Community Action Team (CAT) Updates!

- **Arts & Activism (AA) CAT:**
  
The AACAT has been busy recruiting new members and rehearsing for a performance for a graduate class at U of M on October 12th. The team is also updating its webpage on the New Visions website.

- **Outreach & Engagement (OE) CAT:**
  
  New Visions is working with a few Chinese community-based organizations to plan for the Community Film Series.

- **Organizational Accountability (OA) CAT:**
  
  OA CAT will schedule a meeting this October.

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The Meaning of the Purple Ribbon

Adapted from Ohio Domestic Violence Network, 2001 (http://www.fvpccg.org/DV%20Awareness%20Month.htm)

The history of the purple ribbon is somewhat unknown. However, over the last 20 years, it has come to symbolize courage, survival, honor, and a commitment to ending domestic violence. Domestic violence programs and shelters across the U.S. use the purple ribbon to raise awareness about the issue. You may see people wearing purple ribbons made into pins, or stitched onto t-shirts, hats, and bags. You may also see them stuck on cars, hung on doors, and wrapped around trees. When you wear a purple ribbon, you convey a powerful message: **there is no place for domestic violence.**

Films about Domestic Violence and Much More

By Eun Joo Lee, New Visions Project Coordinator

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we would like to introduce to you several films that we recently reviewed. These films deal with issues of immigration, gender relations, domestic violence, identity, and community. In addition, they provide us with a glimpse into people’s lives that stem from different places and cultures, but share the burden of oppression cloaked in tradition.

1. **A Nice Arrangement** by Gurinder Chadha
   A young Indian bride explores with her divorced sister the notion of marrying the “perfect” cultural choice for their parents.

2. **Sewing Woman** by Arthur Dong
   A story of a woman’s journey from China to the U.S. as told by the filmmaker’s mother who speaks of her inner strength, which helped her overcome the many challenges of immigration.

3. **Sophie** by Helen Haeyoung Lee
   The portrays a Korean American family’s frightening under an abusive and alcoholic patriarch as seen through the eyes of an eleven-year-old heroin.

4. **I Will Always Tell This Story** by Lily Ng
   A compelling tale about the transfer of “ownership” of women from father to husband and the continual socio-cultural mores that mandate women to be married or give up all community support and social status.

5. **Talking History** by Spencer Nakasako
   A compilation of oral histories and historical footage of Asian women portraying their journey to the U.S. and their unique immigration stories.

For film blurbs, cast information, and other films by Asian American filmmakers, check out the Center for Asian American Media’s website: http://asianamericanmedia.org

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**Monthly Visions** is a collaborative project between New Visions and authors. The views of the authors may or may not reflect the views of New Visions. We encourage submissions (poetry, artwork, articles, short stories, prose in English or your native language) to further the mission and philosophy of New Visions. Submitters will work with New Visions staff to ensure content with its philosophy and mission. For more information about the newsletter, please e-mail us at monthlyvision@umich.edu.

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October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Staff

Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the United States grew out of the Day of Unity in October, 1981 to help connect advocates across the nation, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (www.ncadv.org). The Day of Unity soon became a special week packed with a wide range of activities, which later grew into Domestic Violence Awareness Month in 1987. Two years later, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the United States Congress.

Powerful and creative events are organized all around the country throughout the month of October. These events and activities aim at educating the public about the prevalence of domestic violence and its costs, the need for prevention, and available resources/services for survivors. Some events are designed to raise funds for prevention programs. (from Family Violence Prevention Fund: www.endabuse.org)

For events at national levels:

October 17 — The first-ever national shopping day at HomeGoods will take place in partnership with the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC), one of the world’s largest and oldest volunteer service organizations. HomeGoods will host a special shopping day and make a $25,000 donation to the Family Violence Prevention Fund. On this day, GFWC members and advocates across the country are encouraged to visit their local HomeGoods store to support and celebrate this special event (www.homegoods.com).

October 18 — “Confronting Violence Against Women”: Contact elected officials and provide your opinion on legislation affecting women and people of color. Share your domestic violence story and read others’ by visiting the online quilt

October 19 — “Breaking the Cycle of Violence”: Join an online chat room with the emerging band the Red Jumpsuit Apparatus and discuss their song Face Down, which talks about domestic violence.

October 19 — Marshalls will sponsor its 13th annual Shop ‘Til It Stops Day. You can help end abuse that day simply by shopping at any of the more than 700 Marshalls stores nationwide (www.marshallsonline.com). This year, Marshalls will donate a percentage of the proceeds from that day’s sales to the Family Violence Prevention Fund to support efforts to prevent violence against women and raise awareness about the harmful affects of abuse.

For more information about national events, visit the Family Violence Prevention Fund’s website: http://www.endabuse.org and the YWCA website: http://www.ywca.org