LIVING THE HÅFA ADAI PLEDGE

Sabrina Garcia is an excellent example of being a team player and going above and beyond. After interning at the Guam Visitors Bureau and the Governor’s Office, Sabrina brought her skills to Dusit Thani Guam Resort, making significant contributions to the Sales and Marketing department. Wanting to grow and expand her knowledge, Sabrina has become instrumental in the marketing arm of the hotel providing creatives and input on advertising, marketing collateral, and writing for the employee newsletter. Sabrina was recently recognized as Dusit Thani Guam Resort’s March 2016 Employee of the Month. In the recent OVB/GHIA, Hario Awards, Sabrina was named Rookie of the Year for her excellent service in the tourism industry.

Within the next five years, Sabrina hopes to see an increase in employment in the hospitality industry. She wants others to realize that Guam is hospitable in nature, and that it is important for everyone to cultivate that hospitality within themselves and extend it to others. She hopes that inspiration manifests itself in an increase of employment in the hospitality industry.

Sabrina said, “I seek out every opportunity to exceed guest expectations simply by applying the Golden Rule to every guest I encounter. I treat others the way I would like to be treated and take the initiative to go the extra mile to make their experience on Guam an exceptional one.”

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GUAMPEDIA: JAZZ

Local residents embrace the sound of Jazz

In 1962, a local band known as the “Dancebeats” formed. They played music similar to the style of “Tiajuana Brass.” Photo by Norbert Tydingco/Guam Humanities Council.

The origin of jazz is said to date back to the African-American experience that emerged in the early 20th century. It has evolved into what many now consider to be one of the most popular and innovative styles of music.

Guitarist and bassist Greg Tenorio, explained that the popular music style before World War II was mostly jazz and very little blues. Guam’s early jazz musicians played stringed instruments such as the banjo, ukulele, violin and guitar. Later, they were introduced to the wind instruments through the Navy Band. Johnny Chaco was one of the first musicians on Guam to form a band utilizing wind instruments.

“The Downbeats” band started in 1962. In the early 1970s, jazz artists such as vocalists Patti Lane and flute player Roberto Fracassi emerged on the island’s music scene. Patrick Palomo recalls that there was a period when many European musicians/vocalists came to Guam. Towards the late 1970s, local jazz talent began to emerge. Carlos T. Laguáña, Patrick Palomo, Tommy Bajado, Linda Guerrero, Telo Taltague, Mike Di Amore, Sai Di Amore, Larry Franquez, Carlos Bontallo, Joey Franquez, and Danny Perez, are just some of Guam’s jazz artists who came on the music scene during this era.

Jazz was played across the airwaves on K-57 Radio by a jazz disc jockey Shelby Shapiro. D.J. Darryl Taggerty said the radio show began in 1977 and aired every Sunday night. It was called, “Jazz on the Seventh Day.” Taggerty took over the show in 1989 when Shapiro left the island and has continued to play jazz to the present. Jazz on Guam continues to penetrate the contemporary music scene.

Many young musicians have been influenced and continue to be influenced by the earlier generations of jazz musicians such as Patrick Palomo. Patrick is doing what his father and those of past generations have done and that is to pass the torch of jazz and keep it burning. Patrick’s passion for music is undeniable and this passion continues to be influential in the lives of many young musicians.

Jazz is a kind of music that gives room for the musicians’ personal expressions and improvisation, its uniqueness lies in the heart of the musician whose emotions and passion seem to resonate through their musical instruments. Jazz is expected to remain an important part of Guam’s artistic history, adding to the college of musical influences and reflecting the diversity of our island’s culture.

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