

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charleston, WV OCT 9, 2025

The Filipino American Association of West Virginia proudly celebrates Filipino American History Month this October.

This nationwide observance recognizes the rich culture, resilience, and significant contributions of Filipino Americans to the history and progress of the United States.

This celebration provides an opportunity to honor the stories of Filipino immigrants and their descendants, whose dedication and service continue to shape communities across the nation. From healthcare and education to the arts, public service, and the military, Filipino Americans play an integral role in strengthening American society.

The Governor of West Virginia and Charleston Mayor Amy Shuler Goodwin have each issued proclamations officially recognizing October 2025 as Filipino American History Month in West Virginia and the City of Charleston.

Both proclamations highlight the rich heritage and vital contributions of Filipino Americans to the state, the city, and the nation.

“We are thrilled to celebrate Filipino American History Month with our members, partners, and the broader community,” said Rojen Morris, Founder and Head Organizer of the Festival and the Filipino American Association of West Virginia. “This year’s festival will take place on Saturday, October 18, 2025 a date that also marks the arrival of the first Filipinos in what is now the United States.

The festival will begin with the Raise Your Flag Parade, at 10am marching from Capitol Street to Summer Street at Slack Plaza. Following the parade, we will open the program with an Opening Salvo, featuring a first glimpse of our cultural performances.

Attendees can enjoy a variety of activities throughout the day, including a karaoke contest, Lumpia Eating Contest, line dancing, and cultural performances such as Tinikling, Cariñosa, La Jota Caviteña, and Maskara Festival. The event will also feature martial arts demonstrations and a Language Station for those interested in learning basic Filipino words and phrases.

Kids will enjoy the bounce house and pumpkin painting. We hope you're ready to experience the delicious flavors of Filipino cuisine. We have devoted countless hours to creating a memorable event and sincerely thank the entire Filipino American community for their support.

We warmly invite everyone to join the celebration!"

"This year has certainly been challenging, but as Chair of the Filipino American Association of West Virginia, I've been deeply involved in every decision and planning step to make this festival a success," said Ian Flores, Chair of the Association. "From coordinating logistics to supporting our volunteers and ensuring every part of the program comes together, it has been a team effort. This event simply couldn't happen without the generosity and support of our sponsors. Their commitment allows us to provide a meaningful celebration of Filipino heritage for our community, and we are deeply grateful to each and every one of them."

Freddy Frye, President of the Association, added: "We have so many exciting activities this year! Our vendors and Filipino Americans from across the region are coming together to celebrate Filipino American History Month. We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming love and support from our community. This is a time for everyone to come together, celebrate our heritage, and enjoy a wide array of food and entertainment." We want to thank

Our partner

The City of Charleston
And our sponsors

- Philippine Medical Association

of West Virginia

- Roger Nicholson
- Charleston Area Medical Center
- The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation
- Dutch Miller Charleston City Center
- Legacy Insurance
- Charleston City Center
- West Virginia State University (WVSU)

- Thelma Lansang

Vendors

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Custom Creations by Gail :

Filipino American in Walton WV

The Lucky Lemon

Bayou Classics

Crunchy Fruit Queen

Multifest

Thelma Lansang

Bebot

Fancy Five Fashion

The Association is also proud to partner with local television and radio stations, who will provide media coverage and help share the message of unity and cultural appreciation throughout West Virginia.

The Filipino American Association of West Virginia invites families, schools, organizations, and individuals to join this meaningful celebration of Filipino culture and to help promote unity, pride, and community spirit.

For more information about the festival, parade and dance participation,

contact Admin:filipinoamericanassociationofw@gmail.com or call : (304) 419-1828

For sponsorship & partnership opportunities  <mailto:events@faawv.com>  Faawv.com