



nu

barkada

sari-sari 2020

What is BARKADA?

“Seeing barkada makes my day brighter because when together, everyone continuously shares positive energy in every and any environment”
-Bernice Luong

Barkada means a lot of different things to a lot of different people. For some, it's a place to be as loud as you want, when you want, and where you want. For others, it's always seeing a familiar face in Curry Student Center. Barkada could also be a way to reconnect to a culture they grew up with. But for everyone, it's a family. Whether you grew up with it, tried seeking it out in college, or just somehow stumbled into a dance practice, we have all come to appreciate the value of family within Filipino culture.

The translation of Barkada is “a group of friends”, but everyone in this club really make it feel more like a family. It's the warm welcome you receive at every GM you go to, or pride you feel after every performance. You could be gone for 2 months, but the moment you come back it's like you never left. Barkada becomes a home away from home, and some of the relationships you form here last a lifetime. Most importantly, Barkada is a community where you can express yourselves and celebrate the Filipino culture!

Barkada is made up of so many different kinds of people from so many different backgrounds. No matter if you are Filipino or not, freshman or senior, on a dance team or got two left feet, no one in Barkada is ever out of place. Every single person that is a part of Barkada makes our community special and we hope that one day, if not already, Barkada means to you as much as it means to us.

From your loving President and Vice President,
Matt Calapatia and Katie



What is Sari-Sari?

The word sari-sari is the Tagalog word given to local convenience stores found throughout the Philippines. The word directly translates to “variety”, referring to the variety of things that can be found and bought in these style of stores. In Barkada we use the word “sari-sari” as the title for our bi-annual print newsletter that comes out at the start of each semester. We use this as an opportunity to showcase the variety of things that this club has to offer!

In this edition of the Sari Sari you’ll be able to find so many things! You’ll find information on some of the programs in Barkada like Barkada’s mentorship program: BIGGIEsmalls, and Barkada dance. You’ll be able to see Barkada’s involvement in the larger communities of PAAC and D1. And last but not least, you’ll be able to see some of the beautiful members of our club :)

Whether you’re a new face to Barkada, or a returning member, we’re so happy you’re here! We hope that this semester you create lasting memories in our community :)

Last but not least, thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of the sari-sari. We are so happy to showcase you guys and we hope that all of you reading enjoy!



what is BIGGIEsmalls?



BIGGIEsmalls is Barkada's program for mentorship, support, networking, and, most importantly, friendship all rolled into one. With BIGGIEsmalls, you gain lifelong friends and memories, inspirations and connections, and meaningful lessons that you will take with you beyond Barkada. BIGGIEsmalls isn't a professional mentorship program (unless you want it to be!). Instead, it's a way to build another layer of family and support within Barkada in the form of a BIGGIE, an older Barkada member who is there for you to rely on, whether in school, work, or in your personal life, and a "family," who you'll get to know and grow close to through sharing meals, memories, and laughs together. In my own experience, I've seen the great ways that BIGGIEsmalls provides Barkada members, especially those who are just joining us, a way to feel even more welcome into our community. The relationships between BIGGIEs and smalls and their families transcends your time at

Northeastern and truly connects you to our community, both alumni and present students, in a whole new and special way. For me, BIGGIEsmalls has been a way to gain a lifelong second family, which has been especially helpful while living away from home. BIGGIEsmalls has given me incredible friends and equally incredible memories that I will hold dear to me even beyond my time here on campus.

While an application DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a BIGGIE or a smalls, rest assured that you are welcome in our Barkada family no matter what. Please feel free to reach out to me (Jaana) if you have any questions or want to learn anything more about BIGGIEsmalls. I can't wait to see you all this semester :)

-your secretary,
Jaana

Hey Guysssssssssss!

Time to DANCE



Barkada dance is a special place and time to many people in Barkada but for me it is more than that. Before running for Performance Coordinator, Barkada dance was a place for me to let go and allow myself to just be me. It was a place that felt like home. There were times when we were laughing and fooling around and there were times where we were serious and focused. Times when we learned from others and times when we were teaching others. Times of confusions and mistakes and times when we tried again and came out strong. The most important thing though was that everything was being done together. Regardless of age, regardless of dance experience and regardless of our origins, everyone came together to grow and support each other. After Barkada chose me to become one of the PCs, I've grown even more fond of the journey that comes with walking down the same road together, to get to the stage where we can show off the friendships and fun we share. So I only hope that I can also make this journey

"Dancing is fun... Are you talking about dancing with Barkada? OH it's so fun, words can't express it. I regret not doing all the dances last semester"
-Becca Lin

worthwhile and memorable to all of you, as it was and is for me!

Dancing has been my passion since I was 10. I love dancing and grooving with music. Coming here at Northeastern, from the other side of the world, Barkada dance was the one who boosted my confidence not just in dancing but in life as well. I will not be who I am right now without Barkada. I have been saying this for so many times but let me tell you this again, "Barkada is my home away from home". I never imagined that I will become one of the PCs but, when I got nominated, hesitation did not actually hinder me to accept the



challenge because of the LOVE and SUPPORT that Barkada has given to me. For me, still, this is not enough to extend my gratitude to this wonderful and amazing FAMILY. We always say that Barkada is not a dance "team". And yes we are not! Because for me, Barkada is a dance "family".

Labis na nagmamahal,
Your PC's
Guinivir & Lenard

what is PAAC?

The Pan Asian American Council (PAAC) is the umbrella organization for 11 of the Asian American cultural clubs on campus. PAAC is comprised of the following student organizations: Asian Student Union, NU Barkada, Beta Chi Theta Fraternity, Chinese Student Association, Delta Phi Omega Sorority, Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Korean American Student Association, Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, Society for Asian Scientists and Engineers, UTSAV, and the Vietnamese Student Association.

Barkada continuously encourages its members to strengthen their own cultural identities, wherever

their background may be rooted in. As we promote the Filipino culture, one of our aims is to create a space which allows our members to develop a better understanding of the Filipino-American identity today. Undeniably in order to do this, it is important to gain a better understanding of the place Asian-Americans have today, because being Filipino-American entails just that. PAAC gives Barkada's members the opportunity to do just this; it is a platform for all Asian Americans to share experience, create bonds, and understand the issues that we face as a community.

Personally, PAAC has proven to me that there is an abundance of things to learn about your own identity, but luckily there is an even greater surplus of people who have experiences and values to share that can help you strengthen this understanding of yourself.

We hope to see you at not only Barkada events, but also the events of other PAAC orgs! There are so many long lasting connections and so much knowledge that can be had in this great community of ours :)

Your PAAC representative,
Ray Valenzuela



*"Join Barkada AND ASU because
~PAAC~" -Brendan Chow*

what is D1?



District One (D1) is an umbrella organization that comprises of Filipino collegiate cultural clubs in the greater Boston Area.

There are currently nine member organizations: NU Barkada, BUFGA (Boston University), Club Filipina (Wellesley), PSBC (Boston College), Hoy! Pinoy! (UMass Boston), The Filipino Club (UMass Lowell), Kababayan (Simmons/Colleges of the Fenway), Filipino Forum (Harvard University), Filipinex Student Union (Tufts University). District One is also part of the umbrella organization called Filipino Intercollegiate Networking Dialogue. District One holds annual events such as a Kamayan and Sosyal, which

are great ways to strengthen the community and bond with people that share Filipino culture!

During my second semester of freshman year, I had the pleasure of being one of the underclassmen representatives for District One! I got to help with the planning of Sosyal, District One's annual formal event. It was very fun and I'm looking forward to it this year. Being on D1 eboard was also a great experience for me to meet people outside of Northeastern. Funny enough, the same welcoming and warm energy that attracted me to Barkada carried through the other Filipino organizations :)



"D1 is like Barkada... But more people" -Kirby Chua

meet the EBOARD



Matt Calapatia **PRESIDENT**

YEAR Fourth
MAJOR Cell and Molecular Biology
HOMETOWN Hillsborough, NJ
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
Spring Retreat 2019! I had a lot of fun hanging outside with friends but also discussing Filipino culture with each other :)
FUN FACT I've driven well over

1,500 miles this summer!
BIGGEST FEAR not living a happy life
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Jason from the Good Place
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING my SHOES

Katie McColgan **VICE PRESIDENT**

YEAR Second
MAJOR Behavioral Neuroscience
HOMETOWN Abu Dhabi, UAE
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
Having that soft pep talk with the freshmen class right before our first Bahay Kubo :)
FUN FACT I've been on the world's fastest roller coaster and been in the world's tallest building

(shout out to the uae!)
BIGGEST FEAR being useless :(((
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Katara from ATLA
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING high waisted jeans and my doc martens



James Duce **TREASURER**



YEAR Second
MAJOR Math and Finance
HOMETOWN Los Angeles, Ca
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
One of my first dance practices for Bahay Kubo!
FUN FACT I lived in the Philippines for 2 years when I was tiny :)
BIGGEST FEAR A stagnant

nature of life
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Jack Frost
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Underwear



Jaana Tabalon **SECRETARY**

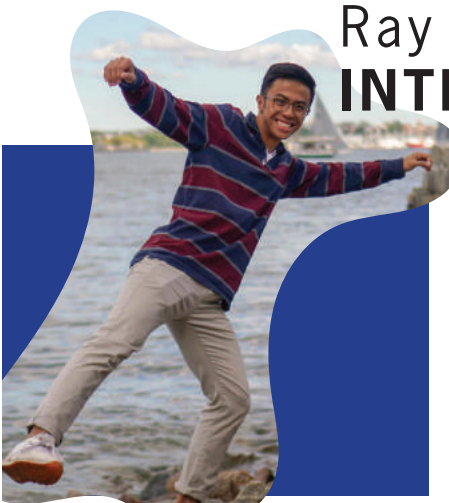
YEAR Second
MAJOR CS + Design
HOMETOWN Dover, DE
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
Giving a senti speech to all the freshmen last year before our BK performance ;)
FUN FACT I'm originally from Minneapolis, but I don't remember anything from my time there besides

the fact that I had a mini drum set in my basement.
BIGGEST FEAR getting shot or stabbed
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Elsa
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Pants and sneakers

Maya Cacanindin **EXTERNAL PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

YEAR Second
MAJOR Marketing & Design
HOMETOWN Cortlandt Manor, NY
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
Chilling on a picnic blanket under the sun with music blasting in the background at spring retreat :) it felt like a scene out of a college movie or ad
FUN FACT My sneezes are silent

and I'm always cold.
BIGGEST FEAR Death
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Gary from Spongebob
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Pockets



Ray Valenzuela **INTERNAL PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

YEAR Second
MAJOR Biomedical Physics
HOMETOWN East Brunswick, NJ
FAVORITE BKD MOMENT
Found out John picked me up and then he tackled me in the middle of curry lmao
FUN FACT My dad is bald. If i went bald it would look weird though because my head is triangular

BIGGEST FEAR the endlessness of the universe
FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Naruto (from Naruto and Naruto shippuden NOT Boruto)
FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING beanie



Guinivir Lopez **PERFORMANCE COORDINATOR**

YEAR Second

MAJOR Pharamcy

HOMETOWN Brooklyn, NY

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT

When my family Allegiance and our brother family League had a Kamayan dinner. It was one of the last groups things I did in my freshman year and it was my first time eating

Kamayan.

FUN FACT I'm a bowler, fencer and archer!

BIGGEST FEAR Falling

FICTIONAL CHARACTER

YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Nezuko (to all you weebz)

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Rings and earrings

Lenard Rivera **PERFORMANCE COORDINATOR**

YEAR Second

MAJOR Civil Engineering

HOMETOWN Tondo, Manila, Philippines

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT

During Barriokada 2018, I sang the Philippine National Anthem for the first time away from home and it almost made me cry. I grew up singing that every single day and singing that again and singing that in a foreign land is just making me more proud of where I came from.

I believe that there are more moments like this to come and that moment is just one of the thousands of moments where I will definitely say that "Barkada is my home away from home". Love y'all! Salamat po!

FUN FACT I can do hat/cap tricks! I three a cap on my head 100 times once.

BIGGEST FEAR Darkness

FICTIONAL CHARACTER

YOU RESONATE WITH THE



MOST Harry Potter

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF

CLOTHING Rings and earrings

Neary Hok **MEDIA SPECIALIST**

YEAR Second

MAJOR Biochemistry

HOMETOWN Phnom Penh, Cambodia

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT

Walking into Curry and always finding someone in Barkada there who will study with me / distract me from studying :) There were many fun events but it was the unplanned moments outside of an organized setting that really distinguishes and develops the environment of BKD.

FUN FACT If I get comfortable enough around you, I start to mumble my sentences and you have to decipher them :D

BIGGEST FEAR not being able to do what I want to do before it's too late

FICTIONAL CHARACTER

YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Rapunzel from Tangled

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF

CLOTHING Probably shoes





Annie Shum **HISTORIAN**

YEAR Third

MAJOR Entrepreneurship & Marketing

HOMETOWN Hanoi, Vietnam

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT

Being on stage for my first bahay kubo while everyone was cheering and celebrating our performance. It was one of the most joyful and rewarding experiences, Barkada truly felt like a family in that moment :)

FUN FACT I can knit a scarf! I'm kind of a grandma

BIGGEST FEAR Being buried alive

FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Ann Perkins from Parks and Rec

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Jeans

Michael Remijan **FRESHMAN REPRESENTATIVE**

YEAR First

MAJOR Mechanical Engineering

HOMETOWN Cambridge, MA

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT Performing at Kamayan

FUN FACT I have a football signed by Greg Olsen and a Cubs homerun baseball. I also have no good photos of myself.

BIGGEST FEAR Getting jumped

FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Danny Phantom

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING Jeans (lightwash specifically)



Nina Castillo **FRESHMAN REPRESENTATIVE**

YEAR First

MAJOR Engineering

HOMETOWN Washingtonville, NY

FAVORITE BKD MOMENT

During Kamayan when I wasn't part of the modern set, but still got to watch everyone from backstage.. There was a crazy amount of energy and it was kind of inspiring to see everyone having such a good time dancing all together.

FUN FACT One time my favorite

artist, Khalid, talked to me during his concert mid-song. This was probably the best moment of my life.

BIGGEST FEAR Stink bugs

FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU RESONATE WITH THE MOST Boo from Monsters, Inc.

FAVORITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING My furry Uniqlo jackets



meet the GENERAL MEMBERS



**Josh
Rollins**

Major Computational Biology

Year Literally who knows?

Favorite Movie Cool Runnings - This movie about a Jamaican bobsled team honestly has one of the best multi-character development arcs ever. With an amazing soundtrack by Hans Zimmer to pull it together, it truly is a masterpiece!

Looking Forward to my first time choreographing! Ever since I started, it's been one of my dreams to spread Filipino folk dance. Now, I actually have the chance to share a dance that means so much to me with people I truly care about!

Favorite BKD Moment when Sheena picked me up into DC fam! Growing up homeschooled, I always walked around holding my shame. I felt I was somehow worse than others and had to justify myself and my history in every interaction. When I was picked up, it was the first time since I moved to Boston that I felt chosen for who I am! Someone I care for was asking me to stay, no strings attached.



Mark Choa

Major Financial Management

Year 2022

Favorite Movie Kingsman: Secret Serviceman

Looking Forward to Feasting with Brokada

Favorite BKD Moment D4ME 2019: Sweep City



Adrian Pastolero

Major Biochemistry with a minor in Psychology

Year 2022

Favorite Movie 21 Jump Street

Looking Forward to Bahay Kubo, next question

Favorite BKD Moment Last year's Bahay Kubo started my interest in dancing for Barkada, it was absolutely electric.



John Soliven

Major Computer Engineering & Computer Science
Year 2022

Favorite Movie 21 Jump Street

Looking Forward to I can't wait for my smalls to pick up a nice young woman/man so I can be a lolo finally

Favorite BKD Moment D4me BKD dance hype

Korry Valley



Major Business Management
Year 2021

Favorite Movie The Night Before

Looking Forward to Bahay Kubo and Conference 2020!

Favorite BKD Moment Kamayan!



Michelle Jo

Major Pharmacy
Year 2025

Favorite Movie The Office

Looking Forward to Making new friends

Favorite BKD Moment GMs and meeting you guys



Santiago Tolentino Pacheco

Major Pharmacy Studies/PharmD
Year 2021/2022

Favorite Movie It On: All or Nothing

Looking Forward to Getting to know the new members that I haven't met yet and welcoming in the NUin freshies

Favorite BKD Moment when Hosting



meet the OLDIES

MICHAEL CHICHIOCO

Advice!

If I could go back in time and talk to my freshman year self, I would say “If there’s something you want to do, do it”

My freshman year self loved to make excuses about everything. “Oh I’m too tired to make new friends” “It’s too hard to find a research lab” “changing my major is too much work”.

Over the years however, I realized that we can be our biggest obstacles in achieving our goals (whatever they may be). I’ve learned that when I tell myself I CAN accomplish whatever it is I desire to pursue, I find myself to be happier.

Never sell yourself short, believe in your abilities and be yourself!

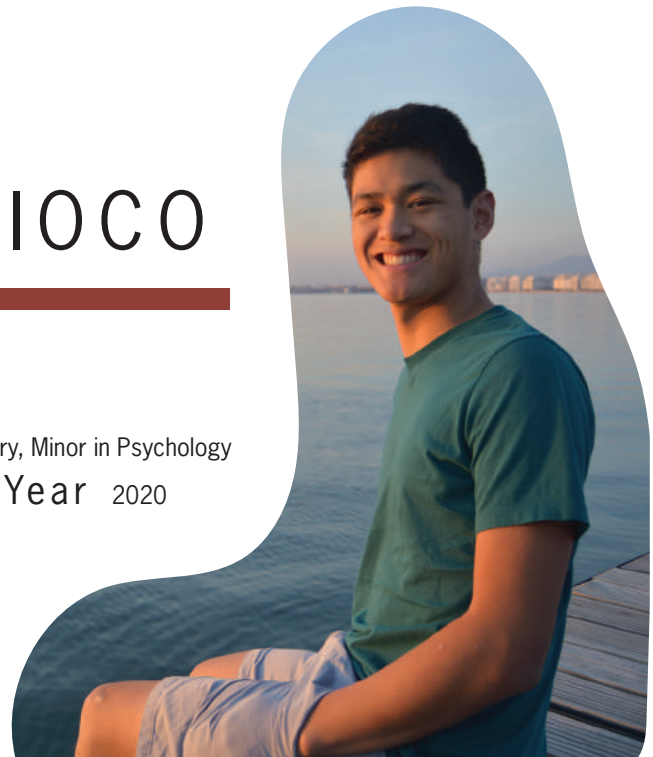
Major Biochemistry, Minor in Psychology
Graduation Year 2020

What made you join Barkada?

Initially, I had little desire to join any cultural club in college, but that all changed the end of my freshman year. I grew up as primarily the only Filipino in most of the communities I spent my time in and I felt a lack of connection to Filipino culture. Everything changed after hanging out with people from barkada for just a few hours. We connected over small things in Filipino culture

and for the first time in my life I felt proud to be Filipino. Being in barkada helped me realize how big of a role culture plays in my life.

Those initial moments helped me feel a sense of belonging and I continued to stay involved in barkada for all of college.



AMANDA ESCABA

Major CS & Design
Graduation Year 2020



Advice!

Something I learned the hard way is it's okay to take a break sometimes—more than just “okay”, it's pretty necessary. I slacked off a lot around freshman year which made me think I needed to be in hardcore work mode 24/7 later on to do well, but this just led to burnout and disappointment when I didn't accomplish as much as I

wanted. You can't *do* your best when you're not *at* your best, so try to recognize when you need to step back and breathe.

What made you join Barkada?

When I found out collegiate Filipino clubs were a thing—cultural clubs were nonexistent for high

school me—I made a point to find out if the schools I was applying to had Filipino orgs. Showed up to the first meeting alone and was very shy and nervous but started feeling at home super quickly thanks to all the great people!

LANCE BARCELONA

Major Computer Engineering
Graduation Year 2020



Advice!

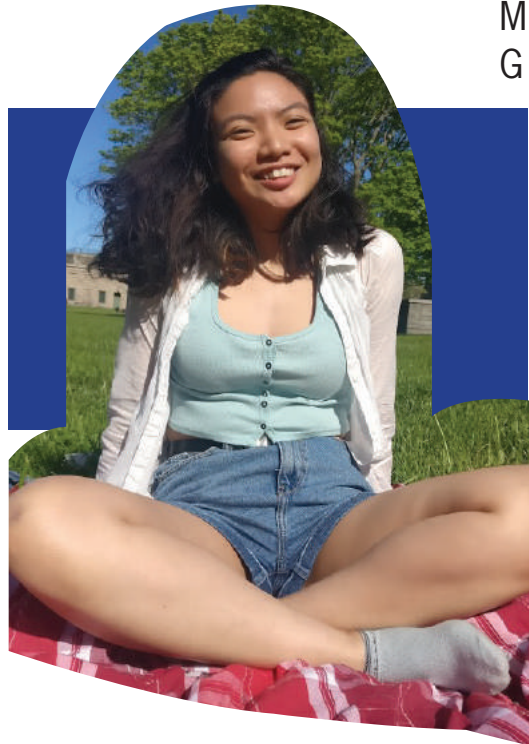
No matter how stressful classes and life might get, and no matter how busy you think you are, you always have time for a coffee or a drink with a friend. Sometimes that's all you need to power through whatever life throws at you.

What made you join Barkada?

I joined Barkada because I was looking for a sense of community at Northeastern. But along the way I found some lifelong friends as well!

DOROTHY (DOTTY!) YU

Major Computer Science
Graduation Year 2020



Advice!

Take the risk or lose the chance! You really think that you'll be young forever or that college is some endless expanse of time. But time... really whizzes by so fast and you'll be graduating before you know it. College is the perfect time to do weird sh!t because you're still finding yourself/figuring yourself out, so ask that person out! Take up that hobby you've always wanted to take up! Apply for that leadership position! Switch majors if you're unsatisfied (I've done this so hmu if you're thinking about doing it)! Usually I find that it's better to regret doing something than regret doing nothing so... go wild! Go crazy!!! Take that leap of faith!!!

What made you join Barkada?

I knew nothing about Barkada at the time except for that it was the Filipino club on campus so I joined it, hoping to connect with some Filipino students and share in our experiences. It turned out to be such a big part of my college experience! The people are so great and some of the best people you'll meet :'))

NELSON ANGELO (LO) BALLESTEROS VILLANUEVA

James loves to

Advice!

The biggest lesson learned in college that I've been able to apply to everything in life whether that be academics, social life, fitness, career, anything you can think of is this:

Don't compare yourself to others because that'll just set yourself up for failure. Instead focus on what YOU are doing and do everything you can to keep progressing forward towards whatever you want to achieve. As long as you are moving forward and making progress towards whatever goal it maybe such as make more friends, do better in classes, go to the gym more, or heezy even getting better at playing a video game; whatever your goal is, as long as you don't stay stagnant and think "if i did _____" or "if that didn't happen maybe i'd be getting better _____" you'll be better a better version of yourself the next day and be one step closer to accomplishing your goal. The only person that can make you a better version of yourself is YOU. YOU have the capacity to do whatever you want to do in life so do it. And if people



are judging or talking behind your back about what YOU are doing then they are not paying attention or giving themselves the attention they need to do what you are doing, which is becoming a better and more self-confident person to attack everything the world has to give you head-on. So enjoy life, enjoy your friends, and enjoy all that college has to offer because you are going to make today and tomorrow your BISH!

What made you join Barkada?

I knew nothing about Barkada at the time except for that it was the Filipino club on campus so I joined it, hoping to connect with some Filipino students and share in our experiences. It turned out to be such a big part of my college experience! The people are so great and some of the best people you'll meet :)))

ERIC MAKAPUGAY

Major Music Industry

Graduation Year 2020



Advice!

Ok so I still feel like a finished freshman year yesterday, but I'm a senior now so that's wack af. ANYWAYS... as I've gotten older, I've learned so many life things, especially when it comes to how I spend my time on weekends. There will always be stuff happening during the weekends whether it's Barkada events, parties, etc. and I used to spread myself thin trying to make it to everything. Yeah I wouldn't recommend it because you end up not fully enjoying each event. Also, I've learned to not be a people pleaser, and by that I mean if people want you to hangout or attend something, and you're not feeling it, don't

do it! PERIODT. You might feel bad about it, but it's not worth it hurting your mental health for another's request. This can happen from best friends, family, and people you're close with, and you might not even realize it.

What made you join Barkada?

Soooo for those who don't know. I was a freshman at Boston College and transferred to NEU my 2nd year. I was really involved with PSBC, which is BC's Filipino Club, and I ended up going to some D1 events where I met so many

of my close friends in Barkada today. It was the 2017 UR event at Bonchon/Karaoke, and I got to tell all the Barkada peeps there that I was transferring to NEU and was lowkey trying find some friends cuz I ain't trynna be a lonely sadboi. After that event, all the homies put me in a snapchat group message of our class, so I kind of got to know them over the summer. When I got to NEU in the fall, I basically had a gang gang, and they all made my transition so smooth. Love you binches! Ya'll know who you are Anyways some of those peeps ended up becoming my future D1 co-chair partner-in-crime and my 748 roomies. WHO KNEW :D

Events to look forward to

Thursdays GMs & Fam Dins

Throughout the week! DANCE
(traditionals & modern)

Jan 19 Benefit Concert

Jan 23 First Fam Din @Steast

March 19 Bahay Kubo

TBD Spring Retreat

TBD D1's Sosyal

Everyday Curry

There has to be
someone there at
any given moment.