

Entertainment



All's well with Ai-Ai & Pokie

DIRECTLINE By Boy Abunda (The Philippine Star) Updated June 25, 2010 12:00 AM



Ai-Ai delas Alas and Pokwang are very good mothers

"Kay Pokwang po."

This encounter made a mark in Aileen's heart of how well Pokie raised her daughter.

4. They are bread winners.
5. Both have intense, tragic-comic love stories!
6. They're proud alumnae of comedy bars.
7. Both are really good persons.

But, why the buzz? Why the trouble of setting up a dinner for both comedians? And, by no less than the Queen of all Media herself, Kris?

Because, nasty talks were starting to circulate about an impending feud between the two; that the Queen refused all offers to work with the Fledgling one! And in the six years of Pokie, they have not done a production number, a TV acting appearance or a movie together. So, there were speculations that there was trouble in comedy land.

Krissie took it from there and nipped the budding comedic chaos.

Star power on stage

Star power fills the stage with Atlantis Productions' *Legally Blonde The Musical* when it opens in Manila today at Meralco Theatre.



I'm truly happy that Aileen (Ai-Ai delas Alas) and Pokie (Pokwang) have started to become good friends. Thanks to Kris Aquino, who set up the dinner for the two.

Here are some commonalities between the two:

1. Both love to cook and eat.

I love Pokie's *paksiw* while Aileen's *carbonara* is a sybaritic delight.

2. Both are excellent comedians.

Pokwang calls Aileen, My Queen, while Aileen calls Pokwang, Prinsesa ng Komedyang.

3. They are very good mothers.

One time Aileen bumped into a young girl at the lobby of ABS-CBN. "Hello po!" the girl greeted her. "Kanino kang anak?", Aileen asked.

In *Legally Blonde The Musical*, sorority star Elle Woods doesn't take "no" for an answer. So when her boyfriend dumps her for someone "serious," Elle puts down the credit card, hits the books, and sets out to go where no Delta Nu has gone before: Harvard Law. Along the way, Elle proves that being true to oneself never goes out of style.

Leading the cast is Nikki Gil who looks forward to channeling her inner blonde and kicking up her musical shoes for the show where she plays the role of Elle, created in the film by Reese Witherspoon.



She says, "It's not every day I get a chance to play the character I always wanted to be in real life. I'm grateful for this role that requires so much discipline and passion." Nikki has been preparing for the role for close to a year with extensive voice and dance class.

Joining Nikki in the all-star cast are Nyoy Volante (who thrilled audiences with his singing and dancing in *Hairspray*) as Emmett Forrest, Guji Lorenzana as Warner Huntington III, Cris Villonco as Vivienne Kensington, Jinky Llamanzares as Paulette Bonafonte, Jett Pangan as Professor Callahan, Calvin Millado as Dewey/Kyle, and Geneva Cruz as Brooke Wyndham.

Simone Genatt, chairman of Broadway Asia Company who produced *Legally Blonde* in New York and licensed the production to Atlantis says, "Broadway Asia Company is thrilled to be working once again with Atlantis Productions on the upcoming performances of the Broadway hit musical *Legally Blonde*. With the tremendous star power of Nikki Gil heading an incredibly talented cast of local performers, we feel very confident that *Legally Blonde* will be very successful in the hands of Atlantis Productions. The Broadway touring production of *Legally Blonde* garnered all the touring Broadway awards this season including Best New Touring Musical, Best Design and Best Music, and is confirmed to continue touring the United States for another two years of bookings. We look forward to the success of the Manila performances with Atlantis Productions."

Manila has not seen this much star power on stage in quite some time!

Havaianas' Filipinas Collection released

Havaianas released its newest limited edition to commemorate the Philippine Independence called Filipinas Collection. The collection showcases a stylized rubber design with the word Filipinas on the strap. Filipinas Collection comes in red, blue, yellow and white colors. The Filipinas Collection was designed by Filipinos to show the true Pinoy colors.

[View previous articles of this column.](#)