

PRESS RELEASE – April 5, 2000

A celebration for a young artist Philip Ma winning the “Growing Up Asian in America” Art Contest

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. –A talented young artist Philip Ma is announced today as the 3rd Place Winner in the year 2000 “Growing Up Asian in America” art contest, sponsored by Asian Pacific Fund in partnership with KPIX 5. This program has been running since 1994 and each year it features an essay and art competition offering cash prizes to the winners selected from nearly 1,500 entries participated among Asian American youth around the Bay area. This year’s theme “My Time” is set to recognize how the Asian American youth arrange their after-school time and perceive their positions in American world.

In his winning piece “My Dragon Spirit!” painting, Philip Ma uses the combination of watercolor, color pencils, and collage vividly depicting his time allocated among learning Karate, playing computer games with friends, gathering with family and grandparents, and watching traditional Chinese dragon-dance festival to carry the Chinese heritage and tradition. The festivity is accentuated with popular Chinese red and gold colors, and grandparents are portrayed with noticeable respect. This piece offers a thoughtful, touching and honest insight of how the young Asian American lives and schedules his time as an ordinary American student and an Asian youth.

A family cultural event to recognize the winners and celebrate the beginning of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is held at the San Francisco Fairmont Hotel on Sunday, April 30th 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. During his interview with KPIX 5, Philip Ma said, “I am so proud to be part of the Asian Heritage Celebration event, and thrilled to win the third place of Arts. I will continue to carry my Chinese heritage and try to become a more prominent artist.”

Winning entries will be displayed in community exhibits that are hosted by more than 50 public libraries from May to December reaching one million Bay Area residents. Winning entries will also be posted on the internet on the KPIX Channel 5 PIXPage at www.kpix.com/AsianHeritage and the Asian Pacific Fund’s website at www.asianpacificfund.org. For more information, please contact Hana Yoon, Program Coordinator at 415-433-6859.