

## FAAGB Golf Tournament – Thank You Remark

On behalf of the Filipino American Association of Greater Birmingham, maraming salamat po—thank you so much—for making our annual Charity Golf Tournament a joyful success and a powerful force for good.

First, to our tournament organizers (Freddie Rapadas and Gabriel Gabby Junio Sapalaran) and committee leads (Kahataw Golf Team, Ricky Isip, Vivien Phillips and Lutchie Castor-Ford)—you turned months of planning into a seamless day on the course. From early-morning check-ins to the last putt and the awards program, your dedication and attention to detail made everything run beautifully.

To our volunteers (Lyn Co, Frances Cao, Aileen Rapadas, Mae AB Maniti, Abi E. Otamias, and Miguel Aragon) you are the heartbeat of this event. Thank you to the registration team, marshals and scorers, raffle, hospitality, photography and social media—everyone who lent time, talent, and energy so our golfers could simply show up and play. You modeled what community care looks like: hands ready, hearts open, work shared.

To our 41 golfers and participants, thank you for bringing your best swings and even better spirits. You reminded us that friendly competition and generous giving can live on the same fairway. Whether you birdied or just enjoyed the sunshine and fellowship, your presence fueled our mission.

To our sponsors and donors—including our Diamond Sponsors (Columbia Southern University and Golf Galaxy), Gold Sponsor (Edwin Watts Golf), Silver Sponsors (Allstate Insurance Agent-James Anthony, and Southern Company - Mario Lagliva), Bronze Sponsor (FARR Elights Services, LLC), Hole Sponsors, In-Kind Partners—we are profoundly grateful. Your support does more than put logos on banners; it opens doors. The funds we raise together power FAAGB's Empowering Dream Scholarship Program—helping students with tuition, books, fees, and

mentorship so they can focus on learning, leading, and giving back.

To our scholarship recipients who attended our event (Sammi Buhanan, Ligaya Gapud, and Jazriene Rivalde) We celebrate you and your hard work. Your dreams inspire our mission, and your journeys remind us why we do this work. You are the future leaders, caregivers, and changemakers who will carry forward the values of excellence, service, and community.

A special thank-you as well to the staff of Oak Mountain Golf Course for their hospitality, groundskeeping, and behind-the-scenes excellence—what a beautiful venue and a terrific team.

Friends, this tournament is about more than a trophy. It's about belonging, opportunity, and hope—values that ripple beyond today into classrooms, careers, and families. Your gifts ensure our scholars don't walk alone; they walk with a village behind them.

Before we close: - If you'd like to continue supporting the scholarship, please visit our website at <https://faagb.org>

and social channels. Watch for our photo album and highlights—tag yourselves and help us spread the word.

To every organizer, volunteer, participant, sponsor, and guest: thank you for believing in FAAGB's mission and in the dreams of our students. Your kindness lifts us all.

Maraming salamat po. Mabuhay!

Marcie Braden

FAAGB President, 2024-2025