

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chinese American Stories

8th Annual Chicagoland JustStories Story Festival

WHAT: Just Stories Festival is **the only storytelling festival in the nation dedicated to stories of social justice and ethnic pride!** As part of this year's festival, there will be one performance in Chinatown at 1 pm on Saturday, April 17th. This year's festival features Nancy Wang of San Francisco premiering an original piece, *Bittersweet: A Chinese American Daughter's Legacy*. China is often in the news. Come learn about the Chinese in America – on the west coast and right here in Chicago! (There is a street in Chinatown named after Nancy Wang's father because of his contributions to the Chicago Chinese American community. Nancy's father was instrumental in building the archway into Chinatown on Wentworth Avenue as well as the local park and affordable housing for seniors.)

Nancy was a JustStories Fellowship recipient this year and created this new story under the direction of Susan O'Halloran. Her husband and performing partner, Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, will join us by adding a tandem, traditional Asian folk story to the mix and a little music as well.

This year, for our Saturday afternoon performance, we are co-sponsoring with the Chicago Chinese Museum Foundation in an effort to support them in the reconstruction of the Chinese American Museum in Chicago's Chinatown.

WHY: JustStories Storytelling Concerts are devoted to strengthening and honoring the human family through sharing **artistic and entertaining stories** of ethnic identity, immigration and race relations to honor our unique cultures and to celebrate our diversity and common humanity.

WHERE/WHEN: Saturday, April 17, 2010

St. Therese Chinese Catholic School at 247 West 23rd Street, Chicago from 1 - 2:30 pm

WHO: **Nancy Wang and Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo** founded Eth-Noh-Tec in 1982, Eth-Noh-Tec is a kinetic story theater company based in San Francisco, weaving [tec] together distinctive cultural elements of the East and West [eth] to create new possibilities [noh]. Eth-Noh-Tec produces and performs contemporary presentations of traditional folktales from the many countries and cultures of Asia through storytelling, theater, dance, and music. Eth-Noh-Tec has performed at venues including at the Smithsonian, Kennedy Center, and the National Storytelling Festival and at President Obama's Inaugural Celebration. Eth-Noh-Tec's awards include the 2008 Circle of Excellence Award from the National Storytelling Network.

Our goal is to promote understanding and cooperation between people of diverse cultures and to celebrate our differences and commonalities. The JustStories festival is dedicated to seeing and hearing one another. When we see and hear each other, we can value each other. When we know someone else's stories, it's easier to accept, appreciate and understand them. This day of stories will be energizing, empowering, thought provoking and, most of all, *entertaining*. JustStories is sponsored by Angels Studio/Chicago, a communications ministry of the Chicago Province of the

Society of the Divine Word.

JustStories Storytelling Festival P.O. Box 7036 Evanston, IL 60204 1-866-997-8726

Visit our web site: www.racebridges.net/juststories

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