

# **PPBS Honors Top 3 High School Graduates of Santa Clara County with Mayor Sam Liccardo as Guest speaker in Celebration of its 52nd Anniversary.**

*November 7, 2015, San Jose, CA* - The Philippine Professional & Business Society of Santa Clara Valley, Inc.(PPBS) led by their Society President Gus Olmedo will celebrate the 52nd Anniversary of its founding on Saturday, November 7, 2015. It will be held at the Holiday Inn (formerly Wyndham Hotel) at 1350 N. First Street in San Jose, California.

The PPBS was organized by Dr. Ted Ulanday together with Reppie Bautista, the Late Faustino Gamboa and the Late Camilo Valderram in 1963 in San Jose, California, with some Filipino-American Professionals and Business Owners in Santa Clara County. All the past presidents in attendance will be recognized during the Dinner-Dance Program which will start at 8:00pm.

One of the main projects of the Society is to award plaques of recognitions and cash awards to the deserving High School Graduates with high scholastic achievements who are children of Filipino-American parents. This project was initiated by Emmer D. Dela Cruz during his first term of office as President in 1978, which has been continued as the main project by all his successors every year to the present. Another project initiated by Mr. Dela Cruz is to provide financial assistance to the Filipino-American Seniors in Santa Clara County.

This year, three outstanding Fil-Am graduates from public and private schools in Santa Clara County will be honored during the evening ceremony, together with their parents. This will be the 38<sup>th</sup> year of the Scholarship Program since its inception in 1978.

Scholarship Awards Chairman, Emmer D. Dela Cruz, assisted by Hon. Mayor Sam Liccardo of the city of San Jose, will lead the honoring ceremonies during this Gala Affair. The honorees are the following:

.Gregory Moe, son of Jeffrey & Loy Oppus Moe of Cupertino, California, graduated from Monta Vista High School with a GPA of 3.96. He is presently enrolled at Emory University in Atlanta taking Economics & Business.

Julieflor Cortez, daughter of Florante & Juliet Cortez of Morgan Hill, California, graduated from Ann Sobrato High School with a GPA of 3.93. At present, she is taking Nursing at San Jose State University.

Christopher Maraschin, son of Robert & Marie Maraschin of San Jose, California, graduated from Lynbrook High School with a GPA of 3.75. He is now taking Civil Engineering at San Jose State University.

The 3 Scholarship Awardees will receive PPBS Plaques of Scholastic Achievements and total cash awards of \$2,700.00 to help them in their first year in College.

The selection and ranking of the awardees was based on 3 categories: 1) Min. of 3.50 GPA Unweighted, 2) School & Community Activities, 3) Letters of References from School Teachers.

The Scholarship Awards Committee Members are: Emmer D. Dela Cruz, Chair; Tessie Pacheco, Vice Chair; Zenny Esteban, Alice Navarro, Joe Salcedo, Gus Olmedo, Virgie Estrada & Eric Tigmo, Members.

The Event Chairman, Emmer D. Dela Cruz, promises a very enjoyable and memorable evening which starts at 6:30pm with a No-Host Cocktails; Dinner at 7:30pm and Program will start 8:00 pm. The Master of Ceremonies is Romy Navarro, Past PPBS President. The Guest Speaker will be the Hon. Mayor of San Jose, Sam Liccardo. The Invocation will be given by Rev. Fr. Mark Gazzingan, Pastor at St. Victor's Parish Church. Entertainment to be provided by The Free Lancers. Dancing music to be provided by the Ballroom Band till midnight.