

## 2006 Reach for the Stars PanAsian Youth Leadership Conference

Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 - Calgary Opera Centre - 1315 -7<sup>th</sup> Street SW

Thank you for participating in the 2006 Reach for the Stars PanAsian Youth Leadership Conference!

### AGENDA

- 9:30 am Registration  
Breakfast  
Mentors Sign-Up
- 9:45 am Welcome & Icebreaker
- 10:00 am Keynote address by **Veer Gidwaney**; Questions & Answers
- 10:50 am Break
- 10:55 am Canadian Heritage Presentation by **Daniel Larabie & Hai Nguyen**
- 11:10 am Luncheon
- 11:15 pm Mentorship Intercultural Exchange
- 12:15 pm Break
- 12:25 pm Leadership Calgary Presentation by **Garvey Chui**
- 12:30 pm Workshop A "Stepping up as Leaders" (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) by **Hieu Ngo**,  
Coalition for  
Equal Access to Education
- 12:30 pm Workshop B "Film Club" Screening, National Film Board of Canada  
- **Smita Acharyya, Kelly Isaac, Ben Tsui, Anne Marie-Nakagawa** -  
Panelists  
- **Janet Miller** - Panel Moderator
- 2:30 pm Announcements of Youth projects  
Return Evaluations  
Goodie Bags courtesy of Department of Canadian Heritage

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## Dear Friends,

The Calgary Vietnamese Youth Group (CVYG) in collaboration with several Asian youth communities (Chinese, Filipino, Cambodian, Malaysian, Singaporean, Brunei, Japanese, South Asian, Korean, Nepalese and more) welcome you to our 2006 *Reach for the Stars* Pan Asian Youth Leadership Conference. We thank you for taking part in this exciting conference where we will learn and discuss meaningful ways to support, promote and sustain leadership in our communities, for the betterment of our youth, young adults and society.

## Your Conference MC's are Tammy Dang & Richmond Agana

### 10:00 am Keynote Address 'Leadership: Making an Impact on Society'

**Veer Gidwaney** - VP, Computer Associates. Founder, Control-F1



Veer Gidwaney will share his story on how he became successful and the lessons he learned along the way. Veer was a co-founder of Control-F1 ([www.control-f1.com](http://www.control-f1.com)) and grew the company into an industry leader in Support Automation. Control-F1 had over 85 world-class enterprise customers, including Gateway, HealthSouth, IBM, Mercedes-Benz, MetLife, Siemens and Wipro Infotech. Veer started Control-F1 in the midst of completing his degree at The Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. He has been named to McLean's Top 25 Under 30 and was a finalist for the E&Y Entrepreneur of the Year award. In Dec. of 2005, Control-F1 was sold to CA, the world's 6th largest software company with over \$3.5B in sales.

### 10:55 am Department of Canadian Heritage Presentation

The presentation will be offered jointly by **Mr. Daniel Larabie**, Manager, Public Education and Promotion with the Multiculturalism Program at Canadian Heritage, from Ottawa, and **Mr. Hai Nguyen** from Edmonton.

#### **Hai Nguyen**

*Manager, Multiculturalism Program, Alberta District, Canadian Heritage*



Hai Nguyen, a Law graduate from Vietnam, obtained his Master degree in Economics from Michigan State University, USA. Currently, he is the district manager responsible for Multiculturalism & Human Rights programs in Alberta for the Department of Canadian Heritage. In this capacity, he has worked collaboratively with all levels of governments, institutions, community group and the private sector in the development and building of an inclusive, equitable and racism free Alberta.

Mr. Nguyen has worked and contributed to the development of a number of professional and community organizations. He has received several special recognitions for his professional and volunteer work from the Canadian Prime Minister (Canada's Year of Asia Pacific 1997), Deputy Prime Minister (Edmonton 2001, World Championships in Athletics), Deputy Minister of Canadian Heritage (Employment Equity initiative), Alberta Federal Council (National Flag Day initiative) Northern Alberta Heritage Language Association (cross cultural understanding), Vietnamese Canadian Federation, Edmonton Viets Association (community development), and the Dante Alighiere School of Italian Language & Culture (promotion of international heritage languages). In 2005, to recognize Mr. Nguyen's excellent community work, the government of Alberta has awarded him with the Alberta Centennial Medal that honors Albertans who have made outstanding contribution to the community and to the province in the past 100 years.

## 12: 25 pm What type of Leadership are we hurting for most?

### Garvey Chui

*Leadership Calgary, Class of 2006*

Leadership Calgary is a community-based, leadership development program of Volunteer Calgary formed in 1999. The program encourages existing and aspiring leaders to work collaboratively to build a healthy and caring community. Each year, a group of individuals representing the public, private and non profit sectors embark on a 10-month leadership journey. This experience provides an opportunity to gain a deeper fundamental understanding of community issues, a greater sensitivity to community diversity, and a new commitment to community cohesion and stewardship. Visit <http://www.leadershipcalgary.ab.ca> for more information.



You can view Garvey's biography in the *Meet Your Mentors* section of this conference program.

## 12:30 pm Workshop A - Stepping up as Leaders (*recommended 18+ years old*)



### Hieu Ngo

*Director, Coalition for Equal Access to Education*

Hieu Ngo, a young and dedicated Vietnamese-Canadian, will lead the youth in a workshop in the afternoon on 'Youth: stepping up as Leaders'. This interactive 2-hour workshop will help young people to:

- Increase self-awareness and empowerment
- Examine and deal with social, cultural, economic and political forces that assert influences over our lives
- Explore our roles as leaders in the local, national and global contexts

You can view Hieu's biography in the *Meet Your Mentors* section of this conference program.

## 12:30 pm Workshop B – “The Film Club” Screening & Discussion National Film Board of Canada (*recommended for 13-18 years old & parents*)



### Janet Miller

*Panel Moderator*

Janet Miller is a member of the Western Region Communications Team of the Department of Canadian Heritage based in Vancouver. Her work as a communicator, event organizer and facilitator has taken her to communities throughout BC, Alberta and Yukon on behalf of the federal government. Before joining the Department, Janet worked in the cultural sector for various organizations in the Vancouver area. Her belief in culture as a vehicle for intercultural exchange allows her to seamlessly integrate her personal interests into her work on a daily basis.

## **Anne Marie Nakagawa**

*Workshop Panelist, Writer/Director/Multi-Media Artist*



Anne Marie Nakagawa is a Calgary-based multi-media artist, writer and curator. She is currently working toward a Master of Fine Arts degree in photography at the University of Calgary.

Her involvement in film and video began in New York City where she studied illustration at Parsons School of Design. While there, she acted as graphic artist and art director for various student film productions. Anne Marie also works in found-object sculpture, sound and image installations, photography, painting, print- making and collage. Anne Marie recently wrote and directed the much acclaimed National Film Board Production, "Between: Living in the Hyphen" which received a 2006 Alberta Film & Television Award.

## **Kelly Isaac**

*Workshop Panelist, Marketing Manager*



Kelly Isaac is the recently appointed Marketing Manager for the National Film Board's Edmonton office, responsible for the promotion of new NFB releases and the development of key partnerships within communities of interest. In her position she also increases access to and encourages engaged dialogue on social issue documentaries for adults, youth and children.

Before this appointment, Kelly worked as the Edmonton NFB's Production Supervisor for nine years. In this capacity she was involved in the making of documentary productions from their initial concept to the final post-production. In addition, Kelly has managed the NFB's Filmmaker Assistance Program, making innumerable contacts with Alberta's upcoming filmmakers. She is a member of Women in Film and Television- Alberta, and is a past Board Member for that association. Kelly has a Master of Arts degree, specializing in Canadian social and women's history, from the University of Alberta.

## **Smita Acharyya**

*Workshop Panelist, Writer/Director/Producer*



Smita Acharyya is an award winning independent filmmaker, working as a writer, director, producer and editor. Smita's debut film "Second Coming in the 2nd Grade" was chosen by the National Screen Institute for the 2002 NSI ZeD Drama Prize Award. The film was produced by her twin sister, Rita Acharyya through their production company Twinsletown Productions.

In 2005, Smita received the Lotus award for "Best Locally Produced Narrative Short Film" at the Calgary Asian Film Festival for producing "Superhero Wannabe". The Bravo!FACT piece was also selected to screen at the Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary International Film Festival in 2004. "Viva Bengali" a one hour documentary written by Smita, was nominated for an AMPIA (Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association) award and was broadcast on Toronto-1 and A-channel.

Smita's recent accomplishments include Writing, Directing and Co-producing the short film "Downsizing" which was selected for EMMEDIA's Bar & Tone program and received an AMPIA nomination for "Best Short". The film screened at the 2005 Calgary International Film Festival, and will be screened at the herland Film & Video Festival in May 2006.

# Thank You to all our Sponsors

Department of Canadian Heritage  
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*We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage through the Multiculturalism Program.*

*Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada par l'entremise du ministère du Patrimoine canadien par le Programme du multiculturalisme.*

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