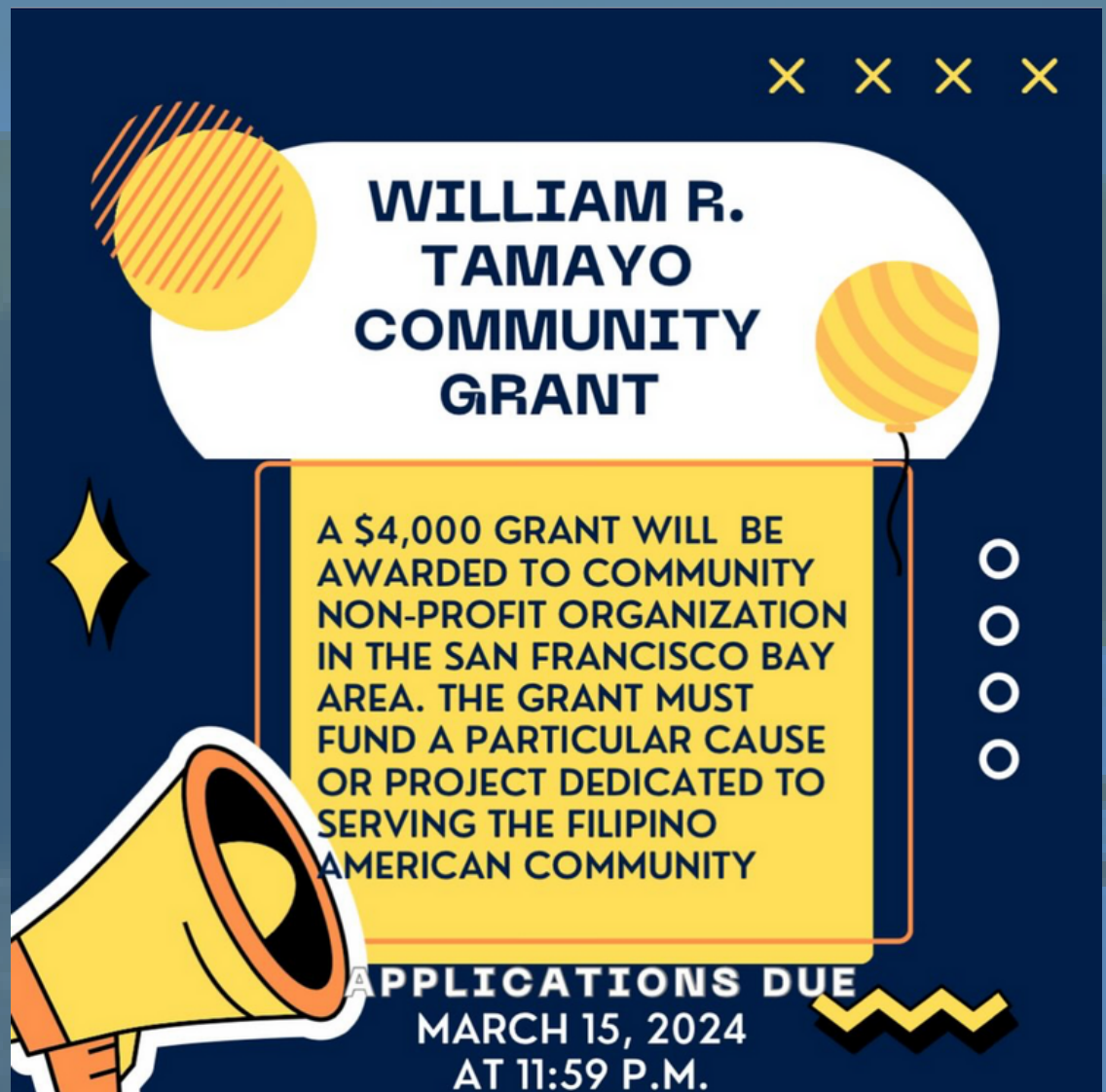
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Nelson Pineda Lam **Counsel, Employment at** **Uber**

Nelson Pineda Lam currently serves as FBANC 43 President and is a Senior Employment Counsel at Uber Technologies, Inc., where he is a trusted legal partner for various teams including Employee Relations, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Talent Acquisition, and Mergers & Acquisitions. He supports critical people initiatives, including Uber's commitment to being an anti-racist company and its compliance obligations as a federal government contractor. He is a program manager for Uber's Racial Equity Leadership Council, leading its internal pay equality initiatives. Nelson co-founded the company's Filipino employee affinity group: Ube @ Uber. In 2015, Nelson was awarded the FBANC Legal Scholarship. Since 2016, he has served on the board of FBANC. Committed to pro bono work that supports historically underrepresented communities, Nelson has organized law firm career days for students with limited financial resources, successfully obtained permanent restraining orders on behalf of domestic violence victims, and defended high school students facing expulsion charges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



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**WILLIAM R.
TAMAYO
COMMUNITY
GRANT**

A \$4,000 GRANT WILL BE AWARDED TO COMMUNITY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA. THE GRANT MUST FUND A PARTICULAR CAUSE OR PROJECT DEDICATED TO SERVING THE FILIPINO AMERICAN COMMUNITY

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**APPLICATIONS DUE
MARCH 15, 2024
AT 11:59 P.M.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Pinay Powerhouse Kamayan Feast
Co-sponsored by FBANC March 7, 2024**

**FBANC Community Partner
Appreciation Event March 9, 2024**

**FBANC Multi-Practice
Virtual March 19 or 21, 2024**

FBANC Karaoke Night March 28, 2024

Inaugural Liwanag Conference April 6, 2024

2024 FBANC Golf Tournament April 8, 2024

FBANC 44 Gala June 14, 2024

**To our amazing host:
UC LAW SF, PALS**

*Thank
you!*