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Filipino American Library - Outreach and Access via the WWW

Awardee: Mr. Florante Ibanez, Graduate Student
Information Studies/Asian American Studies

Partner: Filipino American Library

Abstract:

This project develops a partnership with the Filipino American Library, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the UCLA Information Studies Programs by applying current theory and research with a practical application conducted by a UCLA Graduate Student. The Filipino American Library (FAL) in Los Angeles is a relatively unknown jewel in the Filipino Los Angeles community. Although it is housed within the Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA) building in the Los Angeles's Historical Filipino Town, and is known by community leaders, the number of visitors per week is usually less than a dozen. Over the last year a colorful website was developed to mark a place on the World Wide Web, but it has not been maintained and is visually static. I have proposed to the FAL board of directors to help implement and train the staff to develop and maintain a new enhanced and interactive website that could highlight their rare collections, primary source materials, and calendared community programs. With this new & cool visibility, potential library patrons and researchers would be tempted to visit the physical site of the FAL and discover what is offered. I also plan to incorporate links to other appropriate community resources both locally and nationally so that the FAL can serve as an important information & knowledge portal for the Filipino American community of Los Angeles and others.

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