

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Asian CineVision Receives Donation from the Mary Li Hsu Charitable Fund to Support Programming and Nurturing the Asian American Narrative

July 18, 2023, NEW YORK – The Board of Directors of Asian CineVision (ACV) is honored to announce the award of a generous grant from the Mary Li Hsu Charitable Trust.

Founded in 1975, ACV, is a New York based media arts nonprofit devoted to the exhibition, production, promotion and preservation of Asian and Asian Pacific American media expressions by artists of Asian descent. Since 1978 ACV has presented The Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF), proudly known as “The First Home to Asian American Cinema.” It is the first and longest-running festival dedicated to showcasing the moving image work by media artists of Asian descent for and about the Asian diaspora experience.

The award will help support ACV’s programming, as well as the preservation, digitization and distribution of ACV’s extensive media archive in partnership with the Asian/Pacific/American Institute (A/P/A Institute) at New York University and the Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Archives, a special collection at NYU. This project will foster Asian American representation in the media and allow access to the means of media production and distribution in order to nurture the Asian American narrative.

“Mary Li Hsu, who passed away too soon, was a generous person throughout her life,” says Ronald Hsu, brother and Executor and Trustee of the personal estate and trust, “with strong views of the importance of partnering with organizations who serve those people in greatest Need.”

During her lifetime, Hsu was passionate about being part of various organizations and forming connections with local Asian American communities in New York’s Chinatown and beyond to make impactful changes for future generations. Serving Yale College as the first director of the Asian American Cultural Center and later assistant dean, she used her position to fiercely advocate for administrative support of Asian American students on campus, especially those with first-generation backgrounds.

In alignment with her legacy, ACV has always helped create and will continually support opportunities for the Asian community in NYC to experience the beauty and creations by Asian media makers, artists and performers.

“The award will help support ACV’s work in showcasing new emerging and legacy media makers to share their visions and stories,” says John C. Woo, board chair and Executive

Director at Asian CineVision. “We are proud to share Mary’s passion and devotion to Asian American studies, our inclusion, and contributions to the American story.”

About the Asian American International Film Festival

The Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF) is proudly known as "The First Home to Asian American Cinema." Organized by Asian CineVision, it's the first and longest-running festival dedicated to showcasing the moving image work by media artists of Asian descent for and about the Asian diaspora experience. The Festival takes place in New York City, the second-largest Asian-American market in the U.S. Every year, AAIFF attracts audiences from all five boroughs of New York City, the tri-state region, and around the world.

About Asian CineVision

Asian CineVision (ACV) is a media arts nonprofit devoted to the development, exhibition, promotion, and preservation of Asian and Asian American experiences through storytelling. Our mission is to nurture and grow the community of makers and lovers of Asian and Asian American independent film, television, and digital.

Films submitted and screened at the festival are eligible to participate in our National Tour program, bringing Asian diaspora stories to broader audiences across North America through a rental service for cultural and educational institutions.

Thank You

THE 2023 ASIAN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH SUPPORT FROM THE MARY LI HSU CHARITABLE TRUST, MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT, TAMIMENT LIBRARY ROBERT F. WAGNER LABOR ARCHIVE, NYU SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, ASIAN/PACIFIC/AMERICAN INSTITUTE AT NYU, CUNY AAARI, CUNY GRADUATE CENTER, YAO KING, AND THE MANY FRIENDS OF ACV.

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