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HERITAGE | COMMUNITY | SCHOLARSHIPS
sampaguitagroup.org



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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT TAKES TOP AWARD IN 2016 SAMPAGUITA SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

July 30, 2016 — NORTHBROOK, IL

Nicole Reyes, a college junior studying business administration at [Dominican University](#) in River Forest, Illinois, won the top \$2,000 scholarship prize in the 2nd Annual 2016 Sampaguita Scholarship Competition. Reyes was one of five Filipino American student finalists who vied for several partial collegiate scholarships on Saturday, July 30, 2016 at the Northbrook Hilton in Northbrook, Illinois.

The other finalists included Jennine Lomibao (1st Runner-Up /\$500 scholarship), a Loyola University junior studying psychology nominated by KAPWA Loyola; Alpha Sadcopen (2nd Runner-Up/ \$300 scholarship), a graphic design student at the College of DuPage nominated by BIBBAK Illinois; Maria Trixie Cortes (3rd Runner-Up /\$250 scholarship), a sociology and anthropology junior at Denison University nominated by the Bicol Association of Illinois; and Katrina Favis (4th Runner-Up/\$200 scholarship), a rehabilitation sciences senior at the University of Illinois in Chicago nominated by Filipinos In Alliance (FIA). The winner, Nicole Reyes, was nominated by the Heartland Institute.

The women competed by submitting a 300-word written essay (60% of score) on the topic of 'Educational Downward Mobility' judged by three journalists, and by a presentation reading of their essays (40% of score) judged by three community leaders at The Sampaguita Ball.

This year's Valedictorian Level (\$1,000) scholarship sponsors include Mary Carmen Madrid Crost of Madrid Crost Law Group; Lourdes Livas of Livas Realty Group; and Iris Sagrado of Waddell & Reed.

The Sampaguita Group is a non-profit organization registered in the State of Illinois. Our mission is to reverse 'Educational Downward Mobility' affecting second-generation Filipino Americans. Census data shows that US-born Filipino Americans lag behind their immigrant counterparts in completing college. Our mission is three-fold: 1) To increase public awareness about Educational Downward Mobility; 2) Award partial scholarships to Filipino American women matriculated in colleges and universities in the United States. Because of possible cultural biases, women can be more adversely affected by this trend; 3) Encourage other organizations to launch their own college scholarship funding programs for Filipino Americans matriculated in colleges and universities in the United States.

Learn more about 'Educational Downward Mobility' from the Harvard Asian American Policy Review and download a white paper by sociologist Tracy Lachica Buenavista, Department of Asian American Studies at California State University, Northridge, in the references section of our website: <http://sampaguitagroup.org/references/>

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