The UFM and Thee Filipino Farmworkers

Integrity - Equality - Justice







01

Who are the Manongs?

Over

100,000

Filipino men came to the United States looking for opportunity in the 20s and 30s


INSURANCE
Agricultural Workers
Organizing Committee
AFL-CIO
DELANO
Grape
STRIKERS
AWOC,
AFL-CIO



02

Delano Grape Strikes

Who is Larry Itliong?

- A Filipino American Labor Leader
  - Well known for leading the Delano Grape Strike in the 1960's
- Wanted to be a lawyer to fight for the rights of the common peoples (couldn't due to discrimination)
- A "Manong" or "elder" who immigrated to Alaska in 1929
- Nicknamed "seven fingers" due to a work related accident



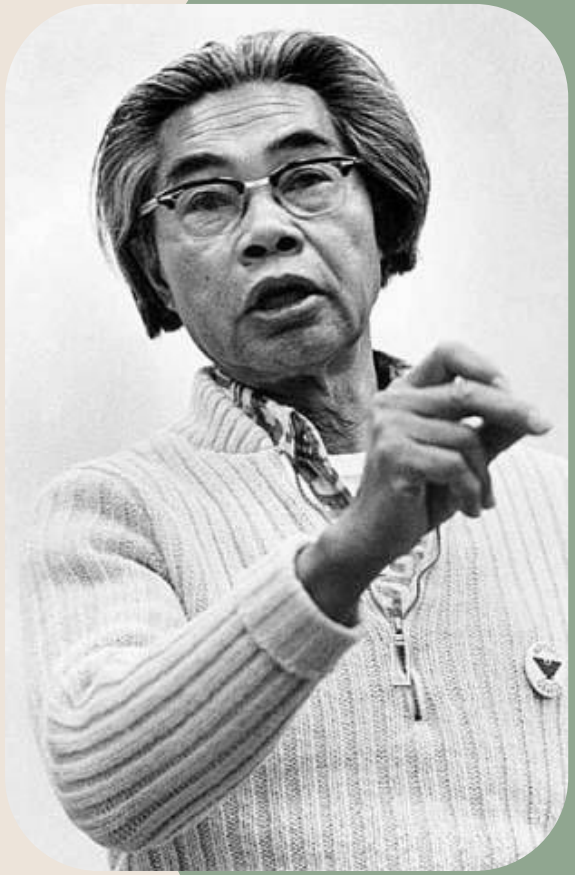


"EVERYBODY HAS EQUAL RIGHTS AND JUSTICE. YOU'VE GOT TO MAKE THAT COME ABOUT. THEY ARE NOT GOING TO GIVE IT TO YOU."

– LARRY ITLIONG
1913–1977

Who is Philip Vera Cruz?

- A Filipino American Labor Leader
  - Leader of the Asian American Movement
- Help found the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC)
- United Farmworkers Union (UFW) long time second vice president
- Contributed to helping build a retirement home of the Manongs



Background

- Delano, CA
  - At the time divided into grower vs. worker
    - Large community of Filipinos and Mexicans

- Ethnic Divide
  - Though both worked on the fields together, they were separated by the growers and in the unions

September 7th, 1965

- Calls for an immediate strike on the night of September 7th, 1965
  - Filipino Hall at 1457 Glennwood St., in Delano CA
  - The majority of the votes for the strike were mostly all Filipinos

- The official strike was held on September 8th, 1965
  - 1500 Filipinos went on strike
  - Grower intimidation/backlash

03

United Farmworkers Movement




National Farm Workers
ASSOCIATION
ASOCIACION DE CAMPESINOS

Where did they go?

National attention primarily focused on the Mexican workers leading many of the Filipino workers to move on





Welcome Back?

When the Filipino Farmworkers came back they were not recognized in the United Farmworkers Union





04

What lives on?




VERA CRUZ

SECTION 1.

(a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) All pupils who learn about the United Farm Workers should learn about the influence of all major groups involved in the movement to fully understand this important part of California history.

(2) According to a 2010 report by the United States Census Bureau, there are currently over 1.1 million Filipino Americans in California. Filipino Americans comprise the second and third largest Asian populations within California and the United States, respectively.

(3) It is important that pupils learn about the influence of Filipino Americans and their culture on the history of California. The formation and continuing work of the United Farm Workers have had an enormous impact on helping to stop the suppression and oppression of farm workers and the general working public on a national scale.

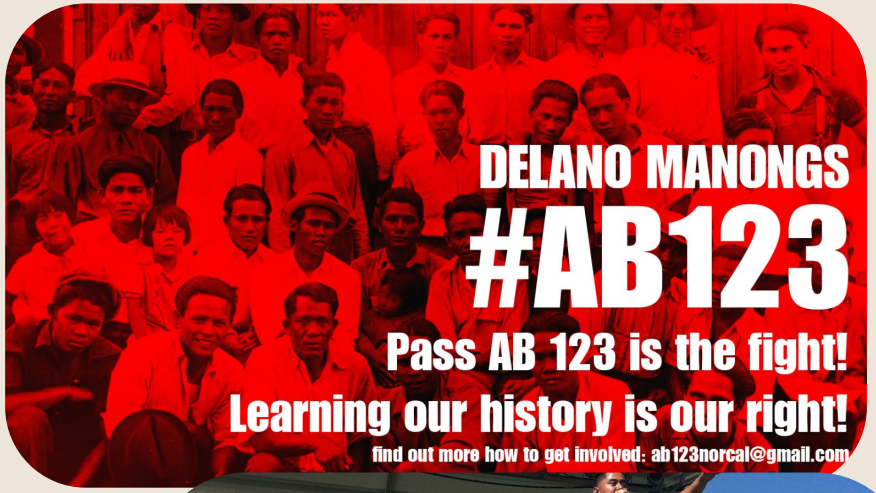
(4) Unfortunately, the story of how the Filipino American labor leaders and workers helped create the United Farm Workers has been greatly ignored by national and international media.

(b) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to help emphasize the important role of Filipino Americans in the history of the state and to help recognize those noteworthy historical Filipino American figures who never received proper credit for their work with the United Farm Workers.

SEC. 2. Section 51221.2 is added to the Education Code, to read:

51221.2. Instruction in the area of social sciences, as required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220, shall include instruction on the contributions of Filipino Americans to the farm labor movement in California.

SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.





05

Proposal



Budget: $100,000+

>Smith and Carlos budget: $300,000

Timeline: 3-4 years (?)

>Cesar Chavez Arch: 3- 4 years

Funding: San Jose State University

>SJSU

>Associated Students

>Local Community