

HAMILTON MARDI GRAS CARNIVAL AUGUST 8 & 9, 2008



On its 7th year, Hamilton MardiGras Carnival is a multi-cultural extravaganza that invited people of all ethnicities to join in the creation of one truly unforgettable community experience. The Hamilton MardiGras Carnival began at Bayfront Park on Friday, August 8. The evening was marked by highlight performances from the Filipino community. Pavielyne Carandang, Miss Philippines Hamilton 2008, greeted all those in attendance, and Romeo LingaoLingao and Krystal Valencia sang for the audience, Romeo in English, Krystal in Tagalog. On the following day, the MardiGras parade ran from John St. to Bayfront Park, attracting a large and diverse turnout. The Filipino float, which was in first position, had the honour of being the only float designated to just one community. New migrants, infants, children, senior citizens, and performers participated in the Filipino float. Overall, the event was received as a

great success and reservations for next year are already being planned. Special thanks go out to Bernadette Ling, President of Hamilton MardiGras, for affording the Filipino community the opportunity to participate in the two day event; to my committee Rey Viquiera, Lito Carandang, Joe Monaco and Sally Viquiera for their time and support in preparing the Filipino float, thanks to Fil Santos as well; and to DJ Jooce, who volunteered his time and talent to make the celebrations all the more memorable.

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