

PRESENTED BY THE CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA

CAAMFEST 35

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CAAM Helps Bring Stories to Light Through Funding, Producing and Presenting

Working with mediamakers and community to amplify voices

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9, 2017 – All year long, the [Center for Asian American Media](#) (CAAM) works to present stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. Each year, CAAMFest showcases projects that CAAM has produced, funded and presented, and for 35 years, we've exposed audiences to new voices and communities, advancing our collective understanding of the American experience.

[CAAMFest 2017](#) welcomes nine documentary films that CAAM has helped to develop, ranging from the increasingly urgent lessons of THE CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT to the insightful portrait of WHO IS ARTHUR CHU?

CAAM-PRODUCED FILMS: In recent years, CAAM has stepped into the role as a producer on multiple projects, helping discover and create stories with a talented network of mediamakers. Two CAAM-produced pieces are highlighted at this year's Festival.

- [THE CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT](#), by [Ric Burns](#) and [Li-Shin Yu](#), mirrors history with today's politics by exploring the causes, consequences and impact of the only [federal legislation](#) in U.S. history to single out and name a specific race and nationality for exclusion from immigration and citizenship. CAAM would like to acknowledge the National Endowment for the Humanities, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS and AMERICAN EXPERIENCE for their contributions to the film.
- [THE PEOPLE'S HOSPITAL](#), by [Jim Choi](#) and [Chihiro Wimbush](#), tells the endearing story of the [Chinese Hospital](#), the last independent hospital in San Francisco, showing that the heart and soul of a community lies in the unlikeliest of places.

CAAM-FUNDED FILMS: CAAM provides funding and support for provocative and timely Asian American film and media projects from independent producers. CAAM awards production and completion funds for projects intended for public television broadcast. Since 1990, more than \$3 million has been granted to over 150 projects.

- [ABACUS: SMALL ENOUGH TO JAIL](#), by [Steve James](#), explores the 2008 financial crisis and the family-owned Abacus Federal Savings Bank, the only US bank to face criminal

charges.

- [GOOD LUCK SOUP](#), by [Matthew Hashiguchi](#), sorts through home video and family interviews to examine identity and a story of growing up mixed race in America's heartland, Cleveland Ohio.
- [RELOCATION, ARKANSAS - AFTERMATH OF INCARCERATION](#), by [Vivienne Schiffer](#), follows Japanese Americans on a touching journey of strength and identity as they travel to former internment camps in order to move forward from a painful past.
- [RESISTANCE OF TULE LAKE](#), by [Konrad Aderer](#), focuses on the notorious camp where Japanese Americans who were labeled "disloyal" were held. Emotional stories make clear the consequences of race, wartime hysteria and political expediency.
- [UNTITLED THAO NGUYEN DOCUMENTARY](#), by [Todd Stan Krolczyk](#), follows SF-based indie singer-songwriter [Thao Nguyen](#) on her travels to Vietnam to reconnect with family and culture.
- [WHO IS ARTHUR CHU?](#) by [Scott Drucker and Yu Gu](#), explores the question behind the Jeopardy! game show answer, and title of the film, WHO IS ARTHUR CHU? Follow 11-time Jeopardy! champion, media-labelled "villain," writer and internet iconoclast, [Arthur Chu](#), as he traverses a post-Jeopardy! world where fame brings both a platform and cyber-bullying.

CAAM-PRESENTED FILM: CAAM presents original Asian American content and storytelling in multiple forms, including online, written, visual, and audio.

- [LUCKY CHOW](#), by [Francisco Aliwalas](#), is a PBS series that returns with an all-new season exploring Asian culture and cuisine across America with host and [LUCKY RICE founder Danielle Chang](#). Featuring renowned chefs, culinary stars and breakout food-crafters.

TICKETING INFORMATION:

Ticket prices for regular screenings range from \$12-\$14, excluding special events and galas. Tickets can be purchased by CAAM Members online beginning February 9 and open to the general public on February 13. All attendees can purchase tickets at the CAAMFest box office at the Alamo Drafthouse beginning March 3. Learn about member pricing, discounts and more on the [Box Office & Ticketing Information webpage](#).

Purchase tickets and learn more at www.caamedia.org

About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), celebrates its 35th year, March 9-19, 2017 in the Bay Area. CAAMFest showcases film, music, food and digital media from the world's most innovative Asian and Asian American artists.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a non-profit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing and exhibiting works in film, television and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.

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