2010/11 has been a very productive year for FILINARTIZTS. We have lead and completed big and successful projects, with some on-going ones that are consistent with our objectives.

Undertaking all these reflects FILINARTIZTS’ basic objectives, which are:

- Promoting awareness and appreciation of Philippine arts and culture both within the Filipino community and wider segments of society in New Zealand;
- Build on and encourage Filipinos of all age groups – particularly the young and those born in New Zealand, to express their cultural heritage and traditions as one that is both vibrant and alive by:
  - tapping both budding and established talents in music, dance, visual arts, performing arts, martial arts and literary arts; and,
  - being the conduit for Filipino talents showcasing all these forms.
- To enhance the craft and upgrade individual talents and skills through continuous training and participation in activities, particularly in performances; and,
- To encourage creativity and motivate social cohesion within the Filipino community in New Zealand.

PALARONG PINOY (PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY, JUNE 2010)
FILINARTIZTS organised the Palarong Pinoy (Filipino indigenous games) during the Philippine Independence Day celebrations in June 2010. We played different indigenous games such as patintero, limbo rock, bunong braso, sipa, piko, touch ball and tumbang preso.

We have collaborated with other Filipino organisations in staging this event and prevailed upon them to donate prizes for the winners of the games. The organisations that supported this endeavour were: Wellington International Filipino Society (WIFS), Bulwagan Foundation Trust, Young Once, UpWell Trust, FILIFEST Dance Group, Mabuhay Association, the Philippine Embassy and local Filipino-owned businesses.

The event was well received, well attended and participated by everyone, young and old alike.
SOUTHEAST ASIAN NIGHT (AUGUST 2010)
FILINARTIZTS collaborated with the Anklung Band and the Philippine Embassy in a fusion of Ati-atihan dance and drumbeats and the bamboo band and songs performed at the Finale of this event organised by the Community Action Trust New Zealand (CATNZ). The performance was well received.

1 Filinartizts Ati-atihan in collaboration with Angklung Band.

ATI-ATIHAN PERFORMANCES (VARIOUS EVENTS)
Our Ati-atihan group is now a fixture in Filipino events and celebrations, including major Wellington events. The group has performed during the Brgy. San Miguel Fiesta, the annual Labour Weekend Labour reunion held in Auckland, Southeast Asian Night, Petone Festival and Sinulog Festival.
Our Ati-atihan festival will also feature at the Rugby World Cup Festivale of Carnivale 2011 and is now included in the REAL NZ Festival, the official website of events during the Rugby World Cup.

We will have various performances at the Wellington’s RWC FANZONE during the Rugby World Cup tournament in September-October this year. This performance is a collaborative project with Bulwagan Foundation Trust, ARIZE Hip-hop Dance Crew and the Filipino youth.

**DIVERSITY ACTION PROGRAMME**

FILINARTIZTS is now part of the Diversity Action Programme of the Human Rights Commission. Our activities can be tagged as activities that promote diversity.

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**THEATRE (MIME) PERFORMANCE (PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY, JUNE 2011)**

We re-enacted our 2008 mime performance depicting the history of Philippine Independence with the able directorship of Meia Lopez. Creative Communities New Zealand and Wellington City Council provided a grant of $2,500 for this production. Feedbacks received, both from Filipinos and non-Filipinos, were all very positive and stated that: “the show was very
powerful", "we were touched by the story", "excellent", "well done", "I was put to tears". The event was attended by more than 1,000 people, both Filipinos and non-Filipinos alike.

FILINARTIZTS collaborated with other Filipino organisations in this performance: Wellington International Filipino Society (WIFS), FILIFEST Dance Group, Cordillera Group and the Philippine Embassy staff and children.

DEATH AND DIVERSITY PROJECT
FILINARTIZTS is currently involved in the Death and Diversity Project of the Office of Ethnic Affairs and Wellington Museum. Some members were resource persons about the death rituals practices of the Filipinos. This project aims to have a better understanding of the death rituals and practices of different cultures in New Zealand with the end in view of informing policy changes and even just an acknowledgment and understanding of these cultural differences. Some members, too, (Oddie Dulce-Madrisa, Belinda Bonzon-Liu,
Filipino Artists in New Zealand, Inc.

Auie Robrigado and Maris Mallari-Evangelista will be part of a theatre performance in November at the Wellington Museum.

FILIPINIANA SA AOTEAROA, OUR OWN FILIPINO RADIO PROGRAMME

With a grant from the Lotteries Grants Board New Zealand, we now have our very own Filipino Radio programme with Wellington Access Radio 783 AM. We ran a naming contest among our members and received 24 entries. With a panel of judges composed of Fr. Ambet de la Cruz, the Filipino Chaplain; Atty. Giovy Palec, Charge ‘d Affairs of the Philippine Embassy; and Mae Young from the FILIFEST Dance Group, the winning entry chosen was “Filipiniana sa Aotearoa”, the entry submitted by Rhose Lopez. She received a prize of $100.00 for her winning entry.

The radio programme is now up and running. The programme has 4 segments that features are classical and contemporary Filipino songs (Kay Ganda ng Ating Musika); trivia (Alam Ba Ninyo); short stories and poems composed by our very own writers and artists (Meron Akong Kwento); and community announcements, interviews and discussions (Kumusta Nā Kabayan and Usap-usapan). It can be heard every Saturday, 5-6pm at Wellington Access Radio 783 AM band. Matilde Tayawa-Figuracion is the Programme Coordinator, Oddie Dulce-Madrisa is our Programme Maker and our presenters, operators and researchers are Belle Bonzon-Liu, Auie Robrigado, Renato Robrigado, Josh Nerona, Clark Figuracion, Rowel Madrisha and Joannes Galvan Bermudez. Other members are welcome to contribute for the further improvement of the radio programme.
WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA
With the help of Karl Quirino and the generosity of our sponsor Faith in Families Foundation http://faithinfamilies.wordpress.com, we now have a web presence via our blog website: www.filipinoartistsnewzealand.wordpress.com. We also have utilised the social media networking site and have our own Facebook page which is linked with our website.

ETHNIC A FORUM
FILINARTIZTS through Matilde Tayawa-Figuracion was invited to present at the EthnicA Forum, a national forum organised by the Office of Ethnic Affairs attended by community leaders within New Zealand.
FUNDING SUPPORT/FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

We have been fortunate to have been able to receive funding for our major projects. We received grants from the following for our projects:

- $2k for our radio programme (Filipiniana sa Aotearoa) from the Lotteries Grant Board New Zealand;

- $2.5k from Creative Communities New Zealand and Wellington City Council for our pantomime theatre performance at the Philippine Independence Day celebration on 12 June 2011 at the Indian Hall Community Centre; and

- $3k for the Ati-atihan Festival during the Rugby World Cup Festivale of Carnivale.

We also received a donation of $900.00 from Wellington International Filipino Society for our help and contribution during the Fiesta sa Wellington Filipino Labour Weekend Reunion in 2009.

NETWORKING AND DIALOGUES

FILINARTIZTS continued to network, collaborate and dialogue with key stakeholders both within and outside of the Filipino community. As a result, the organisation’s profile has been raised exponentially and our relationship with key government agencies and grant bodies such as the Wellington City Council, Office of Ethnic Affairs, Department of Internal Affairs, Lotteries Commission, Human Rights Commission, the Office of Voluntary and Community Sector and also within our own Filipino community, i.e. the Philippine Embassy and other Filipino community organisations and members of the community is very positive. We have lead projects that helped raise the profile of the Filipino culture and heritage to the wider NZ society. We will continue to work closer, partner and collaborate with other Filipino organisations in areas that we have common goals and aspirations. We will also continue to network and dialogue with government agencies to further raise awareness and understanding of who we are as a people and how we can contribute positively to this country we already claimed as our own.
MEMBERSHIP
With some members opting to be inactive and unable to commit and contribute as much due to family and other commitments, FILINARTIZTS continue to recruit new members and tap new talents into the mix. What we lack in numbers, we compensate by working collaboratively and in partnership with other members of the community and with community leaders and their organisations.

COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP
Collaboration and partnership is what drives all our aspirations. It propels the way on how we will implement all projects and conduct our activities. In this regard, FILINARTIZTS aims to work alongside other growing and established Philippine organisations and Filipino individuals, particularly in areas where we have common goals, objectives and interests.

Working together, we will strive to harness and develop the collective strength and latent individual talents in the community when developing and promoting Philippine arts and culture because, in the final analysis, it enriches the much larger culture in Aotearoa.