

CONTEMPORARY ASIAN THEATER SCENE PRESENTS:



Silicon Valley
Asian Pacific
FilmFest 2023

EMPOWERING
AAPI
VOICES!



IN-PERSON LIVE

AT AMC DINE-IN SUNNYVALE THEATRES

OCTOBER 20 - 22, 2023

VIRTUAL ONLINE AT

[SVAPFILMFEST2023.EVENTIVE.ORG](https://svapfilmfest2023.eventive.org)

OCTOBER 20 - OCTOBER 29, 2023



2023 Image Hero Award

Established to honor icons who serve as heroes to the Asian community.

Duane Kubo



Duane's visionary career spans photography, filmmaking, co-founding Visual Communications, and establishing JTown TV and SVAPFF, previously known as the JTown Film Festival. Throughout his journey, he never lost his vision of the transformative potential of media arts and communication to educate and authentically record our history. His work aimed to shift the nation's narrative from a single, predominantly white perspective to one that accurately portrays the nation's history, acknowledging its foundation in racism, and highlighting contributions of diverse ethnic groups.

EMPOWERING
AAPI
VOICES!

Empowering AAPI Voices! As we continue to share the stories of Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), We hope to foster a sense of community and provide a space for important conversations about identity, representation, and the AAPI experience.



In Memory of Steve Yamaguma:

Steve will always be associated with art, activism, and music – and always to the highest degree. As a co-founder of CATS, he pursued opportunities for Asian American Identities and artistic endeavors when opportunities were scarce in earlier decades. Steve served CATS with great dedication, helming the Silicon Valley Asian Pacific Film Festival and serving as a valued board member.

Welcome

TO THE 9th Annual

Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest.

SCHEDULE LIVE AT AMC DINE-IN SUNNYVALE THEATRES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Opening Night

6:00 PM

Book Signing with Abigail Hing Wen
Opening Night Dinner



7:00 PM

Short- *Gifts Are My Love Language*
Feature- *Love in Taipei*

9:15 PM

Q&A Session

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

10:00 AM

Short- *Year of the Rat*
Feature- *Starring Jerry As Himself*
Q&A Session

12:30 PM

Feature- *A Great Divide*
Q&A Session

3:00 PM

Bay Area Shorts
Q&A Session

5:30 PM

Feature- *Chindia*
Q&A Session

8:00 PM

Feature- *Shortcomings*
Q&A Session

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

10:45 AM

Short- *1970s: The Fight for
Little Tokyo*
Feature- *HITO HATA: RAISE
THE BANNER*
Q&A Session

1:30 PM

Local Legends Documentaries
Q&A Session

4:00 PM

Short- *Every Day After*
Q&A Session

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023 LIVE AT AMC DINE-IN SUNNYVALE THEATRES

OPENING NIGHT

FEATURE FILM:

LOVE IN TAIPEI



Based on the New York Times bestseller "Loveboat, Taipei" by Abigail Hing Wen, the film tells the story of the young American, Ever Wong (Liao), whose summer takes an unexpected turn when her parents surprise her with a trip to Taipei for a cultural immersion program, during which she falls in love.

FEATURE SHORT:

GIFTS ARE MY LOVE LANGUAGE



Samantha makes it clear on how she should be celebrated on her birthday and her boyfriend David starts off strong. It's success after success but when David gives Samantha the perfect gift, it all goes wrong.

OPENING NIGHT

Q&A GUESTS:

LOVE IN TAIPEI

AUTHOR AND FILMMAKER, ABIGAIL HING WEN



Abigail Hing Wen is a filmmaker, AI tech leader and New York Times bestselling author of "Loveboat, Taipei," a HarperCollins novel and Barnes and Noble YA Book Club Pick which has been adapted to the screen as "Love in Taipei". The novel draws inspiration from the actual program, attended by thousands of Chinese and Taiwanese diaspora youths, which Abigail attended the summer after her freshman year at Harvard. Abigail served as an executive producer for the "Love in Taipei" film alongside film stars Ashley Liao ("Hunger Games") and Ross Butler ("Shazam," "Thirteen Reasons Why"). The companion novels, "Loveboat Reunion" (following a girl-in-tech) and "Loveboat Forever" (November 2023) follows the gang and their community through new coming of age journeys.

GIFTS ARE MY LOVE LANGUAGE

DIRECTOR AND WRITER, JONATHAN DE GUZMAN II



Jonathan De Guzman II is a Filipino American, director/writer from San Diego, currently living in Los Angeles. He graduated from UC Irvine's undergraduate film program, where he wrote and directed The Perfect Post. This short received best picture and best screenplay at UC Irvine's film festival; and went on to screen at the 44th Asian American International Film Festival, San Diego Filipino Film Festival, and many more. Gifts Are My Love Language serves as his second short film and is currently circulating the film festival circuit. Inspired by Gen Z culture and his AANHPI community, Jonathan aims to tell comedic and witty stories that spotlight cool and relatable AAPI individuals.

OPENING NIGHT HOST AND MODERATOR:

NBC BAY AREA REPORTER, ROBERT HANDA



Robert Handa is an award-winning journalist with a remarkable three-decade career. He's been honored with multiple Emmys and was named the 2015 Reporter of the Year by the Associated Press. We proudly commemorate his decade-long tenure as the host of 'Asian Pacific America with Robert Handa,' a revered weekly talk show spotlighting Asian newsmakers, community events, accolades, and youth perspectives. Handa's exceptional contributions were recognized with the 2022 Best Media Personality title in a readers' poll by Metro Silicon Valley.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FEATURE FILM: STARRING JERRY AS HIMSELF

A family documents how their immigrant father, Jerry, a recently retired Florida man, was recruited by the Chinese police to be an undercover agent, only to discover a darker truth.



WRITER AND DIRECTOR, "YEAR OF THE RAT", RICKY QI



Ricky Qi is a photographer, filmmaker, and National Geographic Explorer. Ricky's work is known for his humanistic portrayal of individuals caught in the currents of the times, and is inspired and grounded by his firsthand experience witnessing individuals from traditional cultures learning to navigate an increasingly interconnected world.

HOST "SILICON VALLEY INSIDER" RADIO SHOW AND PODCAST, KEITH KOO



Keith is the creator and Host of the "Silicon Valley Insider" Radio show and Podcast on 1220AM KDOW Silicon Valley/San Francisco. Keith has interviewed C-Level executives from Fortune 100, government officials as well as "unicorns" all in the context of innovation, disruption and the risks associated with doing business to achieve optimal business outcomes.

FEATURE SHORT: YEAR OF THE RAT



Yearning for companionship but unable to connect with her daughter, a middle-aged Chinese immigrant turns to the unlikely world of online dating.

PANEL GUESTS:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF YU-AI-KAI, JENNIFER MASUDA



Jen Masuda has over 12-years of service as a staff member with Yu-Ai Kai Senior Community Center in San Jose serving in various roles; the last 4-years as Executive Director. Jen was the primary caregiver to her grandmother who suffered from dementia/Alzheimer's Disease, which led her to discover Yu-Ai Kai and the wonderful offerings of services for both her and her grandmother.

RETIRED SENIOR INSPECTOR, SF DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, JASON COLLOM



Jason Collom is a second-generation policeman. He served for 27 years, with 8 years in patrol and 19 years in investigation. In his previous life, Jason held class discussions and lectured on Asian American Studies at UCLA.

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

A GREAT DIVIDE



Seen through the eyes of a Korean American family that leaves the California Bay Area for small-town Wyoming after experiencing devastating loss, *A GREAT DIVIDE* addresses the emotional and psychological impact of racism and xenophobia on Asian Americans, the loneliness and sacrifice of immigrant sojourners and the generational burden of expectations that weigh on their children. But it's also a story about a family repairing itself after tragedy, about a young man breaking out of his shell and finding love, about reconciliation and redemption.

Q&A GUESTS:

DIRECTOR AND WRITER : JEAN SHIM

Emmy Award-winning director Jean Shim started her career directing television promos, feature trailers, and commercials. As Head Creative Director, Shim's credits include directing image campaigns for the Sci-Fi Channel, launching a network for Samsung Korea (casting John Cho), and creating main titles for Rysher Entertainment and Buena Vista Television. In 2005, Jean transitioned to independent filmmaking. She was accepted to the Tribeca Film Festival All Access as a new director.



ACTOR: EMERSON MIN



Emerson Min is a Korean American actor who started his career at four years old in a Samsung commercial. His film credits include *Literally*, *Right Before Aaron* and playing young Marcus (Randall Park) in Netflix's *Always Be My Maybe*, a breakout hit romantic comedy with two Asian American leads. In 2023, he was cast in lead dramatic roles in *A Great Divide* (Ken Jeong), and action film *Darkness of Man* (Jean Claude Van Damme).

ACTOR: WEST MULHOLLAND



Born near the salty shores of San Clemente, California, West Mulholland grew up surfing the iconic waves of Trestles and San Onofre, where he reoccurred as Axel on TNT's crime drama, *Animal Kingdom*. While a student at the Orange County School of the Arts, he participated in Anna Deavere Smith's Identity Project master class, where he wrote, produced, and performed *Mochi*, a segment on his tisooy Filipino & Japanese ethnicity.

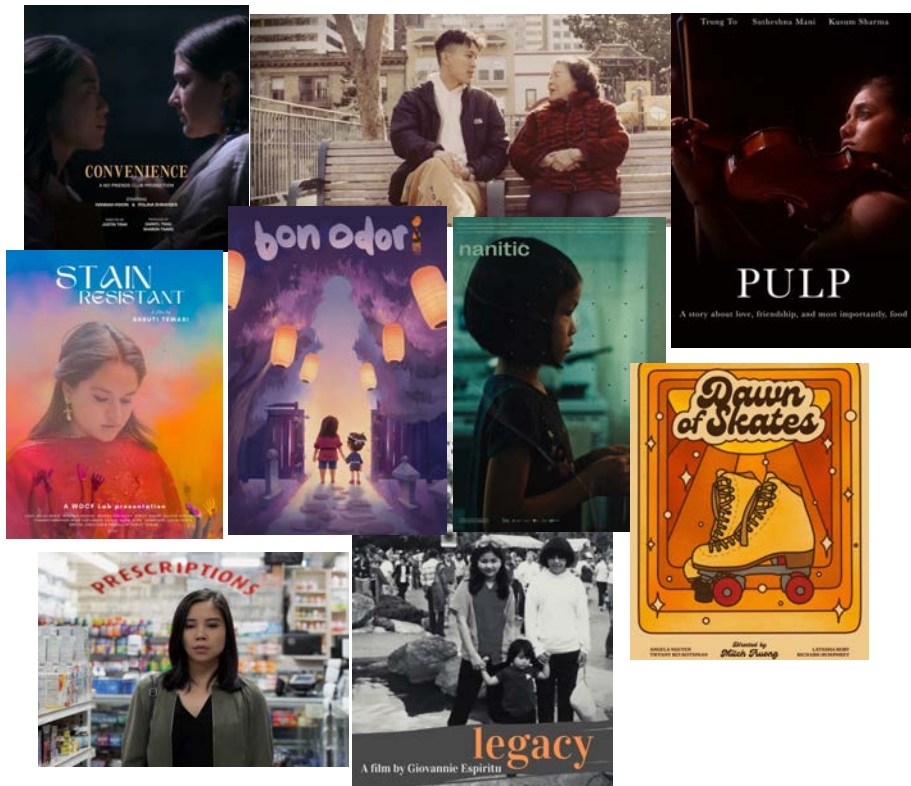
MODERATOR: MINA NA RAE FEDOR



Mina Na Rae Fedor (15) is the founder and Executive Director of [AAPI Youth Rising](#), a national student organization with 100+ chapters that takes small actions to make positive change. Mina spoke about the rise in xenophobia against the AAPI community in 2020 which led to a rally of over 1k supporters.

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

BAY AREA FILMMAKER SHORTS AND SELECTED FAVORITES



We are excited to present to you these Short Films from our local, Bay Area Filmmakers, plus a few of our selected favorites. (See next page for detail of films)

Q&A GUESTS: FILMMAKERS:

Justin Tran, Jason Wu, Mitch Truong, Trent Osaki, Harsimran Sandhu, Shruti Tewari, Giovannie Espiritu, Yasmine Gomez



MODERATOR- ELLINA YIN

ELLINA YIN is a first-gen Cambodian American multidisciplinary artist, civic participation activist, and entrepreneur. They work at the intersection of art, technology, and lawmaking to create and explore new forms of civic participation i.e. world building. As a producer and writer of various podcasts, Ellina threads together art and technology to reimagine the way we practice democracy at a local level.

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM **LIST OF SHORT FILMS**

Film Title	Synopsis	Filmmaker
Convenience	Two convenience store employees work a graveyard shift. An idle conversation ignites into an impassioned reflection on their current lifestyle, aspirations, and future together.	Justin Tran
FROM A ROOFTOP IN CHINATOWN	A love letter to San Francisco's historic Chinatown, where rapper and singer Son of Paper grew up and has taken much artistic inspiration for his music.	Jason Wu
Dawn of Skates	Dawn Pham is a Vietnamese-American teenager growing up in the 90's. Inspired by Michelle Kwan, Dawn yearns to emulate that success in her own life.	Mitch Truong
Bon Odori	A young Japanese-American boy learns to move on from the loss of his grandmother, through the Obon dances and memories he's shared with her.	Trent Osaki and Sally Thai
Pulp	A first-generation college senior confronts the realities of generational trauma, while preparing an original piece for an upcoming violin audition.	Harsimran Sandhu
Stain Resistant	This is a story of two women, former classmates from Delhi, who reconnect in Silicon Valley in their forties, after taking completely different paths through life.	Shruti Tewari
Legacy	A look at generational trauma and triumph through poetry and pictures.	Giovannie Espiritu
Nanitic	The word "nanitic" is coined for first-generation worker ants, who sacrifice their life for the survival of the colony. The film uses ants and their colonial structure as a metaphor, exploring the affect of this familial moment on a macro level.	Carol Nguyen
Party Favor	A Filipino-American woman grapples with going behind her strict Catholic sister's back to buy condoms for her 14-year-old niece.	Yasmine Gomez

5:30 PM - 7:30PM

CHINDIA



When an American couple tie the knot for all the wrong reasons, their 'Chindian' parents come to untie things, the Asian way! Veer, an unemployed immigrant, is lying on railroad tracks, contemplating suicide. His life is in the shits! Veer lost his job, his house, and now his parents are coming to America to meet his fiancé, who just dumped him.

Q&A GUESTS:

Moderator- Filmmaker/Writer, Saila Kariat



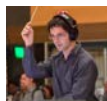
Saila Kariat is an accomplished filmmaker, writer, and entrepreneur. She pursued a career as an electrical engineer and builder while dreaming of filmmaking and writing.

Director/Writer, Sikandar Sidhu



Dr. Sikandar Sidhu graduated from the University of Southern California with an MFA in Film & TV Production. Before USC he was working as a General Physician in India and a stand-up comedian who was voted in the top 10 in the country and the creator of the channel Hollyshit which was voted top 10 by Youtube India in 2014. After graduation Sikandar has worked as a writer and a director on music videos, commercials, infomercials and short films.

Composer, Marco Valerio Antonini



Marco Valerio Antonini is a Los Angeles-based, classically trained Italian composer of music for Film, TV and Videogames.

Cinematographer, Ino Yang Popper



Ino Yang Popper is a cinematographer based in Los Angeles, and a lecturer for the Advanced Cinematography program of the Department of Cinema and Television Arts at California State University, Northridge.

Actor, Lee Chen



Lee Chen was born in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia of China. She got her start in acting during her elementary school years, when she toured with Chairman Mao Zedong's Communist Propaganda Performance Troupe throughout Inner Mongolia.

Producer/Actor, AJ Singh



Writer, producer, and actor, AJ Singh is one of the very few Sikh-Americans navigating through Hollywood. With a background in Business Administration and Film Production, Singh recognizes the power of cinema, an ideological apparatus to deconstruct our ways of thinking, and raise awareness of cultural, social, and economic differences.

Actor/Writer, Shruti Tewari



Shruti Tewari has spent over two decades in the creative arts with acting projects ranging from Bollywood blockbuster to numerous award-winning independent films. After stints in investment banking and tech, she changed course to authentically represent minority voices in the arts.

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

SHORTCOMINGS



Ben, a struggling filmmaker, lives in Berkeley, California, with his girlfriend, Miko, who works for a local Asian American film festival. When he's not managing an arthouse movie theater as his day job, Ben spends his time obsessing over unavailable blonde women, watching Criterion Collection DVDs, and eating in diners with his best friend Alice, a queer grad student with a serial dating habit. When Miko moves to New York for an internship, Ben is left to his own devices, and begins to explore what he thinks he might want.

PANEL DISCUSSION GUESTS:



Moderator, Stephanie Yang

Stephanie Yang is a senior communications consultant and founder of Yang Communications, a tech PR consultancy that works primarily with venture-backed startups across artificial intelligence, digital healthcare, and the future of work. Prior to working in Silicon Valley, Stephanie was a Hollywood studio publicist working on films including THE NOTEBOOK, the Academy Award-winning trilogy The LORD OF THE RINGS, and the sport documentary LINSANITY.



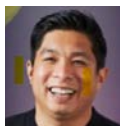
Panelist, Jeffrey Lo

Jeffrey Lo is a Filipino-American playwright and director based in the Bay Area. The winner of the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award, his recent directing credits include THE LANGUAGE ARCHIVE and a Chinatown set LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, THE GREAT LEAP and VIETGONE at Capital Stage Company and THE PAPER DREAMS OF HARRY CHIN and HOLD THESE TRUTHS at San Francisco Playhouse.



Panelist, Yvonne Kwan

Yvonne Y. Kwan is an associate professor of and program coordinator for Asian American Studies at San Jose State University. Kwan also served as the previous Director of the Ethnic Studies Collaborative at SJSU, in which she led efforts in the implementation of the California State University Ethnic Studies Graduation (AB 1460) Requirement. She teaches classes on Asian American history, media representation and pop culture, oral history, and more.



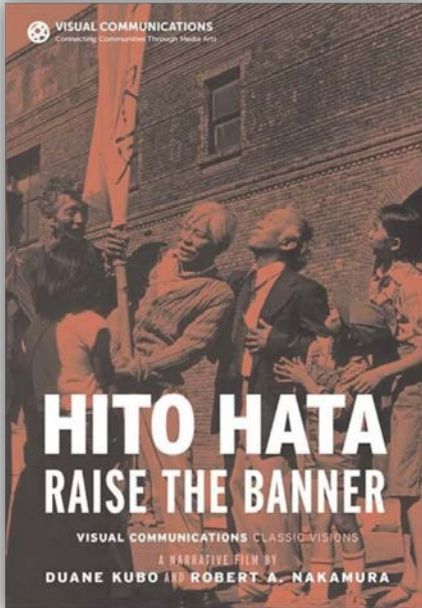
Panelist, Eric Toda

Eric Toda is a marketing executive, angel investor, and active advocate for the Asian American community. Eric is currently the Head of Meta Prosper, a new community support program for the API community from Meta and Global Head of Social Marketing at Meta.

10:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Short Film- 1970s: The Fight for Little Tokyo

Feature Film- HITO HATA: RAISE THE BANNER



A landmark project directed by Robert A. Nakamura and Duane Kubo, *HITO HATA: RAISE THE BANNER* (1980) is the first feature-length film made by and about Asian Pacific Americans. Following a feisty first-generation Japanese American elderly's life laboring on the transcontinental railroad and struggles in preserving the Little Tokyo community, the film captures the contributions and hardships of Japanese Americans from the turn-of-the-20th century.

Q&A GUESTS:



FILMMAKER, DUANE KUBO

One of the founders of Visual Communications, the nation's premier Asian Pacific American media arts center, Duane Kubo later went on to co-direct (with Robert Nakamura) and produce the VC production *HITO HATA: RAISE THE BANNER* (1980), the first feature length narrative film created exclusively by Asian Americans. Kubo moved back to his native San Jose, CA in 1982 and started teaching at De Anza College in Cupertino, CA. He later became dean of the Intercultural/International Studies Division, teaching Asian American Studies and overseeing the Ethnic Studies and International Studies programs. Kubo is now retired from De Anza College and volunteers in San Jose Japantown by running J-Town Community TV and the J-Town FilmFest.



MODERATOR: SUSAN HAYASE

Susan Hayase is a long-time activist in the San Jose area Japanese American community, and was a part of the grassroots movement for Japanese American redress, working in the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee (NOC) and the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRR).

SPECIAL NOTE: We encourage you to watch Victoria Taketa's interview with Duane Kubo about his work, inspirations, and hope for future generations. (tinyurl.com/DuaneKubo)



1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

LOCAL LEGENDS DOCUMENTARIES

Because of You, I Am



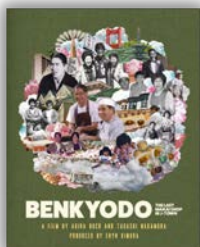
This short film takes viewers on an inspiring and intriguing visit with PJ and Roy Hirabayashi, whose lifelong partnership is dedicated to taiko, the Japanese drum.



Taiko Artists, PJ and Roy Hirabayashi

Co-founder (Roy) and Artistic Director Emeritus (PJ) of San Jose Taiko (SJT) celebrates their 50th anniversary of playing taiko. For their years of community-building and expanding the art form of taiko through SJT, in 2011, the National Endowment of the Arts awarded them the National Heritage Fellowship, the nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts.

BENKYODO: The Last Manju Shop in J-Town



Ricky and Bobby Okamura, the current owners of Benkyodo mochi shop, established in 1906, make a difficult decision to close their family business.



Director, Tadashi Nakamura

Emmy-winning filmmaker Tadashi Nakamura was named one of CNN's "Young People Who Rock" for being the youngest filmmaker at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and listed as one of the "Top Rising Asian American Directors" on IMDb.



Producer, Eryn Kimura

Eryn Kimura (she, they) is a mixed media artist, and cultural organizer and producer based on the unceded territory of the Ramaytush-speaking Ohlone people - San Francisco.

Silk and Iron



A short film spotlighting Gary Llamido, an antiques collector and restoration artist. We have an intimate conversation with Gary on the important role that Samurai Armor has played in his life, as well as the impact it continues to have on the world.



Director, Kee Streater Heywood

In the early 2000's, a kid in rural Alaska first discovered his family's DV camcorder. At the time, creating home movies with his friends felt like a passing interest. Little did he know that two decades later, he will have turned what was considered a fun hobby into a professional career he absolutely loves.



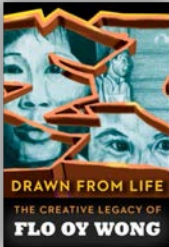
Producer, Mohammad Sigari

Mohammad Sigari has been traveling since 21 and spent 6 intense years building corporate offices all over the world, on every continent, which naturally led into an antique business.

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

LOCAL LEGENDS DOCUMENTARIES (cont'd)

Drawn from Life: The Creative Legacy of Flo Oy Wong



As the sixth daughter of Chinese immigrants living in Oakland's Chinatown in the 1940s-1960s, Flo Oy Wong was determined to break free of a life of pre-destined invisibility.



Artist/Poet, Flo Oy Wong

Flo Oy Wong is an artist/poet/educator and co-founder of the SF-based Asian American Women Artists Association. Flo was CATS' 2022 Image Hero Award & a multiple NEA award recipient.



Filmmaker, Andi Wong

Andi Wong explores the materials and languages of art- visual art, dance, music, theater, literary arts and new media. Her creative partners include The Last Hoisan Poets & First Voice.

**This is CATS' first-produced short documentary film

Becoming Yamazushi



A son honoring family legacy discovers how art can be a champion for healing, lost history, and cultural liberation, as he takes us on the poetic journey of Yamazushi

Directed by George Yamazawa

Q&A Participants:

PJ & Roy Hirabayashi, Tadashi Nakamura and Eryn Kimura, Kee Streater Heywood and Mohammad Sigari, Flo Oy Wong and Andi Wong



MODERATOR: MIKE INOUE

Mike Inouye is a South Bay native who is currently NBC Bay Area's weekday morning traffic anchor. He has a zeal for technology, communication, and live performance.

4:00 PM - 5:15 PM

EVERY DAY AFTER

Growing up in Masbate Province in the Philippines, Jary is neglected and shunned since the moment of his birth for one reason-- his appearance.

His older sister, Jessa protects Jary through his early years, then takes him in as a young teen, to raise him alongside her own two children in a fragile house on a hill. Jessa seeks out the medical care Jary has been denied since birth. And more, the support to begin his physical and emotional recovery.



Every Day After is a 35-minute documentary film that provides a more nuanced look at the complexities of the healing process we don't often see. And honors the invisible labor of a sister whose love and action make it possible for Jary to experience the everyday joys and struggles of growing up.

Q&A GUESTS:



FILMMAKER, DAVE LIU

Dave Liu is a 30-year veteran of Wall Street, Silicon Valley, and Hollywood. He is an advisor, author, entrepreneur, investor, award-winning filmmaker, and philanthropist.



MODERATOR, JANELLE WANG

A multiple Emmy award winner, Janelle Wang anchors NBC Bay Area News weeknights at 5 pm and 5:30 p.m. She also promotes cancer awareness and encourages people to join the National Marrow Donor Registry.

DR. JERRY INSPIRATIONAL AWARD WINNERS 2023

This annual artistic challenge was established in honor of the late co-founder of CATS, Dr. Jerry Hiura, who was a poet, artist, jewelry maker and musician - multifaceted in spirit and talent. This award was created to continue his vision of promoting young artists. The theme - **I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU SOMETHING...** "Messages to My Younger Self" - brought forth creativity and deep meaningful messaging in various art disciplines.



CATS is proud to share the work of our **top 6** winners. There were many submissions with themes of life balance, embracing the present, and accepting mistakes! Congratulations to all of our talented young artists.



Overwork

"Overwork" explores, through drawing, how I unwittingly overworked myself by metaphorically eating school work and extra homework in pursuit of maintaining academic excellence my junior and sophomore years of high school... Conveying the realization that, like food, work is meant to be consumed slowly and mindfully is something I want to share to my younger self and to others who may also find themselves in similar situations.

Tiffany Xu,
Sunnyvale, CA



Rooted

"In my daily life one of the only things I focused on was school, which prevented me from being able to reflect on my identity. Ultimately, as a message to my younger self, "I'd like to tell you something: Be courageous and don't be afraid to try new things."

Nicole Cheong
Milpitas, CA



Dear Time

If I had the chance to give my younger self advice, I would tell her this: "Although life may seem confusing and the future may be daunting, it will all work out in the end...so please enjoy the time we have now."

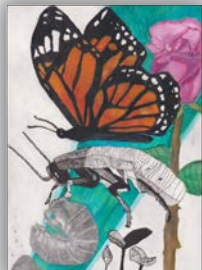
Allison Lin
San Jose, CA



Symphony of Extremes

"This project was based off of a letter I wrote to my younger self for a school project. To connect the phrase "in this fast-paced world" and "slow down" with two very extreme objects: a roller coaster and a snail. In this fast-paced world, I often feel like a roller coaster hurtling through thrilling highs and daunting lows. The constant rush and excitement can be invigorating, but it can also leave me feeling overwhelmed, yearning for a moment of respite".

Shreya Chakka
Cupertino, CA



I'm A Butterfly

"Looking back, I want to tell my past self that all the struggles I've faced have made me who I am, and taught me many important lessons. This inspired me to create this piece and share the same message with others. The evolution of the insect and it's environment represents the evolution of each person's life and their own environment.

Tanush Agrawal
San Jose, CA

Reach



Sophie Cao,
San Jose, CA

If I could send a message to my younger self, I would tell myself "reach out, don't be afraid". As I learned later on, reaching out and asking for help can open up many opportunities that I otherwise would have never experienced. I believe everything worth doing in life requires you to take the first step out of your comfort zone, and reach out to what is beyond.

VIRTUAL ONLINE FILMS- OCTOBER 20 - 29, 2023

Over 65 Films available to view online!

Purchase and view at svapfilmfest2023.eventive.org



FEATURE FILMS



COMEDY



CELEBRATING COMMUNITIES, DISCOVERING UNTOLD STORIES



FOOD AND CULTURE



ANIMATION



IMMIGRANT AND SURVIVAL STORIES



HEALING AND SELF DISCOVERY



INTER-GENERATIONAL FAMILY STORIES





Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Ng Wong
Family Trust

Mike Kaku and
LaDonna
Yumori-Kaku

Tom Do HIng
Foundation

Landy Wong

Brenda Hee
Wong

Bassie Lee

Victoria Taketa

Gerrye and Calvin
Wong Family

Barbara Why

Ed and Flo Oy
Wong



Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest

SPECIAL THANKS



J-TOWN COMMUNITY TV



YU-AI KAI



2023 SVAPFF TEAM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cindy Toy - Chairperson
Leianne Lamb
Joanne Ho
Reiko Iwanaga
LaDonna Yumori-Kaku
Iz Zac Gatton
TK Tran
Victoria Taketa
Andy Chung
Lin Tso
Mark Young

Miiko Mentz
Caroline Moore
King Yaw Soon
Kathy Higuchi
Judy Higuchi
Noreen Ikeuye
Coby Chuang
Miki Bellon
Elina Yin

VOLUNTEER LEADS

Norm Toy
Jeff Lamb
Chris Hioki
Geoff Chuang
Kelly Toy
Kevin Pascual
Kasey Chuang
Stephen Lamb
Cliff Moore
Whitney Moore
Marie Wong
Ling Yau

GREETERS

Nathan Louie
Brenda Hee Wong
Pauline Jones
Ginger Lai

PHOTOGRAPHERS/ VIDEOGRAPHERS

Henry Nakata
Lawrence Su
Anthony Le



Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest

EMPOWERING
AAPI
VOICES!

Join and Support Our Team!

svapfilmfest.org

CATS: Contemporary Asian Theater Scene

catsasiantheaterscene.org

565 N 5th Street, San Jose, CA 95112



Silicon Valley Asian Pacific FilmFest is a Production of Contemporary Asian Theater Scene (CATS) a 501c3 non-profit