

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Association for Viet Arts
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Association for Viet Arts (AVA) presents
“Words in Motion: An Evening of Vietnamese American Poetry and Performance”

Association for Viet Arts (AVA) proudly presents **“Words in Motion: An Evening of Vietnamese American Poetry and Performance”** on Saturday, April 14 at 8pm at MACLA’s Castellano Playhouse in downtown San Jose. The program will feature an exciting mix of poetry and performance by **Bao Phi, Truong Tran, Anh-Hoa Thi Nguyen,** and **Danny Nguyen**. The event will also showcase the work of local high school youth who are participants in a two-day intensive slam poetry workshop taught by nationally renowned, Minneapolis-based writer **Bao Phi**.

Bao Phi has twice won the Minnesota Grand Poetry Slam and has performed on HBO’s Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry and the National Poetry Slam Individualists Finalist Stage, where he placed 6th overall out of 250 national slam poets. His writings have appeared in such publications as *From Both Sides Now, the Def Poetry Jam Anthology, Legacy to Liberation, Screaming Monkeys,* and *Michigan Quarterly Review*. **Truong Tran** is a recipient of a 2007 Fund for Poetry Grant and is an award-winning author of four collections of poetry: *Placing the Accents* (Apogee Press, 1999), *The Book Of Perceptions* (Kearny Street Workshop, 1999), *dust and conscience* (Apogee Press, 2002), which received the 2002 Poetry Center Book Prize, and *within the margin* (Apogee Press, 2004). He teaches creative writing at San Francisco State University and Mills College. **Anh-Hoa Thi Nguyen** received her MFA in Creative Writing from Mills College, where she was awarded the Mary Merrit Henry Prize in Poetry and the Ardella Mills Literary Composition Prize in Creative Non-Fiction. Her work has been published in the *Asian Pacific American Journal, Nha Magazine,* and *AS IS: A Collection of Visual and Literary Works by Vietnamese American Artists*. **Danny Nguyen** is a pioneering Vietnamese American modern dancer who received an MFA in Dance, Performance, and Choreography from Mills College. In 1999, he was recognized by Paul Taylor as one of the seven best creative choreographers in the Bay Area. His Nguyen Dance Company is known for their unique blend of contemporary, modern and traditional Vietnamese dance.

Tickets are \$15 General Admission, \$10 Students. Admission includes a post-show reception with the artists. For information and tickets, please visit Association for Viet Arts, www.vietarts.org or email hoa@vietarts.org. Tickets are also available through Brown Paper Tickets.

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 artists of Vietnamese heritage to present their work, open dialogues for cultural understanding, bridge Vietnamese and American cultures, and strengthen arts education opportunities for children and youth.

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