CAAMFest San Jose Returns with Free Public Screenings, October 6-14, 2016

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 12, 2016 – The Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) is thrilled to announce the return of CAAMFest San Jose. Celebrating its fourteenth year, CAAMFest San Jose presents films reflecting the impact and influence of Asian Americans in Silicon Valley and their continuous innovation in technology, arts and culture, media and community. Re-envisioned to be more community-driven and accessible, this year’s festival features five days of free public screenings, taking place October 6-14, 2016.

“This year’s CAAMFest San Jose is one of the most enthralling and inclusive programs I’ve worked on in awhile,” says Masashi Niwano, CAAM’s Festival and Exhibitions Director, “Thanks to our amazing partners and supporters, we are thrilled to offer top notch films at no cost to the public. Our mission is to bring in new and diverse audiences and have thoughtful discussions with some of today’s top filmmakers including storytellers from the South Bay, San Francisco and the East Bay.”

CAAMFest San Jose is CAAM’s fall showcase that brings the innovative spirit and forward thinking programming of CAAM’s annual CAAMFest in March to the South Bay. Formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), CAAMFest is a celebration of film, music, food and digital media from the world’s most innovative Asian and Asian American artists.

PROGRAM LINE-UP

**OPENING NIGHT: MELE MURALS**

Following a sold-out world premiere at CAAMFest 2016, CAAMFest San Jose opens with MELE MURALS, directed by CAAMFest favorite Tadashi Nakamura. Known for the inspiring portrait film JAKE SHIMABUKURO: LIFE ON FOUR STRINGS, Nakamura strikes again with MELE MURALS, exploring the melding of ancient Hawaiian traditions with hip-hop-infused graffiti art. Beyond the serene coastlines that have made the Hawaiian Islands famous lies a deeper community connection amongst locals. Artists Estria Miyashiro and John Hina travel to the rural town of Waimea, HI, where they attempt to connect ancient Hawaiian traditions and graffiti with the youth of tomorrow. Join us after the screening at Nomikai for the MELE MURALS after party.

Co-presented by the J-town Film Festival and Contemporary Asian Theater Scene (CATS).

*Thursday, October 6, Opening Night Film, at 7pm at Camera 3 Cinema; Opening Night Party, at 9pm at Nomikai*
PAINTED NAILS
San Francisco Mission District nail salon owner Van Nguyen tackles the cosmetics industry in this provocative documentary. PAINTED NAILS focuses on workers rights and the little-known implications of getting a mani-pedi in America as it raises awareness of the daily health hazards faced by nail techs on the job. Co-presented by Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) and Supervisor. Friday, October 7 at 6pm at the Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium

OUT\HERE Shorts
Spotlighting local queer filmmakers, OUT\HERE SHORTS carries you on an intimate visual journey of dance, music, art and identity in the local LGBTQ universe. Shorts include: FINGER RUNNING; WARNING SHOT; ABSENCE: NO FATS, NO FEMMES, NO ASIANS; ECLIPSE (RUBY); WE ARE MANGOS; and MY HOT MOM GANDHI. Co-presented by San Jose State University Queer and Asian Student Group. Monday, October 10 at 7pm at San Jose State University

RIGHT FOOTED
RIGHT FOOTED is a moving documentary about expert martial artist, disability rights activist and the world’s only armless airplane pilot, Filipina American Jessica Cox. Ride along on her journey as she overcomes adversity, finds romance and inspires the world. Co-presented by De Anza College’s Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI). Tuesday, October 11 at 2pm at De Anza College Campus Center

NOT WITHOUT US
NOT WITHOUT US follows seven multi-generational, grassroots activists from around the world as they head to Paris for the 21st session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, also known as the COP 21. Co-presented by the San Jose Museum of Art. Friday, October 14 at 7pm at the San Jose Museum of Art.

EXPECTED GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE (as of August 20, 2016)
Diana Li, Director, FINGER RUNNING
Dianne Griffin, Co-Director, PAINTED NAILS
Erica Jordan, Co-Director, PAINTED NAILS
Mark Decena, Director, NOT WITHOUT US
Tadashi Nakamura, Director/Editor, MELE MURALS

CAAMFEST SAN JOSE 2016 SCHEDULE
THURSDAY, OCT. 6, 2016: OPENING NIGHT
7:00PM MELE MURALS CAMERA 3 CINEMAS
9:00PM MELE MURALS AFTER PARTY NOMIKAI

FRIDAY, OCT. 7, 2016
6:00 PM PAINTED NAILS ISAAC NEWTON SENTER AUDITORIUM

MONDAY, OCT. 10, 2016
7:00PM    OUT\HERE SHORTS    SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY, OCT. 11, 2016
2:00PM    RIGHT FOOTED    DE ANZA COLLEGE CAMPUS CENTER

FRIDAY, OCT. 14, 2016
7:00PM    NOT WITHOUT US    SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART

VENUE INFORMATION
Venues include: Camera 3 Cinema, 288 S. Second Street; De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino; Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium, 70 W. Hedding Street; Nomikai, 48 S. 1st Street; San Jose Museum of Art (SJMA), 110 S. Market Street; San Jose State University, 1 Washington Square

SPECIAL THANKS TO CAAMFEST SAN JOSE SUPPORTERS
Co-Presenting: Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI)
Corporate: Xfinity, AT&T DirecTV, Buick, San Jose Museum of Art
Foundation and Public Support: Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Cultural Affairs grant from the City of San Jose

CAAMFest San Jose Advisory Council
Allen Chiu, Deputy District Director, Office of Assemblymember Evan Low, District 28; Mrs. Daisy Chu; Kansen Chu, CA State Assembly, District 25; Rose Dhaliwal, Council Assistant, Office of Vice Mayor Rose Herrera; Adrianna Garewal, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Nora Campos, District 27; Sherrill Ingalls, Director of Marketing and Communications, San Jose Museum of Art; Reiko Iwanaga, Executive Director, Contemporary Asian Theater Scene (CATS); Duane Kubo, Festival Director, San Jose J-Town FilmFest; Ron Muriera, Commissioner - District 7, San Jose Arts Commission; Mindy Nguyen, Council Assistant, Office of Councilmember Ash Kalra, District 2; Tam Nguyen, San Jose City Council Member, District 7; Khanh Russo, Sr. Policy Advisor, Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation, and LGBT Liaison, Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; Shireen Santosham, Chief Innovation Officer, Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo; Edwin Tan, Ph.D., Director of Advocacy, Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI); Ann Marie Tran, Advocacy Program Coordinator, Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI); Ann Woo, Director, International Performing Arts Center

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 call (415) 863-0814 or visit www.caamedia.org.

###