



## **ASIAN FILM FOUNDATION EXPANDS REEL VOICES TO NTC PROMENADE AT LIBERTY STATION AND A REASON TO SURVIVE (ARTS)**

February 2, 2009 (San Diego, CA) – The San Diego Asian Film Foundation (SDAFF) is excited to announce that starting this year, its *Reel Voices* documentary training program will be in partnership with A Reason To Survive (ARTS), a non-profit arts organization located at NTC Promenade at Liberty Station. ARTS serves thousands of local children facing life challenges by providing innovative arts-based programs, education and opportunities. The ARTS media arts program will expand significantly thanks to *Reel Voices*.

An intense summer internship, *Reel Voices* is designed to empower high school students by teaching them the value, techniques and art of digital storytelling. Students' documentaries premiere at the annual San Diego Asian Film Festival in October and also travel to film festivals around the U.S. Since 2005, the SDAFF has trained dozens of teenagers to become filmmakers. About 25-percent of *Reel Voices* graduates go on to film school.

“This is *the* perfect partnership,” says SDAFF executive director, Lee Ann Kim, “because ARTS serves the kinds of students who need this training the most, and they have incredible stories to tell. Also, to physically move the program into their beautiful space – the Pat D’Arrigo ARTS Center – will inspire all students selected for this program.”

“We too are thrilled for this partnership, which is something we’ve wanted to do for a long time,” says ARTS founding executive director Matt D’Arrigo. “*Reel Voices* will ensure our kids will have another creative outlet, and they will be in the hands of passionate, nurturing instructors who will make a significant impact on their lives.”

Students interested in applying for *Reel Voices* can find the application and guidelines online at [www.SDAFF.org](http://www.SDAFF.org) or [www.areasontosurvive.org](http://www.areasontosurvive.org).