

HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

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ence, having started out as a live-in housekeeper during her teen years. She joined IEHA 33 years ago and has not missed a single general membership meeting. She also served two terms as president of IEHA's Hawaii chapter from 1991-1993 and 1999-2001 and was director of IEHA's Pacific Southwest district from 2003-2007.

Well-known in the local cleaning industry, Galera owns her own business, Clean Plus Systems II. She trains high school students in housekeeping and food sanitation career development, thanks to assistance from the State Department of Education. She also serves as a consultant to Hawaii's hotel industry.

The award was established in 1998 to honor IEHA member Dr. William Joyner, who played an integral role in the creation of IEHA's Certified Executive Housekeeper training program. During the mid-1980s, Joyner launched a housekeeping training program that graduated

more than 6,000 people from Chicago's Housing Authority.

Among Galera's accomplishments is the opening of more than 30 properties in Hawaii, the Mainland and Mexico. She was also the first executive housekeeper for the Hale Koa Hotel in 1975 and served as the corporate executive housekeeper for Aston Hotels & Resorts from 1979 to 1992.

She is always passing on her knowledge of cleaning to others, whether it's high school students or professional cleaners, and is a regularly published writer, most recently dabbling in poetry. She also has hosted her own radio talk show on KUMU 1500-AM, aptly named "Clean Talk."

She is still very active with the IEHA's Hawaii chapter and attends all general membership meetings and serves as an advisor to the board of directors. The Hawaii chapter—IEHA's largest with 140 members—is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. IEHA has 3,500 members worldwide.