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Verizon Presents The 7th Annual Asian Pacific American Film Festival

September 14, 2006

Washington, D.C.- APA Film and Verizon Presents the 7th Annual DC Asian Pacific American (APA) Film Festival Sept. 28 through Oct. 7, 2006 at locations throughout the Washington, D.C., area including Landmark's E Street Cinema and the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA). The festival will showcase 14 features, over 30 short films, and 5 special events. All screenings are open to the public and many will have admission under \$10. A complete schedule of films and descriptions is available at <http://www.apafilm.org>.

The Opening Night Presentation on Sept. 28th is AMERICANESE. This film about the politics of an interracial Asian American couple (Chris Tashima, Allison Sie) was directed by Eric Byler (CHARLOTTE SOMETIMES) and received Special Jury Prize and Audience Awards at the 2006 South by Southwest Film Festival. Eric Byler and members of the cast are scheduled to attend.

On Sept. 30th, the festival presents four programs at the Jack Morton Auditorium at the George Washington University, including THE SLANTED SCREEN, a historical profile of Asian male actors in film and television, and SENTENCED HOME, a firsthand account of Cambodian immigrants fighting current controversial deportation laws.

Several documentaries will make their DC premieres, including a touching portrait of an Indian family that communicated for several years through audio and film correspondence, I FOR INDIA (Sundance Film Festival 2006), and QUEEN OF VIRGINIA, about a local leader in the Vietnamese immigrant community that rises to become a star competitor in the Ms. Senior America Pageant.

A number of films feature ensemble casts, with new and veteran Asian American actors in lead roles, including the comedy AMERICAN FUSION (starring Sylvia Chang, Esai Morales, Collin Chou, and the late Pat Morita in one of his last appearances), and WATERBORNE (starring Ajay Naidu, Christopher Masterson, and Lindsey Price), a thriller about a biological terrorist attack in Los Angeles.

Four programs will be presented at NMWA, including a selection of shorts by women and gay and lesbian filmmakers, and two recent features directed by and starring women-- SITA, a narrative documentary about a young girl from Nepal involved in a sex trafficking incident, and KIEU, a classic Vietnamese tale retold with a modern storyline and set in San Francisco.

The Closing Night Presentation is EVE AND THE FIRE HORSE, which received Special Jury Prize at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival. Director/Writer Julia Kwan and Phoebe Kut, the film's young star, are scheduled to attend.

Verizon Presents the 2006 DC APA Film Festival and is supported by Silver Sponsor Canadian Embassy, Silver Sponsor Adobe, Bronze Sponsor Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia, Bronze Sponsor Bill Page Toyota, Bronze Sponsor Radley Acura, and a number of private corporations and nonprofit organizations. The Verizon Presents the 2006 DC APA Film Festival is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a nonprofit arts service organization. For more information, visit <http://www.apafilm.org>, call (202) 330-5496, or email

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