



FINEX FOCUS

Official Newsletter of *FINEX*

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CHECHE LAZARO



LOVELAINE BASILLOTE



MYLA VILLANUEVA



CARLO LAZATIN

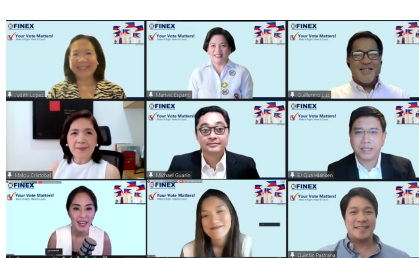
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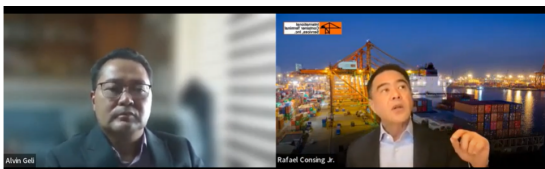
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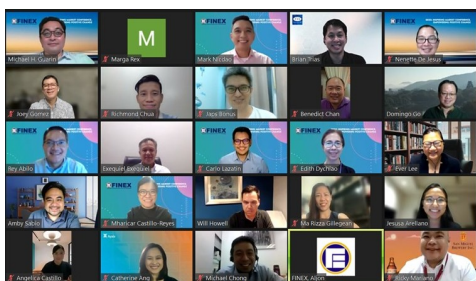
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EDITOR'S NOTE

by Mark Brian J. Nicdao

FINEX FEMALES IN FOCUS:
Celebrating Women's Month



We are proud to share with you this month's edition of FINEX FOCUS, putting the spotlight on our fearless female leaders in the Finance Industry and of our Country.

- Riza Mantaring shares her inspiring story of leading Sun Life to be the Nation's Top Insurer.
- Sharon Dayoan co-founds the Filipino CEO Circle, which supports women corporate leaders.
- April Lee Tan is a corporate warrior, finishing two full marathons outside work.
- Vivian Cruz plays a pivotal role in the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment.
- Tricianne Zingapan reflects on her extensive local and international leadership experience across multiple industries.

We have put our heads and hearts together to bring to you this month's issue which celebrates HER – looking back at how our generation has come so far with regards to gender equality, breaking stereotypes, and highlighting the critical role that SHE has played in our society.

We believe that Women's Month does not end on March 31, but is a MOVEMENT to reflect on aspirations, honestly assess where we are in terms of breaking the bias, and continue to push towards reforms for the future.

Hope you feel equally inspired as we are, while reading this month's issue!



FINEX FOCUS

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FINEX FEMALES IN FOCUS

RIZA MANTARING



- Riza spent almost half her working life in tech, culminating with being Chief Operations Officer, Sun Life Asia, heading IT & Operations, before becoming CEO & Country Head of Sun Life Philippines.
- As CEO of Sun Life Philippines she led the company to becoming the number one life insurer in the country two years after she assumed the post, a position it continues to hold, and was the only Filipino company ever to win Life Insurance Company of the Year at the Asia Insurance Industry Awards.
- She helped launch the first multi-media financial literacy advocacy in the country, a transformational initiative which helped change the insurance industry from one which had hardly grown in ten years to a rapidly growing one.
- She grew the Sun Life Foundation, spending hundreds of millions on building schools, helping enhance health facilities, building homes for the disadvantaged, funding scholarships, planting forests, building wings in museums, and other initiatives along the pillars of health, education, the environment, and arts and culture.

- She ran her first marathon at 51 and is among only 27 Six Stars in the Philippines to-date, Filipinos who have run all the World Marathon Majors (Boston, New York, London, Berlin, Chicago, Tokyo).
- She is proudest of her kids, all of whom graduated with honors and have graduate degrees from prestigious universities overseas. Her daughter manages an engineering team at Apple in the US working on their new products, one son is a director at a venture capital firm, and the other is a lead data scientist for a multinational AI & analytics firm.

SHARON DAYOAN



- Sharon is the first female Chairman and CEO of KPMG in the Philippines.
- As part of her personal advocacy of women empowerment, she co-founded and is the current president of the Filipina CEO Circle whose core mission is to advance the status of women corporate leaders by providing a supportive resource where knowledge and skills to excel are shared through members' time, talent and network.
- Sharon is also a trustee of the Philippine Women's Economic Network, a consortium of business groups advocating the economic empowerment of women.
- She is one of the incorporators of the newly formed NextGen Organization of Women Corporate Directors whose aim is to advocate and be a catalyst for robust governance and inclusive stewardship of boards through the development of highly qualified women directors to become drivers of visionary and effective boards.
- Sharon graduated with Latin Honors from the University of the Philippines-Diliman with a degree in BS Business Administration and Accountancy. In 2017, she was awarded as one of U.P. Virata School of Business Distinguished Alumni.
- She is a wife and a mother of two sons.



APRIL LEE TAN

- *First Vice President & Chief Equity Strategist of COL Financial, the Philippines' largest and leading online stockbroker.*
- *April has been covering the Philippine stock market for over two decades, and was voted "Best Strategist" in 2019 by the Fund Managers' Association of the Philippines.*
- *Even outside of COL, April continues to share her expertise through a weekly Philippine Daily Inquirer column called*

"Intelligent Investing" and with her ANC TV show called "Insight with April Lee Tan."

- *She is an active member of CFA Society Philippines, where she served as President from 2009 to 2016, in addition to heading the Society's Investment Research Challenge committee for 11 years and leading the CFA Society Philippines' three wins in the Global CFA Institute Research Challenge.*
- *Aside from her many accomplishments in the finance industry, she has also successfully finished two full marathons. She enjoys baking and spending time with her husband, two daughters and her dog.*

VIVIAN C. RUIZ

- *Vice Chair and Deputy Managing Partner of SGV & Co.*
- *EY Asean Assurance Leader*
- *Board member and Special Projects committee member of the SGV Foundation*
- *SGV representative to the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment (PBCWE)*
- *Recognized as an Outstanding Alumni in Public Accounting by the University of Santo Tomas in 2005*
- *Proud mother of two children*





TRICIANNE ZINGAPAN

- *Early in her career, Tricianne worked in e-commerce for one of the pioneers of e-Procurement solutions and garnered a CEO's award for enabling early adopters in Asia in her role as a senior executive in Business Development and Sales based in Singapore.*
- *Tricianne held senior Finance executive positions in Shell, including its Retail business in the Philippines and Guam; as Regional head for its*

Aviation business based in Singapore; and for its LPG business under the Shellane brand, where she played a lead role in deal due diligence and completion.

- *Joining Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines expanded her industry experience to Consumer Goods where she held senior Finance and Risk & Assurance roles in Key Accounts, Financial Planning, Internal Controls & ERM, and Internal Audit, the latter under a new senior executive role. Her experience includes a posting in Mexico where she was the first national outside of Latin America to be based in FEMSA's Corporate HQ, one of the largest conglomerates in the region.*
- *She served as Chief Audit Executive for ICTSI where her work included conducting reviews of port operations in Madagascar, Ecuador and Colombia.*
- *She is the new VP Finance & Operations Audit for SM Investments Corp. (SMIC), the holding company of the SM Group with interests in retail, property and banking, including equity investments.*
- *She is a graduate of UP with a degree in Business Administration and Accountancy (cum laude), holds an MBA degree from the JL Kellogg Graduate School of Business at Northwestern University, USA and a Philippine Science scholar. She is a CPA and a Board placer.*

Step out of the history that is
holding you back. Step into the
new story you are willing to create.

Oprah Winfrey

NAME THE DAME

Q1: They are the only Philippine team qualified/awarded a spot in the 2023 FIFA World Cup. What team is this?

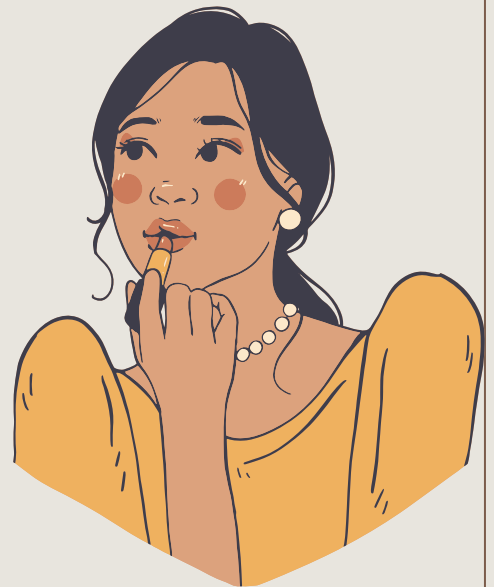
Q2: Who is the first Filipina who won the first ever gold medal for the Philippines in both women's individual and women's team event in Asian Games golf competitions?

Q3: She is a Filipina professional street skateboarder who rose to fame when she competed in the X Games Minneapolis 2018 and won a gold medal in the 2018 Asian Games. Who is she?



Comment your answers in this [Facebook post](#) until **March 25 (Friday), 5PM.**

Five lucky FINEX members, who answered all questions correctly, will be chosen through a randomizer. Each winner will get Php 500 worth of e-vouchers.

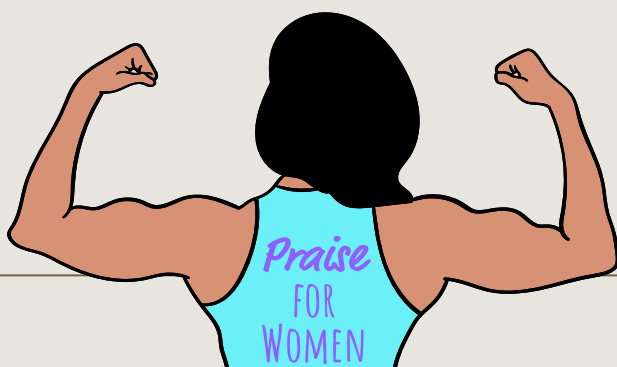


Q4: She lifted the whole nation when she won the first ever Olympic gold medal for the Philippines. What is her name?

Q5: At 26, she is a two-time gold medalist at the Southeast Asian Games and a bronze medalist at the Asian Games in taekwondo. Who is she?

Q6: She is the Sprint Queen of Asia.

Q7: She is the first Filipina athlete to make it to the Guinness Book of World Records.



GUEST SPEAKERS' PROFILE

MYLA C. VILLANUEVA

CHAIRPERSON, PPCRV & MDI GROUP

Myla is a technology pioneer with more than 30 years of leadership and experience in the local and global technology industry. She is a pioneer in Mobile Software, Cloud, Big Data Analytics and Security. She has founded 5 successful Start-Ups. Four have had some of the most successful exits and M and A's in the Philippine tech industry. She founded MDI Group, which has been serving Digital Transformation and technology solutions to telecommunications, banking and finance, utilities and government institutions in the Philippines for 33 years.

Myla has also served in international industry organizations such as the GSM Association (GSMA), Global Telecom Women's Network (GTWN), and the Vice Chair of Asia Society - Philippines. She is a long time trustee of GoNegosyo and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Philippines.

Myla is currently the Chairperson of the Philippine Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV), a non-profit and accredited citizen's arm for clean, fair, transparent and peaceful elections in the country. PPCRV has close to 500,000 volunteers every election cycle.

Myla is Ernst and Young's first Woman Entrepreneur of the Year (2003); named Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service in 2010, in the field of Science and Technology; and also named as Global Filipino Executive of the Year Grand Awardee (2021) by Asia CEO Awards. Myla has also been cited as one of Asia's Most Influential: The Impact List 2020 by Tatler Hong Kong.

CECILIA "CHECHE" LIM-LAZARO

BROADCAST JOURNALIST & FOUNDING PRESIDENT,
PROBE PRODUCTIONS

Cecilia "Cheche" Aldaba Lim-Lázaro is an acclaimed Filipino broadcast journalist and the founding President of Probe Productions Inc. as well as an Editor-at-Large of online news website Rappler.

Lázaro began her career working as a reporter for ABS-CBN. Between July 1986 and December 1987, she became director and manager of the network's Public Affairs department. This allowed her to be appointed Team leader and Reporter for the network's coverage of President Corazon C. Aquino's visit to Singapore and Indonesia.

Lázaro soon left her position in ABS-CBN in 1988 to create her own production company, Probe Productions, with the help of fellow journalists, Luchi Cruz-Valdez and Maria Ressa. This led her to produce several documentary programs such as 5 and Up for ABC (later TV5, now The 5 Network or simply 5), The Probe Team, I-Witness, and Cheche Lazaro Presents for GMA Network, which eventually became her home network.

LOVELAINE BASILLOTE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PBED

Love Basillote is a human capital development and education specialist, with significant experience in non-profit management, program management, public policy, and communications. She is currently the executive director of Philippine Business for Education, and she is an independent director of a fin-tech start-up. She has a master's degree from Harvard University, and bachelor's in Political Science from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Philippine Business for Education

A non-profit organization founded in 2006 by top CEOs in the country. PBE is the business community's response to the need for greater education and economy alignment.

PBE's vision is for all Filipinos to have access to an education system that provides them with the needed competencies and values to lead productive lives and successful careers, while serving as good citizens of this nation.



[WATCH
FULL VIDEO
HERE
STARTING
AT 37:51.](#)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Michael Arcatomy H. Guarin



Every March we celebrate women's month, and it is always a good reminder that each one of us has a responsibility to create a gender equal world – free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.

”

Good afternoon my dear FINEX members, and guests. I hope you're having a nice week. It has only been 3 short weeks since our last GMM – February 22. We've been keeping ourselves busy with Voter Education related events:

- On Feb 24, was the webinar by the Good Governance Committee and JFINEX - Your Vote Matters – the attendees were inspired and guided by the speakers that afternoon. During the event, we also launched the Video Making Contest which intends to promote the importance of one's vote. Visit the JFINEX Facebook Page for the complete mechanics.
- March 8 was the event spearheaded by Sharephil and was supported by FINEX – Boto mo, kinabukasan natin. Thank you to everyone who attended this.
- Next week, Monday. We will be having a dialogue with the BSP to discuss how to address digital vote buying. I am positive that we will arrive at practical measures to reduce and mitigate this issue.
- Of course it goes without saying that we rolled out webinars closer to the business side of things:
- On Feb. 24, around noon time – the ICT committee rolled out its maiden webinar for the year – Blockchain applications and real-world use cases. Everyone is of the opinion that Philippine business is merely touching the surface of blockchains application on how we do business. FINEX will continue to be at the forefront in leading the charge towards a wider and truly universal application of

- On March 1, FINEX was one of the organization partners of The Manila Times for the Economic Outlook 2022 series entitled “Looking Beyond the Pandemic Endgame”.
- On March 4, FINEX was a partner organization in the SEC's 2022 SEC Can Webinar series entitled “As Easy as SEC: How to File Annual Reports. I hope that a lot of you were able to attend the very informative session.
- Starting March 11, the FINEX Academy rolled out its 2022 course covering Capital Markets and Fixed Income Securities Analysis.
- On March 23, please don't miss the IAFEI's webinar entitled – “From the Great Resignation to the Great Reimagination: What's ahead in 2022. Two speakers from our friends from Deloitte Consulting will be the featured speakers.
- On March 24, the Tax and Legal Committee of FINEX together with TMAP are rolling out a tax webinar – Basics and More: Income Tax Filing and SEC Online Filing To Dos
- The Arts and Culture Committee rolled out their second webinar for the year on timepieces and jewelry on March 4 in the afternoon. Congratulations to Carlo Lazatin for winning one of the grand prizes that afternoon, perfect timing as well as it was the birthday of his wife that week.
- I am looking forward to their next webinar on March 25 where we will have the much sought after historian and speaker Ambeth Ocampo as our guest of honor.
- I would also like to acknowledge the effort by the Membership Committee – we had a nice tree planting event on March 5 at 3 Springs Mountain Park – and it was our first face-to-face fellowship activity since 2020.

Watch the full video **HERE** (at 8:30)



Advancing the Future of Women in Business

Executive Women on Resilience: The Art of the Comeback

RESILIENCE
To start to define resilience, they use words like optimism, adaptability, and agility but when asked about showing resilience they use words like empathy, compassion, and grace.

EXPANDING WORKLOAD
Reported that the scope of their management responsibility changed or expanded; they prioritized the need to communicate frequently, listen more, and foster inclusive communities.

LEADERSHIP
The pandemic proved to be no ordinary crisis. It served as their first true test of resilience and leadership on a massive scale. Resilience became that much more critical.

RELATIONSHIPS
Professional networks and mentors lend valuable support. Mentors played a vital role in developing their resilience. Support from their professional network was instrumental.

CULTURE
Their company's culture has changed... placing a renewed focus on individual wellness and team inclusivity. Work-life balance has become work-life integration.

MEMBER IN FOCUS

Get up close and personal with our FINEX members.

Carlo Enrico B. Lazatin

Carlo Enrico B. Lazatin is the President & CEO of DES Financing Corporation. He is charged with the daunting task of transformation, growth and diversification for the DES group. He is concurrently the President of DES Holdings Corp., ESMA WG2 Properties Inc. and DK Financial Incorporated. Carlo is the EVP for External Affairs and a Director of Philippine Finance Association, Treasurer and Member of Board of Trustees - ALIP, President and Director of The Parklane Condo Corp. and a Director in GSN Land.

Carlo, or Laz to close friends, started his career in Nestle Philippines where he began as a Management Trainee taking on various roles from being an Ex-Truck Salesman in Visayas to Brand Marketing, Trade Marketing and Field Operations. Upon graduation from the program he moved into several leadership roles within the Generating Demand group (Sales, Field Operations, Distribution, Planning) across the country. He graduated from the De La Salle University - Manila with a bachelor's degree in Commerce, major in Marketing Management.



After his stint in FMCG, he grew interest in real estate, finance and investments and after taking his real estate licensure, joined the Argosy Group where he gained his knowledge and experience in advisory, private equity, mergers, acquisitions and divestments, local and foreign fund raising, financial structuring, corporate restructuring, and financing operations across diverse industries. He eventually became the Vice President & Deputy COO for Home Funding (SPC), Inc., a special purpose company focused on securitization, and also overlooked financing operations in Argosy Finance Corporation.

He is a believer of learning by doing and credits his out-of-the-box and on-the-fly thinking from his rich experience with demanding bosses, mentors and colleagues. His approach has always been to always see the bigger picture and the timing of things.

Outside of work, Carlo is passionate about sports and adventure. He played basketball, volleyball, baseball, and track & field and at one time even competed for the Palarong Pampanga qualifiers under Muntinlupa Team. He also joins combat sports and is an avid follower and practitioner of self defense systems like Krav Maga and Kalah Combat System. For endurance, he enjoys joining duathlon and triathlon races and also endurance cycling races together with close friends and cycling buddies in the Rapha Cycling Club. He is an advocate for youth empowerment & values education through sports and supports some of our national triathlon athletes, continental cycling teams, and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.



Of all the hobbies his favorite is getting lost with his wife - Christina on beach trips and foreign travel. Post pandemic and when the health situation gets better, he looks forward to more adventure travels and monthly camping trips with their daughters and working remotely while staring at nature.

Not known to everyone but Carlo is already a second generation FINEX member, his father is an FINEX Lifetime Member and former Director, Officer and Committee Chair - Ric Lazatin.

Fave thing about WFH? **Seeing my kids grow up and being able to help my wife Christina in between meetings.**

New skill have you learned during the pandemic? **Empathy, Patience and Agility**

Funniest thing you ever witnessed during a Zoom meeting? **The person forgot to close his camera and was walking around in his boxers.**

Place would like to visit given travel restrictions are easing up? **Tour de France routes and Switzerland**

What motivates you the most? **Innovation in action**

Best advice received? **Trust your instincts and your guardian angel**

What do you wish you learned sooner? **Golf**

Greatest strength? **Foresight and intuition**

Role model? **My Father for his values and high standards, Mom for always challenging status quo, my wife-Christina for her patience and humility.**

Who would you want to meet in real life? **Barrack Obama**

Jordan, Kobe or Lebron? **Kobe! (I was a sophomore varsity during his draft year, bought his first kicks and copied all his moves)**

If you had a full day off, what will you do? **Ride before sunrise and back to catch the sunset with the family holding an ice cold bottle of beer.**

What's the last book you read? **The Daily Stoic**

Hidden talent? **-DJing**

New skill would you like to learn? **Coding and Data Analytics**

If you were not doing your current job, what would you be doing? **Cycling around Europe and traveling with my wife and daughters.**

What movie or book do you enjoy quoting the most? **On relaxed days: Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get! - Forrest Gump. On most days: This is Sparta!-300**

What never fails to make you laugh? **Wife mocking and copying me**

What is your guilty pleasure? **TGIFridays Oreo Madness**

What is your go-to karaoke song? **Cold Summer Nights**

Would you rather be the best player on a horrible team or the worst player on the best team? **Doesn't really matter so long as you play your heart out for the love of the game and the team. =)**

What is not a big deal to other people but is a torture to you? **Unnecessary Reply to All emails that flood my emails (instead of clicking Yes to the meeting invite) ☒**

What is the strangest thing you ever saw? **A ghost in Samar**

Kate Beckinsale or Gal Gadot? **Gal Gadot!**

What's 1 food you can eat for the rest of your life? **My mom's home cooked Estofado.**

Learn by watching or learn by doing? **Learn by doing, innovate, repeat.**

What's the first thing you do in the morning? **Stare at my wife and say my prayers.**

Favorite movie? **Top Gun**

What's your jam/pump up song? **Danger Zone - Top Gun**

What's one song you have completely memorized? **Crossroads by The Bone Thugs-N-Harmony**

What's your favorite place to eat? **Txanton with the boss wifey**

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