

FAMISARAN IS NATIONAL AWARDEE FOR BAYANING PILIPINO AWARDS

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SULADS Field Director Daryl Famisaran has been declared one of the two national winners of the Individual Category of the search for the Gawad Geny Lopez Jr. Bayaning Pilipino 2007 Awards.

The National Awarding Ceremony was held on November 26 at the Studio 1 of the ABS-CBN compound. Because Mr. Famisaran is in the United States, his wife, Sarah, accepted the award for him.

The November 27 Philippine Star featured a full-page spread featuring the pictures and short write-ups of the national winners for the Individual, the Teacher, the Youth, the Special, the Institution, and the Bayaning Samahang Pilipino sa America categories.

On October 11 this year, Famisaran won the Regional Award (Individual Category) during ceremonies held at the Waterfront Hotel, Davao City.

The Gawad Geny Lopez Jr. Bayaning Pilipino Awards is a yearly search for modern-day Filipino heroes who have made significant contributions to their local communities.

The Philippine Star writes: "From the name itself, Bukidnon is known for its many and great mountains. But these did not stop Daryl Famisaran as he aimed and succeeded in opening the Socio-economic Uplift Anthropological Development Services or SULADS which was formerly closed due to lack of funds and volunteers. Starting out as a student volunteer himself, it was no easy task for him as he looked for the support required to open SULADS, both in terms of financial support and the volunteers needed for manpower. Not only that, it was also an enormous task for him to climb the mountains just to be able to meet with the communities. It was also an added challenge to convince the Lumads, who were unfamiliar with the new idea of studying, to join his group. Despite the danger, Daryl Famisaran continues to climb the highest mountain just to give education to those who are willing to learn."

The article concludes: "They are just some of the heroes that have been found in our midst. More and more silent workers who never expect recognition are now much admired. Through the Gawad Geny Lopez Jr. Bayaning Pilipino Awards, their stories are heard, told, and made known to all Filipinos around the world. The people whose lives they've touched are writing about their sacrifices and acts of kindness. They are now part of our country's history, the true Heroes of our nation."

Congratulations, Mr. Famisaran! The college family is proud of your accomplishment. By winning this award, you have gained, for the SULADS program, not only regional and national, but also international recognition.