

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2007

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Association for Viet Arts (AVA) presents
“Finding Home – Que Huong Trong Toi:
The Untold Stories of Generations Before in Search of a Place Called Home.”

As the Fall Season 2007 begins, the Association for Viet Arts (AVA) proudly presents the *Club O’Noodles* with their new theatre piece, **“Finding Home-Que Huong Trong Toi: The Untold Stories of Generations Before in Search of a Place Called Home”** on Saturday, October 20, 2007 at 8:00PM at the STAGE Theatre, located at 490 South First Street (corner of 1st and William St.) in Downtown San Jose. **Ticket box office opens at 7:00 pm on performance night.**

FINDING HOME, curated by Tram Le and directed by Uyen Huynh (Club O’Noodles), is a remarkable and long overdue journey through the lives of the men and women who occupy silent spaces but whose stories carry deep truths and offers a candid glimpse into Vietnamese American history. Uncovering the stories and experiences of first-generation Vietnamese Americans ages 50 years and above, the FINDING HOME performance is the culmination of a 15-week story-telling workshop drawing from a range of performance art techniques. FINDING HOME features stories and performances in Vietnamese with English subtitles.

Thirty years after the Fall of Saigon, some Vietnamese Americans who have grown up in the United States have been successful at finding venues to voice their personal experiences, while many older first-generation Vietnamese Americans, who experienced the war first hand, have yet to find a stage in which to tell their stories. Although some have chosen to remain silent, others have been ignored because of society’s fixation on youth culture or simply do not even know how to begin.

“For too long, others have been telling the stories of my parents’ and grandparents’ generation,” said Finding Home curator Tram Le, “but no one directly heard the voices of those people who lived through decades of strife and violence to eventually be here in America.

FINDING HOME gives voice to the participants, providing a space in which to present their experiences of “home” and feelings of being lost and/or displaced after being uprooted from their homeland. The performance allows them to share these stories and rich histories with the community.

Founded in 1991, the *Association for Viet Arts (AVA)* is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary arts organization serving San Jose and the Bay Area. AVA’s goals are to provide opportunities for Vietnamese American artists to present their work, open dialogues for cultural understanding, bridge Vietnamese and American cultures, and the sustain the arts through arts education for youth in the community.

Founded in 1993, *Club O’Noodles* is a Vietnamese American theater troupe that celebrates the blend of Vietnamese and American culture through the following goals: to bridge the gap between Vietnamese and other communities as well as enriching the diversity of American culture through performance art, to promote the interest and support for performance art in the community through innovative and socially conscious work, and to create an environment that is nurturing and supportive of artist training and development of their craft and skills.

General tickets are \$25.00/each and VIP tickets are \$50.00/each. For more information, please check out AVA website www.vietarts.org or call box office at 408-667-9702 or 408-308-9158. Tickets can also be purchased at Nha Toi Restaurant, 460 E. William Street, San Jose, (408) 294-9733. For information in Vietnamese, please contact AVA at 408-561-2728.
