

THE CENTER FOR ETHNOCOMMUNICATIONS
Student Film and EthnoCommunications Film Catalogue



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To check out these films from the EthnoCommunications library for educational purposes, please contact ghamamoto@ucla.edu or call (310) 206-8889. In-class presentations to speak about the EthnoCommunications films, visual life history methods, community-based media, or the EthnoCommunications methodologies are also available by request.

A SONG FOR OURSELVES

(2009) TRT: 35 Min.



A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima. Struggling to make sense of their father's early death, his teenage sons learn that during the 1970s when Asians in America were still considered "Orientals," Chris' music and passion for social justice helped provide the voice and identity an entire generation had been in search of. Through animated photographs, intimate home movies, archival footage of Chris' introduction to nationwide television by John Lennon and Chris' own songs, their father's life takes on bigger meaning than they had ever dreamed of.

*"Wonderful - extremely well-made and powerful in its message and the history it covers."
-- Oliver Wang, Scholar / Writer / DJ*

*"This film immortalizes Chris' inspiring songs that have been and will continue to be sung by generations of activists young and old."
-- Yuri Kochiyama, Activist*

*"An essential document of Asian American cultural history told movingly through the life, legacy and song of one of its driving forces, the musician-activist, Chris Iijima."
-- Renee Tajima-Pena, Oscar-nominated filmmaker*

PILGRIMAGE
(2003) TRT: 22 Min.



PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp for Japanese Americans has been transformed into a symbol of retrospection and solidarity for people of all ages, races and nationalities in our post 9/11 world.

With a hip music track, never-before-seen archival footage and a story-telling style that features young and old, **PILGRIMAGE** reveals how the Japanese American community reclaimed a national experience that had almost been deleted from public understanding. **PILGRIMAGE** shows how the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage now has new meaning for diverse generations who realize that when the US government herded thousands of innocent Americans into what the government itself called concentration camps, it was failure of democracy that would affect all Americans.

"A powerfully moving piece on the dehumanization and dislocations of war, and the community and hope that can be found in resistance."

-- Jeff Chang, Author of Can't Won't Stop: A History of the Hip Hop Generation

"Pilgrimage updates the model for historic documentaries, creating a new soundtrack for archival footage and transforming a generation's rediscovery of the internment-camp experience into a veritable incantation. Nakamura takes the joy of activism and makes it downright contagious!"

-- B. Ruby Rich, Film Critic

"Tad Nakamura's inspiring new film opens up the Japanese American experience of World War II to a new generation of multicultural activists."

-- Yuri Kochiyama, Asian American Activist

Community/Student Organizations

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old, looking to fulfill the American dream. Through unforeseen circumstances, David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Broken Promises	Pilipino WWII Veterans struggle for equity.	Michele Gutierrez, Christine Araquel, Amber Ng, and Jose Flores	2001-2002
Culture Night with NSU: Documenting the New Nikkei Community	A behind-the-scenes look at the 2007 Culture Night as produced by the UCLA Nikkei Student Union.	Craig Ishii, Mickie Okamoto, and Kenshin Kubo	2006-2007
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
Forging Heritage	A film about a Chinese Lion Dancing troupe in Camarillo, CA.	Nicole Ling, Tanisha Williams, and Francis Eclevia	2004-2005
Got Book?	A visual life history of Helen Brown, the founder of the Pilipino American Library.	Florante Ibanez	2004-2005
In the Beat	A film about a newly formed Taiko group at UCLA, Yukai Daiko.	Rebecca Jensen and Eveline Lai	2004-2005
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
Ippon: The Story of the Sawtelle Judo Dojo	The history of the Sawtelle Judo, serving its community in West Los Angeles since 1927.	Luis Salguero and Derek Tran	2006-2007
Ji Shin Balp Ki	Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.	Clara Park, Charlie Wang, Esther Park	2012-2013
Made in P-Town	This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or "P-Town." Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric's story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.	Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu	2010-2011
Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim", an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, and Cha Viloría	2004-2005
Open to the Youth	"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of	Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011

	Carson at a young age.		
People of Color at UCLA	Throughout the history of UCLA, the contributions of people of color on this campus have not been transparent and it is still evident today. The people of color tour was created to shed light to these contributions.	Jamie Bondoc and Vincent Chou	2012-2013
Pilgrimage	PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp has been transformed into a current-day symbol of retrospection and solidarity in the aftermath of 9/11.	Tadashi Nakamura	2006
Reclaiming our History	Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.	Kristine Gonzales, Kristine Tapia	2005-2006
Recreation for Generations	A community fights to build a recreation center in Little Tokyo.	Aquilina Soriano and Brian Nagami	2000-2001
Robam Amatak [Eternal Dance]	After traditional art forms were almost entirely destroyed by a genocide engineered by Pol Pot in an attempt to achieve a classless society, a younger generation is reviving Cambodian dance at the Khmer Arts Academy in Long Beach, CA.	Kanara Ty, Teresa Pak	2005-2006
Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Student Power, ¡Si!	We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.	Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong	2009- 2010
Sírc Khoẻ	During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.	Uyen Hoang	2012-2013
Taking Care of Our Own: The Story of the Yellow Brotherhood	Chronicles a community organization's decades of involvement with Asian American youth in Los Angeles.	Tadashi Nakamura, Miles Senzaki, and Natalie Siu	2000-2001
The Seattle Underground Railroad- UNAVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT	A group of UCLA immigrant students take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.	Tam Tran, Carlie Chiu, Jeanifer Hwang, Alexander Shannon	2005-2006
Troqueros: The Life of an L.A. Port Driver	Troqueros offers a glimpse into the daily life and struggles of the Latino immigrant truck drivers who work the port of Los Angeles. Experience their world through the eyes of Lorenzo Modesto, a seasoned trucker and active member of the community.	Dan Aquino, Gloria Chou, Jessica Chou, Joanna Steele	2007-2008
We're the Kids of Cameron House	Documents the history of the Donaldina Cameron House, a community center in San Francisco Chinatown.	Ali Wong and Aleessa Atienza	2003-2004
Which Wyvernwood?	Which Wyvernwood? follows neighbors in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles becoming organized to protect their homes – not just the roofs over their head, but the community that has become such an important part of their lives. It considers the true cost of redevelopment, and asks the question, "How much change is too much change?"	Jessica Cowley	2008-2009
Who is Vietnamese America?	In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group's exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.	Jennifer Giang, Beth Kopacz	2012-2013
Women with Words	The women of the Balagtasan Collective and their poetry.	Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, and Gabrielle Angeles	2002-2003

Mixed Race

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar	2010-2011
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Los Angeles Filipinos of Mixed Heritage	Personal portraits of multiracial individuals in the Filipino American Community.	Jih-Fei Cheng, Marcie De La Cruz, and Anthony Yuen	2000-2001
MiXeD mE	A retrospective look at one mixed-Asian's journey from the rural Midwest to cosmopolitan Los Angeles, whose identity was befriended, digitized and united online. Featuring the stories of three other mixed-Asians cyberspace users.	Kristen Lee, Nancy Wen, Chris Woon	2009- 2010
Mixed/Multi Identity/Culture	A visual life history discussing the difficulties faced by Don Moy growing up mixed race and the obstacles he has overcome to get where he is today.	Max Moy-Borgen	2007-2008
More to the Chinese Side	A "modern" Chinese American family in San Francisco.	Will Gow and Sharon Lee	2001-2002

Community Empowerment/Activism

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
810LOGY	A multiethnic skateboard crew build in Long Beach, CA builds friendship and community.	Eric Tandoc, Laura Lin, Hana Jung, and Michelle Reyes	2010-2011
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
Arnold Moreno = n	The story of Arnold Moreno, Artist, Activist, Ex-gang member, Friend, and Brother, and his community of Echo Park, CA.	Ryan Yokota, Huy Chheng, Anjali Nath, and Long Trinh	2003-2004
Art and Activism on the One's-n-Two's	Profiles of two female Asian American DJ's and community activists living in New York.	Phuong Tang, Jenny Cho, and Chris Woon	2002-2003
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Bionic Woman	The story of Genesis Ilada, an AIDS interventionist in the Los Angeles transgender community.	Mark Lawsiripaiboon, Lauren Watanabe, and Jackie Lam	2003-2004
Broken Promises	Pilipino WWII Veterans struggle for equity.	Michele Gutierrez, Christine Araquel, Amber Ng, and Jose Flores	2001-2002
Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet	Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.	Viet Nam Nguyen, Jennifer Doane	2009- 2010
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
Ji Shin Balp Ki	Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.	Clara Park, Charlie Wang, Esther Park	2012-2013
Justice for Kamehameha Schools	A look at the movement to protect the admissions policy for the Kamehameha Schools in Hawai'i. The status of Native Hawaiians is highly contested and controversial and now the school's admissions policy has been declared unconstitutional.	Trinh Le, Hannah Lee, Michael Thomas	2005-2006
Living Positive II	One man's story about living with HIV.	Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang	2001-2002
Made in P-Town	This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or "P-Town." Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric's story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.	Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu	2010-2011
Makita Kang Sakdal Laya: To See You Truly Free	Consortia Concepcion Apostol began her activist career as an activist against the Marcos dictatorship. As time has gone on, she has evolved into a community organizer working both in the Filipino American and larger Asian Pacific Islander communities.	Rebecca Apostol	2007-2008

	The title, taken from the Philippine Nationalist song, "Bayan Ko" reflects Sorcy's motivation, her passion for community activism.		
Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim", an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, and Cha Viloría	2004-2005
Open to the Youth	"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of Carson at a young age.	Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
People of Color at UCLA	Throughout the history of UCLA, the contributions of people of color on this campus have not been transparent and it is still evident today. The people of color tour was created to shed light to these contributions.	Jamie Bondoc and Vincent Chou	2012-2013
Peripheral Visions	The alternative voices of political descent written on the walls of public bathrooms.	Roger Chung and Kristen Lowe	2002-2003
Pilgrimage	PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp has been transformed into a current-day symbol of retrospection and solidarity in the aftermath of 9/11.	Tadashi Nakamura	2006
Reclaiming our History	Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.	Kristine Gonzales, Kristine Tapia	2005-2006
Recreation for Generations	A community fights to build a recreation center in Little Tokyo.	Aquilina Soriano and Brian Nagami	2000-2001
Rise Up: Youth Against the War	A short documentary exploring the anti-war movement in today's youth.	Yousef Yajsar, Reynaldo Herrera, and Luke Patterson	2002-2003
Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Student Power, ¡Si!	We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.	Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong	2009- 2010
Sức Khỏe	During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.	Uyen Hoang	2012-2013
Taking Care of Our Own: The Story of the Yellow Brotherhood	Chronicles a community organization's decades of involvement with Asian American youth in Los Angeles.	Tadashi Nakamura, Miles Senzaki, and Natalie Siu	2000-2001
The Seattle Underground Railroad- UNAVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT	A group of UCLA immigrant students take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.	Tam Tran, Carlie Chiu, Jeanifer Hwang, Alexander Shannon	2005-2006
Troqueros: The Life of an L.A. Port Driver	Troqueros offers a glimpse into the daily life and struggles of the Latino immigrant truck drivers who work in the port of Los Angeles. Experience their world through the eyes of Lorenzo Modesto, a seasoned trucker and active member of the community.	Dan Aquino, Gloria Chou, Jessica Chou, Joanna Steele	2007-2008

Trouble in Paradise	A brief look at gang violence within the Polynesian community and how two Polynesian artists are using their talents to promote a celebration of culture and community unity through hip-hop.	Suzzane Anau, Herman Chen, Michael Lutu	2009- 2010
We Are Able	Cinderella Garcia is a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant; her brother Benjamin Garcia works for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California.	Jonathan Garcia and Kenny Nguyen	2008-2009
Which Wyvernwood?	Which Wyvernwood? follows neighbors in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles becoming organized to protect their homes – not just the roofs over their head, but the community that has become such an important part of their lives. It considers the true cost of redevelopment, and asks the question, “How much change is too much change?”	Jessica Cowley	2008-2009
Who is Vietnamese America?	In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group’s exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.	Jennifer Giang, Beth Kopacz	2012-2013
Women with Words	The women of the Balagtas Collective and their poetry.	Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, Gabrielle Angeles	2002-2003

Religion

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
At Odds	At Odds tells the personal story of a Christian's intense struggle with same-sex attraction. It is a visual life history of Paul De Partee and the journey he took to negotiate his conflicting identities.	Shaina Pan	2009- 2010
Breaking out of the Bubble*	The Korean American Christian Experience.	Meesa Kim, Reuel Kim, and Lily Lam	2001-2002
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar	2010-2011
Reverse Discrimination	Reverse Discrimination explores the question of race and religion through the eyes of Chris Spearman, a Caucasian pastor at a local Korean American church.	Christina Aujean Lee	2007-2008
The Heart of a Caring Cook	This film chronicles the story of a group called Caring Cooks that delivers Japanese food to local community members who are homebound, ill or going through hard times. Through personal stories and reflection, Betty Mikuni and friends show the central role of food in preserving culture, continuing a tradition of service past generational boundaries and sharing burdens within the Japanese American community.	Jenni Nakamura and Dieu Huynh	2010-2011

Women/Gender/Sexuality

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Salon Story	The mention of nail salons often evokes images of acrylic nails, and heating lamps, neon signs and nail polish. The Vietnamese salon worker has become a recognized image within the industry. Who are these salon workers and what is their story?	Chuck Diep	2008-2009
Art and Activism on the One's-n-Two's	Profiles of two female Asian American DJ's and community activists living in New York.	Phuong Tang, Jenny Cho, and Chris Woon	2002-2003
At Odds	At Odds tells the personal story of a Christian's intense struggle with same-sex attraction. It is a visual life history of Paul De Partee and the journey he took to negotiate his conflicting identities.	Shaina Pan	2009- 2010
Bionic Woman	The story of Genesis Ilada, an AIDS interventionist in the Los Angeles transgender community.	Mark Lawsiripaiboon, Lauren Watanabe, and Jackie Lam	2003-2004
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
interspection	The "coming-out" narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.	May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee	2009-2010
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Living Positive II	One man's story about living with HIV.	Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang	2001-2002
Made in Korea	Made In Korea follows Yun-Sook Kim Navarre, a Korean transnational adoptee, who grew up in Detroit, MI with White parents. Now living in Koreatown, Los Angeles, 34 year-old Navarre continues to face struggles with her identity, but hopes to raise her young daughter immersed in Korean culture.	Arami Youn, Alan Lau, Eleanor Ung, Jaysn Kim	2007-2008
Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim," an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, Cha Viloría	2004-2005
O Lo'u Tina Matua (My Grandma)	The life history of a Samoan woman living in America.	Ursula Siataga	2002-2003
Queer, Undocumented, and Unafraid	Imelda Plascencia, a recent graduate of UCLA who identifies as both Queer and Undocumented, faces the daily struggles of being within two stigmatized communities. Although at times her efforts have led her to believe that she has been "working towards nothing," her self determination and self reflection have led her to accept both her identities.	Alexandra Margolin and Judy Lu	2011-2012

(re)acquaintance	A mother discusses her process in coming to terms with her son being gay. This recent development in her life challenges everything she thought she knew about her son, as well as her preconceived notions of the queer community.	Rich Yap	2008-2009
Siya	Siya, is Ryth's video diary of coming out as a genderqueer Pilipin@. Ryth reflects on how this decision to live truly as their gender made an impact on their internal process, their family, and relationships to Pilipin@, queer, and transgender communities. Ryth contemplates on the feelings of isolation and love that steers their journey.	Ryth Abalos Mendez and Jan Victor Andasan	2011-2012
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
Thread	This documentary examines the life of Aida, the vivacious owner of a hip threading salon in the heart of Los Angeles. Growing up as an ethnic minority in the Midwest, Aida's experiences shed light onto conceptions of beauty and belonging in the United States.	Veena Hamapapur and Yuki Akaishi	2009-2010
Two Families, One Mom	Mom's aren't just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships, and love.	Cheo Lee	2008-2009
Two Women, A Brother, and A Baby	A lesbian couple tries to start a family.	Ali Wong	2004-2005
Who is Vietnamese America?	In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group's exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.	Jennifer Giang, Beth Kopacz	2012-2013
Women with Words	The women of the Balagtasan Collective and their poetry.	Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, and Gabrielle Angeles	2002-2003

Youth

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
810LOGY	A multiethnic skateboard crew build in Long Beach, CA builds friendship and community.	Eric Tandoc, Laura Lin, Hana Jung, Michelle Reyes	2001-2002
A Special Advocate	A Special Advocate is about Sue Thompson, who is a volunteer with the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Los Angeles. Sue has assisted many foster youth through the Child Dependency system and developed a special relationship with the Spicer family.	Karri L. Mayhan	2008-2009
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Belmont High: Trapping our Youth	High school education through the eyes of students at Belmont High School.	Chris Diaz, Eligio Martinez, Jason Yap	2002-2003
Culture Night with NSU: Documenting the New Nikkei Community	A behind-the-scenes look at the 2007 Culture Night as produced by the UCLA Nikkei Student Union.	Craig Ishii, Mickie Okamoto, Kenshin Kubo	2006-2007
Fostering Independence	The foster care system is flawed and does not always have the best interest of the children that it serves. A young girl shares her experience in the foster care system and its problems.	Karri L. Mayhan and Rich Yap	2008-2009
Jeremiah Lim	The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.	Julie Kang	2007-2008
Ji Shin Balp Ki	Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.	Clara Park, Charlie Wang, Esther Park	2012-2013
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Reclaiming our History	Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.	Kristine Gonzales and Kristine Tapia	2005-2006
Rise Up: Youth Against the War	A short documentary exploring the anti-war movement in today's youth.	Yousef Yajsar, Reynaldo Herrera, Luke Patterson	2002-2003
Robam Amatak [Eternal Dance]	After traditional art forms were almost entirely destroyed by a genocide engineered by Pol Pot in an attempt to achieve a classless society, a younger generation is reviving Cambodian dance at the Khmer Arts Academy in Long Beach, CA.	Kanara Ty and Teresa Pak	2005-2006

Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Student Power, ¡Si!	We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.	Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong	2009-2010
Sức Khỏe	During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.	Uyen Hoang	2012-2013
The Seattle Underground Railroad- UNAVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT	A group of UCLA immigrant students take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.	Tam Tran, Carlie Chiu, Jeanifer Hwang, Alexander Shannon	2005-2006
We're the Kids of Cameron House	Documents the history of the Donaldina Cameron House, a community center in San Francisco Chinatown.	Ali Wong and Aleessa Atienza	2003-2004

South Asian American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
\$40 on Pump 9: Desis in the Gas Station Business	A South Asian family who owns a gas station in South Florida strives to maintain the business in a post 9/11 environment.	Preeti Sharma and Adrian Leung	2006-2007
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar	2010-2011
No Vacancy	A profile of a South Asian family who owns and runs a motel in Los Angeles.	Tina Bhaga, Elena Bovetti, and Alexandra Lewis	2002-2003
Pilgrimage	PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp has been transformed into a current-day symbol of retrospection and solidarity in the aftermath of 9/11.	Tadashi Nakamura	2006
Thread	This documentary examines the life of Aida, the vivacious owner of a hip threading salon in the heart of Los Angeles. Growing up as an ethnic minority in the Midwest, Aida's experiences shed light onto conceptions of beauty and belonging in the United States.	Veena Hampapur, Yuki Akaishi	2009-2010

Japanese American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Place We Call Home	<i>A Place We Call Home</i> is about Brian Kito, owner of Fugetsudo Confectionary, and his family's experience growing up in Little Tokyo. Redevelopment in the early 80s led to the demise of many mom and pop shops, and Little Tokyo has struggled to maintain its Japanese American identity. Through projects like the Budokan of Los Angeles gymnasium, it is up to new generations to take ownership of Little Tokyo and call it their home.	Sara Seto and Fumiwo Miura	2011-2012
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
Culture Night with NSU: Documenting the New Nikkei Community	A behind-the-scenes look at the 2007 Culture Night as produced by the UCLA Nikkei Student Union.	Craig Ishii, Mickie Okamoto, Kenshin Kubo	2006-2007
Family Time	Upon going away to school, a college student explores life, family, and the dinner table.	Jean Okamoto	2012-2013
Heaven and Earth	Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.	Ryoko Onishi	2009-2010
I Am Japanese A-Me-Ri-Kan	The filmmaker must choose between American or Japanese citizenship in this personal documentary about self and identity.	Mickie Okamoto	2006-2007
In the Beat	A film about a newly formed Taiko group at UCLA, Yukai Daiko.	Rebecca Jensen and Eveline Lai	2004-2005
Japanese American Experience	The impressions of Japanese American exchange students studying in Japan.	Takanori Ushiba and Yukinobu Kigawa	2001-2002
Knocking the L Out: Japanese American Farming in the Central Valley	The history of the Japanese American Farming Community in California's Central Valley as told by one farmer whose family has been in the area for over a century.	Kenshin Kubo	2006-2007
Merry Christmas and Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu	A light-hearted look at how one Japanese American Buddhist family celebrates Christmas and New Years.	Carrie Usui	2006-2007
Pilgrimage	PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp has been transformed into a current-day symbol of retrospection and solidarity in the aftermath of 9/11.	Tadashi Nakamura	2006
Recreation for Generations	A community fights to build a recreation center in Little Tokyo.	Aquilina Soriano and Brian Nagami	2000-2001
Seikaku	Mano Hirotaki is a tattoo artist who has worked from his living room for the past eight months. This film shows his immigrant journey from Japan, and how his artistic sensibilities have broadened. It has taken his moving away from Japan to truly grasp the essence of traditional Japanese tattoos and its artistry.	Jaysn Kim	2008-2009
The Heart of a Caring Cook	This film chronicles the story of a group called Caring Cooks that delivers Japanese food to local community members who are homebound, ill or going through hard times. Through personal stories and reflection, Betty Mikuni and friends show the central role of food in preserving culture, continuing a tradition of service past generational boundaries and sharing burdens within the Japanese American community.	Jenni Nakamura and Dieu Huynh	2010-2011

Korean American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Breaking out of the Bubble	The Korean American Christian Experience.	Meesa Kim, Reuel Kim, Lily Lam	2001-2002
Fresh Off the Funny Boat	A personal portrait of a Korean American comedian	Tuan Nyugen, Kuiko Fukui, Sayako Sakai	2000-2001
Jeremiah Lim	The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.	Julie Kang	2007-2008
Ji Shin Balp Ki	Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.	Clara Park, Charlie Wang, Esther Park	2012-2013
Made In Korea	Made In Korea follows Yun-Sook Kim Navarre, a Korean transnational adoptee, who grew up in Detroit, MI with White parents. Now living in Koreatown, Los Angeles, 34 year-old Navarre continues to face struggles with her identity, but hopes to raise her young daughter immersed in Korean culture.	Arami Youn, Alan Lau, Eleanor Ung, Jaysn Kim	2007-2008
Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim", an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, Cha Viloría	2004-2005
Remember Me	After surviving dramatic times in Korea, Grandmother Yu Jai Hwang reluctantly immigrated to the United States. This film tells her story as an outsider in the US, and her struggle to uphold her role as mother and grandmother while living in a foreign country.	Anny Lim	2012-2013
Reverse Discri-mission	Reverse Discri-mission explores the question of race and religion through the eyes of Chris Spearman, a Caucasian pastor at a local Korean American church.	Christina Aujean Lee	2007-2008
The 19th Hole	A profile of a young Korean American golfer.	Chris Kim and Amy Hsuan	2000-2001
Twenty Years Later	Twenty years after the LA Riots, a Korean American father and son have seen Koreatown develop into a thriving urban area.	Sarah Chung, Hannah Shon	2012-2013
Who is Park Joo Young?	Who is Park Joo Young? reflects on Robyn Schultz's personal quest for identity, family, and belonging within shifting conceptions of kinship and home. Against the heartache and struggle of birth family search and reunion, her pursuit for answers attests to broader conflicts and consequences that arise in the wake of the transnational, transracial Korean adoption system.	Beth Kopacz	2012-2013

Filipino/a American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Healthy Alternative	A short film advocating vegetarianism in the Filipino American diet.	Emily Reyes and Akira Shimada	2004-2005
Arnold Moreno = n	The story of Arnold Moreno, Artist, Activist, Ex-gang member, Friend, and Brother, and his community of Echo Park, CA.	Ryan Yokota, Huy Chheng, Anjali Nath, Long Trinh	2003-2004
Beyond the Sea	Since World War II, Filipinos have been joining the U.S. Navy en masse with a promise of U.S. citizenship and hoping for a chance to escape poverty. Three navymen of the Nierva family and their children describe the impact of the navy on family, identity and race.	Katrina Nierva, Gena Hamamoto, Mark Villegas	2005-2006
Broken Promises	Pilipino WWII Veterans struggle for equity.	Michele Gutierrez, Christine Araquel, Amber Ng, Jose Flores	2001-2002
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
Got Book?	A visual life history of Helen Brown, the founder of the Pilipino American Library.	Florante Ibanez	2004-2005
interspection	The "coming-out" narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.	May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee	2009-2010
Left on Lockett Lane	Left on Lockett Lane is a story about being adopted, growing up in the Midwest and learning what it means to be Asian American.	Jonathan Reinert	2008-2009
Living Positive II	One man's story about living with HIV.	Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang	2001-2002
Los Angeles Filipinos of Mixed Heritage	Personal portraits of multiracial individuals in the Filipino American Community.	Jih-Fei Cheng, Marcie De La Cruz, Anthony Yuen	2000-2001
Made in P-Town	This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or "P-Town." Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric's story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.	Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu	2010-2011
Makita Kang Sakdal Laya: To See You Truly Free	Conсорcia Concepcion Apostol began her activist career as an activist against the Marcos dictatorship. As time has gone on, she has evolved into a community organizer working both in the Filipino American and larger Asian Pacific Islander communities. The title, taken from the Philippine Nationalist song, "Bayan Ko" reflects Sorcy's motivation, her passion for community activism.	Rebecca Apostol	2007-2008
Old Gardener	Explores the life of Fred Castillo Ignacio, a ninety-five year old immigrant from the Philippines and local gardener in Palo Alto, CA.	Tristan Hurlburt and Kiriko Takahashi	2003-2004
Open to the Youth	"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of Carson at a young age.	Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011

Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Reclaiming our History	Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.	Kristine Gonzales, Kristine Tapia	2005-2006
Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Siya	Siya, is Ryth's video diary of coming out as a genderqueer Pilipin@. Ryth reflects on how this decision to live truly as their gender made an impact on their internal process, their family, and relationships to Pilipin@, queer, and transgender communities. Ryth contemplates on the feelings of isolation and love that steers their journey.	Ryth Abalos Mendez and Jan Victor Andasan	2011-2012
The Untouchables	Fifty years ago, three young Filipino men fueled by determination and lured by adventure, traveled to a land of promise -- America. But not even hardships and prejudices could "touch" these three friends whose friendship has outlasted marriages, divorces, homesickness and heartache for half a century.	Leezel G. Tanglao	2008-2009
We Are Able*	Cinderella Garcia is a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant; her brother Benjamin Garcia works for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California.	Jonathan Garcia, Kenny Nguyen	2008-2009
Women with Words	The women of the Balagtasan Collective and their poetry.	Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, and Gabrielle Angeles	2002-2003

Pacific Island

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Justice for Kamehameha Schools	A look at the movement to protect the admissions policy for the Kamehameha Schools in Hawai'i. The status of Native Hawaiians is highly contested and controversial and now the school's admissions policy has been declared unconstitutional.	Trinh Le, Hannah Lee, Michael Thomas	2005-2006
O Lo'u Tina Matua (My Grandma)*	The life history of a Samoan woman living in America.	Ursula Siataga	2002-2003
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
Trouble in Paradise	A brief look at gang violence within the Polynesian community and how two Polynesian artists are using their talents to promote a celebration of culture and community unity through hip-hop.	Suzzane Anau, Herman Chen, Michael Lutu	2009-2010

Chinese American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Endless	Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.	Judy Lu	2011-2012
Forging Heritage	A film about a Chinese Lion Dancing troupe in Camarillo, CA.	Nicole Ling, Tanisha Williams, and Francis Eclevia	2004-2005
interspection	The “coming-out” narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.	May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee	2009-2010
My Mother's Disposition	Being in an interracial relationship can lead to many experiences. When Natalie is faced with her mother’s fervent wishes, she must re-evaluate her own desires in life.	Natalie Yip	2012-2013
More to the Chinese Side	A “modern” Chinese American family in San Francisco.	Will Gow and Sharon Lee	2001-2002
Selling Louie’s Village (Without Breaking the Yolk)	One family’s story of owning and operating a Chinese restaurant in Eugene, Oregon where they are one of the few minority families in the area.	Jason Mak	2002-2003

Southeast Asian American/ Refugee Experience

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
500 Miles	500 Miles takes a look at how the filmmaker conceived and developed his relationship with his schizophrenic older sister across time and distance. Throughout this film, the filmmaker sought to understand his older sister on a deeper level after decades of isolating himself from her. In the process, he also learns how his once peaceful family fell apart.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012
A Refugee's Experience	The story of one Vietnamese women's journey to America.	Lisa Tri and Derek Tran	2006-2007
A Salon Story	The mention of nail salons often evokes images of acrylic nails, and heating lamps, neon signs and nail polish. The Vietnamese salon worker has become a recognized image within the industry. Who are these salon workers and what is their story?	Chuck Diep	2008-2009
Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet	Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.	Viet Nam Nguyen and Jennifer Doane	2009-2010
How I Survived a Genocide	For four years, he was robbed from a home, future, and his dreams. He had one goal, to survive the Khmer Rouge Genocide.	Donald Ung	2008-2009
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
Invisible Flight	The flight of Hmong refugees was the result of a secret war imposed on Laos by the CIA. However, the struggles resulting from their displacement remain invisible. An elderly Hmong refugee couple describes their difficulties with transitioning from an agricultural, oral tradition in rural Laos to print-based suburban American society.	Chuck Diep, Cheo Lee, IaOo Vang	2008-2009
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Just The Way It Is	The story of Rousseau Loth, a young Cambodian American coming to terms with the struggles of being married and a father in his early twenties.	Socrates Loth, Candice Kortcamp, and Terry Hwang	2003-2004
Laotian Mien: Our Lives Here So Far	The filmmaker's account of her family's life in American since their immigration in 1979 as refugees from Laos.	Nai Saelee	2003-2004
Mae Krua (Mother of the Kitchen)	A Thai immigrant mother redefines courage, love, and happiness through the labor of love she endures for her family in America.	Wanda Pathomrit	2012-2013
Robam Amatak [Eternal Dance]*	After traditional art forms were almost entirely destroyed by a genocide engineered by Pol Pot in an attempt to achieve a classless society, a younger generation is reviving Cambodian dance at the Khmer Arts Academy in Long Beach, CA.	Kanara Ty, Teresa Pak	2005-2006
Sức Khỏe	During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.	Uyen Hoang	2012-2013

Two Families, One Mom	Moms aren't just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships and love.	Cheo Lee	2008-2009
Two Pills A Day	Two Pills a Day is the story of mental illness in one Southeast Asian refugee family. The film follows the life of Tran Nguyen, a 36 year old Vietnamese American mother with a refugee background, as she navigates every day life, family, and community as an outpatient diagnosed with schizophrenia.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012
Untitled	The struggle for identity in Hmong and Mien youth.	Jennifer Her, Naita Saechao, Michelle Sun, Kia Cha, and Anouh Vang	2002-2003
What About Us?	Longtime Chinatown resident Muy Seang puts a face to the price of gentrification in the Chinatown/Echo Park area.	Jolie Chea and Ronald Noche	2006-2007
Who is Vietnamese America?	In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group's exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.	Jennifer Giang, Beth Kopacz	2012-2013

Native American

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Living on the Streets of Indian Country, Los Angeles	Explores the lives of four Native American individuals who found themselves living on skid row for a portion of their lives.	Suzanne Martinez, Danielle Apocada, and Lucuis Martin	2003-2004

Latino/a

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Propios Patrones	A portrait of a Mexican American family who operates a stall at a flea market in Central California.	Luis Salguero and Sofia Marquez	2006-2007
Queer, Undocumented, and Unafraid	Imelda Plascencia, a recent graduate of UCLA who identifies as both Queer and Undocumented, faces the daily struggles of being within two stigmatized communities. Although at times her efforts have led her to believe that she has been "working towards nothing," her self determination and self reflection have led her to accept both her identities.	Alexandra Margolin and Judy Lu	2011-2012
Student Power, ¡Si!	We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.	Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong	2009-2010
Troqueros: The Life of an L.A. Port Driver	Troqueros offers a glimpse into the daily life and struggles of the Latino immigrant truck drivers who work the port of Los Angeles. Experience their world through the eyes of Lorenzo Modesto, a seasoned trucker and active member of the community.	Dan Aquino, Gloria Chou, Jessica Chou, Joanna Steele	2007-2008
Which Wyvernwood?	Which Wyvernwood? follows neighbors in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles becoming organized to protect their homes – not just the roofs over their head, but the community that has become such an important part of their lives. It considers the true cost of redevelopment, and asks the question, “How much change is too much change?”	Jessica Cowley	2008-2009

Education

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Belmont High: Trapping our Youth	High school education through the eyes of students at Belmont High School.	Chris Diaz, Eligio Martinez, and Jason Yap	2002-2003
Got Book?	A visual life history of Helen Brown, the founder of the Pilipino American Library.	Florante Ibanez	2004-2005
Justice for Kamehameha Schools	A look at the movement to protect the admissions policy for the Kamehameha Schools in Hawai'i. The status of Native Hawaiians is highly contested and controversial and now the school's admissions policy has been declared unconstitutional.	Trinh Le, Hannah Lee, Michael Thomas	2005-2006
Open to the Youth	"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of Carson at a young age.	Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
People of Color at UCLA	Throughout the history of UCLA, the contributions of people of color on this campus have not been transparent and it is still evident today. The people of color tour was created to shed light to these contributions.	Jamie Bondoc and Vincent Chou	2012-2013
Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Student Power, ¡Si!	We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.	Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong	2009-2010

Arts/Entertainment/Recreation

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
810LOGY	A multiethnic skateboard crew build in Long Beach, CA builds friendship and community.	Eric Tandoc, Laura Lin, Hana Jung, Michelle Reyes	2001-2002
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
An Intercepting Fist	Ted Wong, Gung Fu master and Bruce Lee's last student, defines what it means to carry on the legacy of the 20th century's most influential martial artist.	Annette Lee	2007-2008
Arnold Moreno = n	The story of Arnold Moreno, Artist, Activist, Ex-gang member, Friend, and Brother, and his community of Echo Park, CA.	Ryan Yokota, Huy Chheng, Anjali Nath, Long Trinh	2003-2004
Art and Activism on the One's-n-Two's	Profiles of two female Asian American DJ's and community activists living in New York.	Phuong Tang, Jenny Cho, Chris Woon	2002-2003
Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet	Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.	Viet Nam Nguyen, and Jennifer Doane	2009-2010
Evil Monito	A profile of the founder of Evil Monito, a web-zine.	Candice Kortcamp	2004-2005
Forging Heritage	A film about a Chinese Lion Dancing troupe in Camarillo, CA.	Nicole Ling, Tanisha Williams, and Francis Eclevia	2004-2005
Fresh Off the Funny Boat	A personal portrait of a Korean American comedian	Tuan Nyugen, Kuiko Fukui, and Sayako Sakai	2000-2001
Heaven and Earth	Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.	Ryoko Onishi	2009-2010
In the Beat	A film about a newly formed Taiko group at UCLA, Yukai Daiko.	Rebecca Jensen and Eveline Lai	2004-2005
Ippon: The Story of the Sawtelle Judo Dojo	The history of the Sawtelle Judo, serving its community in West Los Angeles since 1927.	Luis Salguero and Derek Tran	2006-2007
Ji Shin Balp Ki	Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.	Clara Park, Charlie Wang, Esther Park	2012-2013
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Made in P-Town	This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or "P-Town." Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric's story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.	Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu	2010-2011
Moving to the Mainstream	Asian Americans filmmakers, writers, and actors' struggle to move into mainstream media.	Patrick Lord and Hsin-Hsin Foo	2001-2002
Recreation for Generations	A community fights to build a recreation center in Little Tokyo.	Aquilina Soriano and Brian Nagami	2000-2001

Robam Amatak [Eternal Dance]	After traditional art forms were almost entirely destroyed by a genocide engineered by Pol Pot in an attempt to achieve a classless society, a younger generation is reviving Cambodian dance at the Khmer Arts Academy in Long Beach, CA.	Kanara Ty, Teresa Pak	2005-2006
Seikaku	Mano Hirota is a tattoo artist who has worked from his living room for the past eight months. This film shows his immigrant journey from Japan, and how his artistic sensibilities have broadened. It has taken his moving away from Japan to truly grasp the essence of traditional Japanese tattoos and its artistry.	Jaysn Kim	2008-2009
Sessions LA	Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.	Tom Wang	2012-2013
Taking Care of Our Own: The Story of the Yellow Brotherhood	Chronicles a community organization's decades of involvement with Asian American youth in Los Angeles.	Tadashi Nakamura, Miles Senzaki, and Natalie Siu	2000-2001
The 19th Hole	A profile of a young Korean American golfer.	Chris Kim and Amy Hsuan	2000-2001
Trouble in Paradise	A brief look at gang violence within the Polynesian community and how two Polynesian artists are using their talents to promote a celebration of culture and community unity through hip-hop.	Suzzane Anau, Herman Chen, Michael Lutu	2009-2010
Women with Words	The women of the Balagtasan Collective and their poetry.	Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, and Gabrielle Angeles	2002-2003

Immigration/Citizenship

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Refugee's Experience	The story of one Vietnamese women's journey to America.	Lisa Tri and Derek Tran	2006-2007
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Beyond the Sea	Since World War II, Filipinos have been joining the U.S. Navy en masse with a promise of U.S. citizenship and hoping for a chance to escape poverty. Three navymen of the Nierva family and their children describe the impact of the navy on family, identity and race.	Katrina Nierva, Gena Hamamoto, Mark Villegas	2005-2006
Heaven and Earth	Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.	Ryoko Onishi	2009-2010
How I Survived a Genocide	For four years, he was robbed from a home, future, and his dreams. He had one goal, to survive the Khmer Rouge Genocide.	Donald Ung	2008-2009
I Am Japanese A-Me-Ri-Kan	The filmmaker must choose between American or Japanese citizenship in this personal documentary about self and identity.	Mickie Okamoto	2006-2007
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar	2010-2011
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
Invisible Flight	The flight of Hmong refugees was the result of a secret war imposed on Laos by the CIA. However, the struggles resulting from their displacement remain invisible. An elderly Hmong refugee couple describes their difficulties with transitioning from an agricultural, oral tradition in rural Laos to print-based suburban American society.	Chuck Diep, Cheo Lee, IaOo Vang	2008-2009
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Laotian Mien: Our Lives Here So Far	The filmmaker's account of her family's life in American since their immigration in 1979 as refugees from Laos.	Nai Saelee	2003-2004
Mae Krua (Mother of the Kitchen)	A Thai immigrant mother redefines courage, love, and happiness through the labor of love she endures for her family in America.	Wanda Pathomrit	2012-2013
Queer, Undocumented, and Unafraid	Imelda Plascencia, a recent graduate of UCLA who identifies as both Queer and Undocumented, faces the daily struggles of being within two stigmatized communities. Although at times her efforts have led her to believe that she has been "working towards	Alexandra Margolin and Judy Lu	2011-2012

	nothing," her self determination and self reflection have led her to accept both her identities.		
Remember Me	After surviving dramatic times in Korea, Grandmother Yu Jai Hwang reluctantly immigrated to the United States. This film tells her story as an outsider in the US, and her struggle to uphold her role as mother and grandmother while living in a foreign country.	Anny Lim	2012-2013
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
The Seattle Underground Railroad- UNAVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT	A group of UCLA immigrant students take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.	Tam Tran, Carlie Chiu, Jeanifer Hwang, Alexander Shannon	2005-2006
Twenty Years Later	Twenty years after the LA Riots, a Korean American father and son have seen Koreatown develop into a thriving urban area.	Sarah Chung, Hannah Shon	2012-2013
Untitled	The struggle for identity in Hmong and Mien youth.	Jennifer Her, Naita Saechao, Michelle Sun, Kia Cha, Anouh Vang	2002-2003
What About Us?	Longtime Chinatown resident Muy Seang puts a face to the price of gentrification in the Chinatown/Echo Park area.	Jolie Chea and Ronald Noche	2006-2007

Family

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
(re)acquaintance	A mother discusses her process in coming to terms with her son being gay. This recent development in her life challenges everything she thought she knew about her son, as well as her preconceived notions of the queer community.	Rich Yap	2008-2009
\$40 on Pump 9: Desis in the Gas Station Business	A South Asian family who owns a gas station in South Florida strives to maintain the business in a post 9/11 environment.	Preeti Sharma and Adrian Leung	2006-2007
500 Miles	500 Miles takes a look at how the filmmaker conceived and developed his relationship with his schizophrenic older sister across time and distance. Throughout this film, the filmmaker sought to understand his older sister on a deeper level after decades of isolating himself from her. In the process, he also learns how his once peaceful family fell apart.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
A Special Advocate	A Special Advocate is about Sue Thompson, who is a volunteer with the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Los Angeles. Sue has assisted many foster youth through the Child Dependency system and developed a special relationship with the Spicer family.	Karri L. Mayhan	2008-2009
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet	Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.	Viet Nam Nguyen, Jennifer Doane	2009-2010
Endless	Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.	Judy Lu	2011-2012
Family Time	Upon going away to school, a college student explores life, family, and the dinner table.	Jean Okamoto	2012-2013
Fostering Independence	The foster care system is flawed and does not always have the best interest of the children that it serves. A young girl shares her experience in the foster care system and its problems.	Karri L. Mayhan and Rich Yap	2008-2009
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar	2010-2011
interspection	The "coming-out" narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.	May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee	2009-2010
Jeremiah Lim	The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.	Julie Kang	2007-2008

Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Just The Way It Is	The story of Rousseau Loth, a young Cambodian American coming to terms with the struggles of being married and a father in his early twenties.	Socrates Loth, Candice Kortcamp, and Terry Hwang	2003-2004
Laotian Mien: Our Lives Here So Far	The filmmaker's account of her family's life in American since their immigration in 1979 as refugees from Laos.	Nai Saelee	2003-2004
Left on Lockett Lane	Left on Lockett Lane is a story about being adopted, growing up in the Midwest and learning what it means to be Asian American.	Jonathan Reinert	2008-2009
Made In Korea	Made In Korea follows Yun-Sook Kim Navarre, a Korean transnational adoptee, who grew up in Detroit, MI with White parents. Now living in Koreatown, Los Angeles, 34 year-old Navarre continues to face struggles with her identity, but hopes to raise her young daughter immersed in Korean culture.	Arami Youn, Alan Lau, Eleanor Ung, Jaysn Kim	2007-2008
Mae Krua (Mother of the Kitchen)	A Thai immigrant mother redefines courage, love, and happiness through the labor of love she endures for her family in America.	Wanda Pathomrit	2012-2013
Merry Christmas and Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu	A light-hearted look at how one Japanese American Buddhist family celebrates Christmas and New Years.	Carrie Usui	2006-2007
More to the Chinese Side	A "modern" Chinese American family in San Francisco.	Will Gow and Sharon Lee	2001-2002
My Mother's Disposition	Being in an interracial relationship can lead to many experiences. When Natalie is faced with her mother's fervent wishes, she must re-evaluate her own desires in life.	Natalie Yip	2012-2013
No Vacancy	A profile of a South Asian family who owns and runs a motel in Los Angeles.	Tina Bhaga, Elena Bovetti, and Alexandra Lewis	2002-2003
O Lo'u Tina Matua (My Grandma)	The life history of a Samoan woman living in America.	Ursula Siataga	2002-2003
Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Remember Me	After surviving dramatic times in Korea, Grandmother Yu Jai Hwang reluctantly immigrated to the United States. This film tells her story as an outsider in the US, and her struggle to uphold her role as mother and grandmother while living in a foreign country.	Anny Lim	2012-2013
Selling Louie's Village (Without Breaking the Yolk)	One family's story of owning and operating a Chinese restaurant in Eugene, Oregon where they are one of the few minority families in the area.	Jason Mak	2002-2003
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
The Heart of a Caring Cook	This film chronicles the story of a group called Caring Cooks that delivers Japanese food to local community members who are homebound, ill or going through hard times. Through personal stories and reflection, Betty Mikuni and friends show the central role of food in preserving culture, continuing a tradition of service past generational boundaries and sharing burdens within the Japanese American community.	Jenni Nakamura and Dieu Huynh	2010-2011

Two Families, One Mom	Moms aren't just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships and love.	Cheo Lee	2008-2009
Two Pills A Day	Two Pills a Day is the story of mental illness in one Southeast Asian refugee family. The film follows the life of Tran Nguyen, a 36 year old Vietnamese American mother with a refugee background, as she navigates every day life, family, and community as an outpatient diagnosed with schizophrenia.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012
Two Women, A Brother, and A Baby	A lesbian couple tries to start a family.	Ali Wong	2004-2005
We Are Able	Cinderella Garcia is a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant; her brother Benjamin Garcia works for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California.	Jonathan Garcia, Kenny Nguyen	2008-2009
Who is Park Joo Young?	Who is Park Joo Young? reflects on Robyn Schultz's personal quest for identity, family, and belonging within shifting conceptions of kinship and home. Against the heartache and struggle of birth family search and reunion, her pursuit for answers attests to broader conflicts and consequences that arise in the wake of the transnational, transracial Korean adoption system.	Beth Kopacz	2012-2013

Labor

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
\$40 on Pump 9: Desis in the Gas Station Business	A South Asian family who owns a gas station in South Florida strives to maintain the business in a post 9/11 environment.	Preeti Sharma and Adrian Leung	2006-2007
A Salon Story	The mention of nail salons often evokes images of acrylic nails, and heating lamps, neon signs and nail polish. The Vietnamese salon worker has become a recognized image within the industry. Who are these salon workers and what is their story?	Chuck Diep	2008-2009
Between Maple and Santee	Profiles of a shop owner and shop assistant in the LA Fashion District.	Bo Mee Kim, Leroy Versoza, Anouh Vang	2001-2002
Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet	Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.	Viet Nam Nguyen, Jennifer Doane	2009-2010
Inside	Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.	Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu	2007-2008
Knocking the L Out: Japanese American Farming in the Central Valley	The history of the Japanese American Farming Community in California's Central Valley as told by one farmer whose family has been in the area for over a century.	Kenshin Kubo	2006-2007
Mae Krua (Mother of the Kitchen)	A Thai immigrant mother redefines courage, love, and happiness through the labor of love she endures for her family in America.	Wanda Pathomrit	2012-2013
No Vacancy	A profile of a South Asian family who owns and runs a motel in Los Angeles.	Tina Bhaga, Elena Bovetti, Alexandra Lewis	2002-2003
Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Propios Patronos	A portrait of a Mexican American family who operates a stall at a flea market in Central California.	Luis Salguero and Sofia Marquez	2006-2007
Reclaiming our History	Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.	Kristine Gonzales, Kristine Tapia	2005-2006
Selling Louie's Village (Without Breaking the Yolk)	One family's story of owning and operating a Chinese restaurant in Eugene, Oregon where they are one of the few minority families in the area.	Jason Mak	2002-2003
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
Thread	This documentary examines the life of Aida, the vivacious owner of a hip threading salon in the heart of Los Angeles. Growing up as an ethnic minority in the Midwest, Aida's experiences shed light onto conceptions of beauty and belonging in the United States.	Veena Hampapur, Yuki Akaishi	2009-2010
Troqueros: The Life of an L.A. Port Driver	Troqueros offers a glimpse into the daily life and struggles of the Latino immigrant truck drivers who work the port of Los Angeles. Experience their world through the eyes of Lorenzo Modesto, a seasoned trucker and active member of the community.	Dan Aquino, Gloria Chou, Jessica Chou, Joanna Steele	2007-2008

Two Families, One Mom	Moms aren't just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships and love.	Cheo Lee	2008-2009
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Visual Life History

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Refugee's Experience	The story of one Vietnamese women's journey to America.	Lisa Tri and Derek Tran	2006-2007
An Intercepting Fist	Ted Wong, Gung Fu master and Bruce Lee's last student, defines what it means to carry on the legacy of the 20th century's most influential martial artist.	Annette Lee	2007-2008
Arnold Moreno = n	The story of Arnold Moreno, Artist, Activist, Ex-gang member, Friend, and Brother, and his community of Echo Park, CA.	Ryan Yokota, Huy Chheng, Anjali Nath, Long Trinh	2003-2004
At Odds	At Odds tells the personal story of a Christian's intense struggle with same-sex attraction. It is a visual life history of Paul De Partee and the journey he took to negotiate his conflicting identities.	Shaina Pan	2009-2010
Awaken	David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old. David's family lost their legal status, and David became one of the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.	Dieu Huynh	2010-2011
Crossing Boundaries: The Life of Bamby Salcedo	The story of Bamby Salcedo.	Melissa Pak Coats	2002-2003
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
Endless	Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.	Judy Lu	2011-2012
Evil Monito	A profile of the founder of Evil Monito, a web-zine.	Candice Kortcamp	2004-2005
Got Book?	A visual life history of Helen Brown, the founder of the Pilipino American Library.	Florante Ibanez	2004-2005
Heaven and Earth	Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.	Ryoko Onishi	2009-2010
How I Survived a Genocide	For four years, he was robbed from a home, future, and his dreams. He had one goal, to survive the Khmer Rouge Genocide.	Donald Ung	2008-2009
Jeremiah Lim	The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.	Julie Kang	2007-2008
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Living Positive II	One man's story about living with HIV.	Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang	2001-2002
Made in P-Town	This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or "P-Town." Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric's story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.	Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu	2010-2011
Makita Kang Sakdal Laya: To See you Truly Free	Consortia Concepcion Apostol began her activist career as an activist against the Marcos dictatorship. As time has gone on, she has evolved into a community organizer working both in the Filipino American and larger Asian Pacific Islander communities. The title, taken from the Philippine Nationalist song, "Bayan Ko" reflects Sorcy's motivation, her passion for community activism.	Rebecca Apostol	2007-2008

Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim," an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, Cha Viloría	2004-2005
Mixed/Multi Identity/Culture	A visual life history discussing the difficulties faced by Don Moy growing up mixed race and the obstacles he has overcome to get where he is today.	Max Moy-Borgen	2007-2008
O Lo'u Tina Matua (My Grandma)	The life history of a Samoan woman living in America.	Ursula Siataga	2002-2003
Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Seikaku	Mano Hirota is a tattoo artist who has worked from his living room for the past eight months. This film shows his immigrant journey from Japan, and how his artistic sensibilities have broadened. It has taken his moving away from Japan to truly grasp the essence of traditional Japanese tattoos and its artistry.	Jaysn Kim	2008-2009
Taking Care of Our Own: The Story of the Yellow Brotherhood	Chronicles a community organization's decades of involvement with Asian American youth in Los Angeles.	Tadashi Nakamura, Miles Senzaki, and Natalie Siu	2000-2001
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
Two Families, One Mom	Moms aren't just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships and love.	Cheo Lee	2008-2009

Identity

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
At Odds	At Odds tells the personal story of a Christian's intense struggle with same-sex attraction. It is a visual life history of Paul De Partee and the journey he took to negotiate his conflicting identities.	Shaina Pan	2009-2010
Bionic Woman	The story of Genesis Ilada, an AIDS interventionist in the Los Angeles transgender community.	Mark Lawsiripaiboon, Lauren Watanabe, and Jackie Lam	2003-2004
Double Identity	A personal look at Marc Loresto's involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.	Marc Loresto and Diana Bui	2004-2005
I Am Japanese A-Me-Ri-Kan	The filmmaker must choose between American or Japanese citizenship in this personal documentary about self and identity.	Mickie Okamoto	2006-2007
I Take Refuge	I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.	Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stepfanie Aguilar	2010-2011
interspection	The "coming-out" narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.	May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee	2009-2010
Japanese American Experience	The impressions of Japanese American exchange students studying in Japan.	Takanori Ushiba and Yukinobu Kigawa	2001-2002
Jeremiah Lim	The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.	Julie Kang	2007-2008
Journey	A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.	Asiroh Cham	2010-2011
Left on Lockett Lane	Left on Lockett Lane is a story about being adopted, growing up in the Midwest and learning what it means to be Asian American.	Jonathan Reinert	2008-2009
Los Angeles Filipinos of Mixed Heritage	Personal portraits of multiracial individuals in the Filipino American Community.	Jih-Fei Cheng, Marcie De La Cruz, Anthony Yuen	2000-2001
Made In Korea	Made In Korea follows Yun-Sook Kim Navarre, a Korean transnational adoptee, who grew up in Detroit, MI with White parents. Now living in Koreatown, Los Angeles, 34 year-old Navarre continues to face struggles with her identity, but hopes to raise her young daughter immersed in Korean culture.	Arami Youn, Alan Lau, Eleanor Ung, Jaysn Kim	2007-2008
MiXeD mE	A retrospective look at one mixed-Asian's journey from the rural Midwest to cosmopolitan Los Angeles, whose identity was befriended, digitized and united online. Featuring the stories of three other mixed-Asians cyberspace users.	Kristen Lee, Nancy Wen, Chris Woon	2009-2010
Mixed/Multi Identity/Culture	A visual life history discussing the difficulties faced by Don Moy growing up mixed race and the obstacles he has overcome to get where he is today.	Max Moy-Borgen	2007-2008
More to the Chinese Side	A "modern" Chinese American family in San Francisco.	Will Gow and Sharon Lee	2001-2002

Queer, Undocumented, and Unafraid	Imelda Plascencia, a recent graduate of UCLA who identifies as both Queer and Undocumented, faces the daily struggles of being within two stigmatized communities. Although at times her efforts have led her to believe that she has been "working towards nothing," her self determination and self reflection have led her to accept both her identities.	Alexandra Margolin and Judy Lu	2011-2012
(re)acquaintance	A mother discusses her process in coming to terms with her son being gay. This recent development in her life challenges everything she thought she knew about her son, as well as her preconceived notions of the queer community.	Rich Yap	2008-2009
Siya	Siya, is Ryth's video diary of coming out as a genderqueer Pilipin@. Ryth reflects on how this decision to live truly as their gender made an impact on their internal process, their family, and relationships to Pilipin@, queer, and transgender communities. Ryth contemplates on the feelings of isolation and love that steers their journey.	Ryth Abalos Mendez and Jan Victor Andasan	2011-2012
Thread	This documentary examines the life of Aida, the vivacious owner of a hip threading salon in the heart of Los Angeles. Growing up as an ethnic minority in the Midwest, Aida's experiences shed light onto conceptions of beauty and belonging in the United States.	Veena Hampapur and Yuki Akaishi	2009-2010
Untitled	The struggle for identity in Hmong and Mien youth.	Jennifer Her, Naita Saechao, Michelle Sun, Kia Cha, Anouh Vang	2002-2003
Who is Park Joo Young?	Who is Park Joo Young? reflects on Robyn Schultz's personal quest for identity, family, and belonging within shifting conceptions of kinship and home. Against the heartache and struggle of birth family search and reunion, her pursuit for answers attests to broader conflicts and consequences that arise in the wake of the transnational, transracial Korean adoption system.	Beth Kopacz	2012-2013
Who is Vietnamese America?	In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group's exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.	Jennifer Giang, Beth Kopacz	2012-2013

Age/Aging

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
Endless	Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.	Judy Lu	2011-2012
Heaven and Earth	Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.	Ryoko Onishi	2009-2010
Invisible Flight	The flight of Hmong refugees was the result of a secret war imposed on Laos by the CIA. However, the struggles resulting from their displacement remain invisible. An elderly Hmong refugee couple describes their difficulties with transitioning from an agricultural, oral tradition in rural Laos to print-based suburban American society.	Chuck Diep, Cheo Lee, laOo Vang	2008-2009
Metro es Para Todos	A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka "Grandma Kim", an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.	Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, and Cha Viloría	2004-2005
Old Gardener	Explores the life of Fred Castillo Ignacio, a ninety-five year old immigrant from the Philippines and local gardener in Palo Alto, CA.	Tristan Hurlburt and Kiriko Takahashi	2003-2004
Planting Seeds, Preserving History	This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley. Herb Jameró currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.	Melissa Jameró and Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Remember Me	After surviving dramatic times in Korea, Grandmother Yu Jai Hwang reluctantly immigrated to the United States. This film tells her story as an outsider in the US, and her struggle to uphold her role as mother and grandmother while living in a foreign country.	Anny Lim	2012-2013
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
The Untouchables	Fifty years ago, three young Filipino men fueled by determination and lured by adventure, traveled to a land of promise -- America. But not even hardships and prejudices could "touch" these three friends whose friendship has outlasted marriages, divorces, homesickness and heartache for half a century.	Leezel G. Tanglao	2008-2009

Poverty

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
Living on the Streets of Indian Country, Los Angeles	Explores the lives of four Native American individuals who found themselves living on skid row for a portion of their lives.	Suzanne Martinez, Danielle Apocada, and Lucuis Martin	2003-2004

Health

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Healthy Alternative	A short film advocating vegetarianism in the Filipino American diet.	Emily Reyes and Akira Shimada	2004-2005
A Song for Ourselves	A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.	Tadashi Nakamura	2009
Endless	Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.	Judy Lu	2011-2012
Living Positive II	One man's story about living with HIV.	Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang	2001-2002
Open to the Youth	"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of Carson at a young age.	Jermaine Abrantes	2010-2011
Two Pills A Day	Two Pills a Day is the story of mental illness in one Southeast Asian refugee family. The film follows the life of Tran Nguyen, a 36 year old Vietnamese American mother with a refugee background, as she navigates every day life, family, and community as an outpatient diagnosed with schizophrenia.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012
Siya	Siya, is Ryth's video diary of coming out as a genderqueer Pilipin@. Ryth reflects on how this decision to live truly as their gender made an impact on their internal process, their family, and relationships to Pilipin@, queer, and transgender communities. Ryth contemplates on the feelings of isolation and love that steers their journey.	Ryth Abalos Mendez and Jan Victor Andasan	2011-2012
Sức Khoẻ	During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.	Uyen Hoang	2012-2013
Tauhi Vaivai	Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.	Natasha Saelua	2010-2011
We Are Able	Cinderella Garcia is a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant; her brother Benjamin Garcia works for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California.	Jonathan Garcia, Kenny Nguyen	2008-2009
500 Miles	500 Miles takes a look at how the filmmaker conceived and developed his relationship with his schizophrenic older sister across time and distance. Throughout this film, the filmmaker sought to understand his older sister on a deeper level after decades of isolating himself from her. In the process, he also learns how his once peaceful family fell apart.	Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen	2011-2012

Housing/Gentrification

Title	Synopsis	Directors	Year
A Place We Call Home	<i>A Place We Call Home</i> is about Brian Kito, owner of Fugetsudo Confectionary, and his family's experience growing up in Little Tokyo. Redevelopment in the early 80s led to the demise of many mom and pop shops, and Little Tokyo has struggled to maintain its Japanese American identity. Through projects like the Budokan of Los Angeles gymnasium, it is up to new generations to take ownership of Little Tokyo and call it their home.	Sara Seto and Fumiwo Miura	2011-2012
What About Us?	Longtime Chinatown resident Muy Seang puts a face to the price of gentrification in the Chinatown/Echo Park area.	Jolie Chea and Ronald Noche	2006-2007
Which Wyvernwood?	<i>Which Wyvernwood?</i> follows neighbors in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles becoming organized to protect their homes – not just the roofs over their head, but the community that has become such an important part of their lives. It considers the true cost of redevelopment, and asks the question, “How much change is too much change?”	Jessica Cowley	2008-2009

CENTER FOR ETHNOCOMMUNICATIONS

Chronological Filmography

Center for EthnoCommunications Productions

“Pilgrimage,” 2007

PILGRIMAGE tells the inspiring story of how an abandoned WWII concentration camp has been transformed into a current-day symbol of retrospection and solidarity in the aftermath of 9/11. Director: Tadashi Nakamura, Total running time: 22 min.

“A Song for Ourselves,” 2009

A SONG FOR OURSELVES is an intimate journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima. Director: Tadashi Nakamura, Total running time: 33 min.

2000-2001

“Taking Care of Our Own: The Story of the Yellow Brotherhood”

Chronicles a community organization’s decades of involvement with Asian American youth in Los Angeles.

Directors: Tadashi Nakamura, Miles Senzaki, and Natalie Siu

“Los Angeles Filipinos of Mixed Heritage”

Personal portraits of multiracial individuals in the Filipino American Community. Directors: Jih-Fei Cheng, Marcie De La Cruz, and Anthony Yuen

“Fresh Off the Funny Boat”

A personal portrait of a Korean American comedian

Directors: Tuan Nyugen, Kuiko Fukui, and Sayako Sakai

“Recreation for Generations”

A community fights to build a recreation center in Little Tokyo.

Directors: Aquilina Soriano and Brian Nagami

“The 19th Hole”

A profile of a young Korean American golfer.

Directors: Chris Kim and Amy Hsuan

2001-2002

“810LOGY”

A multiethnic skateboard crew build in Long Beach, CA builds friendship and community.

Directors: Eric Tandoc, Laura Lin, Hana Jung, and Michelle Reyes

“Breaking out of the Bubble”

The Korean American Christian Experience.

Directors: Meesa Kim, Reuel Kim, and Lily Lam

“Between Maple and Santee”

Profiles of a shop owner and shop assistant in the LA Fashion District.
Directors: Bo Mee Kim, Leroy Versoza, and Anouh Vang

“More to the Chinese Side”

A “modern” Chinese American family in San Francisco.
Directors: Will Gow and Sharon Lee

“Japanese American Experience”

The impressions of Japanese American exchange students studying in Japan.
Directors: Takanori Ushiba and Yukinobu Kigawa

“Broken Promises”

Pilipino WWII Veterans struggle for equity.
Directors: Michele Gutierrez, Christine Araquel, Amber Ng, and Jose Flores

“Moving to the Mainstream”

Asian Americans filmmakers, writers, and actors’ struggle to move into mainstream media.
Directors: Patrick Lord and Hsin-Hsin Foo

“Living Positive II”

One man's story about living with HIV.
Directors: Jason Nierras and Renato Quilalang

2002-2003

“Art and Activism on the One’s-n-Two’s”

Profiles of two female Asian American DJ’s and community activists living in New York.
Directors: Phuong Tang, Jenny Cho, and Chris Woon

“Belmont High: Trapping our Youth”

High school education through the eyes of students at Belmont High School.
Directors: Chris Diaz, Eligio Martinez, and Jason Yap

“Crossing Boundaries: the Life of Bamby Salcedo”

The story of Bamby Salcedo.
Director: Melissa Pak Coats

“No Vacancy”

A profile of a South Asian family who owns and runs a motel in Los Angeles.
Directors; Tina Bhaga, Elena Bovetti, and Alexandra Lewis

“O Lo’u Tina Matua (My Grandma)”

The life history of a Samoan woman living in America.
Director: Ursula Siataga

“Peripheral Visions”

The alternative voices of political descent written on the walls of public bathrooms.
Directors: Roger Chung and Kristen Lowe

“Rise Up: Youth Against the War”

A short documentary exploring the anti-war movement in today’s youth.
Directors: Yousef Yajsar, Reynaldo Herrera, and Luke Patterson

“Selling Louie’s Village (Without Breaking the Yolk)”

One family’s story of owning and operating a Chinese restaurant in Eugene, Oregon where they are one of the few minority families in the area.
Director: Jason Mak

“Untitled”

The struggle for identity in Hmong and Mien youth.
Directors: Jennifer Her, Naita Saechao, Michelle Sun, Kia Cha, and Anouh Vang

“Women with Words”

The women of the Balagtas Collective and their poetry.
Directed by Charles Gavero, Genevieve Espinose, and Gabrielle Angeles

2003-2004

“Arnold Moreno = π”

The story of Arnold Moreno, Artist, Activist, Ex-gang member, Friend, and Brother, and his community of Echo Park, CA.
Directors: Ryan Yokota, Huy Chheng, Anjali Nath, and Long Trinh

“Bionic Woman”

The story of Genesis Ilada, an AIDS interventionist in the Los Angeles transgender community.
Directors: Mark Lawsiripaiboon, Lauren Watanabe, and Jackie Lam

“Just The Way It Is”

The story of Rousseau Loth, a young Cambodian American coming to terms with the struggles of being married and a father in his early twenties.
Directors: Socrates Loth, Candice Kortcamp, and Terry Hwang

“Laotian Mien: Our Lives Here So Far”

The filmmaker’s account of her family’s life in American since their immigration in 1979 as refugees from Laos.
Director: Nai Saelee

“Living on the Streets of Indian Country, Los Angeles”

Explores the lives of four Native American individuals who found themselves living on skid row for a portion of their lives.
Directors: Suzanne Martinez, Danielle Apocada, and Lucuis Martin

“Old Gardener”

Explores the life of Fred Castillo Ignacio, a ninety-five year old immigrant from the Philippines and local gardener in Palo Alto, CA.
Directors: Tristan Hurlburt and Kiriko Takahashi

“We’re the Kids of Cameron House”

Documents the history of the Donaldina Cameron House, a community center in San Francisco Chinatown.

Directors: Ali Wong and Aleessa Atienza

2004-2005

“Metro es Para Todos”

A visual life history of Hee Pok Kim, aka “Grandma Kim”, an activist for the bus riders union in Los Angeles.

Directors: Eurie Chung, Huong Nguyen, and Cha Viloría

“Double Identity”

A personal look at Marc Loresto’s involvement and activism in the UCLA Pilipino American and Queer communities.

Directors: Marc Loresto and Diana Bui

“Got Books”

A visual life history of Helen Brown, the founder of the Pilipino American Library.

Director: Florante Ibanez

“A Healthy Alternative”

A short film advocating vegetarianism in the Filipino American diet.

Directors: Emily Reyes and Akira Shimada

“Forging Heritage”

A film about a Chinese Lion Dancing troupe in Camarillo, CA.

Directors: Nicole Ling, Tanisha Williams, and Francis Eclevia

“In the Beat”

A film about a newly formed Taiko group at UCLA, Yukai Daiko.

Directors: Rebecca Jensen and Eveline Lai

“Two Women, A Brother, and A Baby”

A lesbian couple tries to start a family.

Director: Ali Wong

“Evil Monito”

A profile of the founder of Evil Monito, a web-zine.

Director: Candice Kortcamp

2005-2006

“The Seattle Underground Railroad”- UNAVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT

A group of UCLA immigrant students take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.

Directors: Tam Tran, Carlie Chiu, Jeanifer Hwang, Alexander Shannon

“Robam Amatak [Eternal Dance]”

After traditional art forms were almost entirely destroyed by a genocide engineered by Pol Pot in an attempt to achieve a classless society, a younger generation is reviving Cambodian dance at the Khmer Arts Academy in Long Beach, CA.

Directors: Kanara Ty, Teresa Pak

“Reclaiming our History”

Four Filipino high school and college students explore the history of central valley Filipino farm workers on a trip to the historic Agbayani Village in Delano, CA.

Directors: Kristine Gonzales, Kristine Tapia

“Justice for Kamehameha Schools”

A look at the movement to protect the admissions policy for the Kamehameha Schools in Hawai'i. The status of Native Hawaiians is highly contested and controversial and now the school's admissions policy has been declared unconstitutional.

Directors: Trinh Le, Hannah Lee, Michael Thomas

“Beyond the Sea”

Since World War II, Filipinos have been joining the U.S. Navy en masse with a promise of U.S. citizenship and hoping for a chance to escape poverty. Three navymen of the Nierva family and their children describe the impact of the navy on family, identity and race.

Directors: Katrina Nierva, Gena Hamamoto, Mark Villegas

2006-2007

“\$40 on Pump 9: Desis in the Gas Station Business”

A South Asian family who owns a gas station in South Florida strives to maintain the business in a post 9/11 environment.

Directors: Preeti Sharma and Adrian Leung

“A Refugee's Experience”

The story of one Vietnamese women's journey to America.

Directors: Lisa Tri and Derek Tran

“Culture Night with NSU: Documenting the New Nikkei Community”

A behind-the-scenes look at the 2007 Culture Night as produced by the UCLA Nikkei Student Union.

Directors: Craig Ishii, Mickie Okamoto, and Kenshin Kubo

“Knocking the L Out: Japanese American Farming in the Central Valley”

The history of the Japanese American Farming Community in California's Central Valley as told by one farmer whose family has been in the area for over a century.

Directors: Kenshin Kubo

“I Am Japanese A-Me-Ri-Kan”

The filmmaker must choose between American or Japanese citizenship in this personal documentary about self and identity.

Directors: Mickie Okamoto

“Ippon: The Story of the Sawtelle Judo Dojo”

The history of the Sawtelle Judo, serving its community in West Los Angeles since 1927.

Directors: Luis Salguero and Derek Tran

“Merry Christmas and Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu”

A light-hearted look at how one Japanese American Buddhist family celebrates Christmas and New Years.

Director: Carrie Usui

“Propios Patrones”

A portrait of a Mexican American family who operates a stall at a flea market in Central California.

Directors: Luis Salguero and Sofia Marquez

“What About Us?”

Longtime Chinatown resident Muy Seang puts a face to the price of gentrification in the Chinatown/Echo Park area.

Directors: Jolie Chea and Ronald Noche

2007-2008

“Jeremiah Lim”

The story of a 20-year-old Korean American living with a white family, as a result of his broken biological family.

Director: Julie Kang

“Makita Kang Sakdal Laya: To See You Truly Free”

Conсорcia Concepcion Apostol began her activist career as an activist against the Marcos dictatorship. As time has gone on, she has evolved into a community organizer working both in the Filipino American and larger Asian Pacific Islander communities. The title, taken from the Philippine Nationalist song, "Bayan Ko" reflects Sorcy's motivation, her passion for community activism.

Director: Rebecca Apostol

“Mixed/Multi Identity/Culture”

A visual life history discussing the difficulties faced by Don Moy growing up mixed race and the obstacles he has overcome to get where he is today.

Director: Max Moy-Borgen

“An Intercepting Fist”

Ted Wong, Gung Fu master and Bruce Lee's last student, defines what it means to carry on the legacy of the 20th century's most influential martial artist.

Director: Annette Lee

“Troqueros: The Life of an L.A. Port Driver”

“Troqueros” offers a glimpse into the daily life and struggles of the Latino immigrant truck drivers who work the port of Los Angeles. Experience their world through the eyes of Lorenzo Modesto, a seasoned trucker and active member of the community.

Directors: Dan Aquino, Gloria Chou, Jessica Chou, Joanna Steele

“Made In Korea”

Made In Korea follows Yun-Sook Kim Navarre, a Korean transnational adoptee, who grew up in Detroit, MI with White parents. Now living in Koreatown, Los Angeles, 34 year-old Navarre continues to face struggles with her identity, but hopes to raise her young daughter immersed in Korean culture.

Directors: Arami Youn, Alan Lau, Eleanor Ung, Jaysn Kim

“Inside”

Inside wants to bring awareness to human trafficking in our own backyard of Los Angeles. This film follows Rotchana Sussman, a survivor of human trafficking in El Monte, as she shares her experiences with the audience. Gloria Chou, co-director of the Polaris project at UCLA, and Chancee Martorell, founder of the Thai Community Development Center in Los Angeles, provide their insight to the case and human trafficking.

Directors: Richard Manirath, Jeffery Song, Cindy Tsai, Lily Yu

“Reverse Discri-mission”

Reverse Discri-mission explores the question of race and religion through the eyes of Chris Spearman, a Caucasian pastor at a local Korean American church.

Director: Christina Aujean Lee

2008-2009

“Fostering Independence”

The foster care system is flawed and does not always have the best interest of the children that it serves. A young girl shares her experience in the foster care system and its problems.

Directors: Karri L. Mayhan and Rich Yap

“The Untouchables”

Fifty years ago, three young Filipino men fueled by determination and lured by adventure, traveled to a land of promise -- America. But not even hardships and prejudices could "touch" these three friends whose friendship has outlasted marriages, divorces, homesickness and heartache for half a century.

Director: Leezel G. Tanglao

“Which Wyvernwood?”

Which Wyvernwood? follows neighbors in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles becoming organized to protect their homes – not just the roofs over their head, but the community that has become such an important part of their lives. It considers the true cost of redevelopment, and asks the question, “How much change is too much change?”

Director: Jessica Cowley

“Invisible Flight”

The flight of Hmong refugees was the result of a secret war imposed on Laos by the CIA. However, the struggles resulting from their displacement remain invisible. An elderly Hmong refugee couple describes their difficulties with transitioning from an agricultural, oral tradition in rural Laos to print-based suburban American society.

Directors: Chuck Diep, Cheo Lee, IaOo Vang

“How I Survived a Genocide”

For four years, he was robbed from a home, future, and his dreams. He had one goal, to survive the Khmer Rouge Genocide.

Director: Donald Ung

“We Are Able”

Cinderella Garcia is a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant; her brother Benjamin Garcia works for the North Los Angeles County Regional Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California.

Directors: Jonathan Garcia and Kenny Nguyen

“Left on Lockett Lane”

Left on Lockett Lane is a story about being adopted, growing up in the Midwest and learning what it means to be Asian American.

Director: Jonathan Reinert

“Two Families, One Mom”

Moms aren’t just moms. After 22 years, a daughter discovers her mom as a person, a Mien nanny who has lived a life full of compromise, hardships and love.

Director: Cheo Lee

“Seikaku”

Mano Hirotaki is a tattoo artist who has worked from his living room for the past eight months. This film shows his immigrant journey from Japan, and how his artistic sensibilities have broadened. It has taken his moving away from Japan to truly grasp the essence of traditional Japanese tattoos and its artistry.

Director: Jaysn Kim

“(re)acquaintance”

A mother discusses her process in coming to terms with her son being gay. This recent development in her life challenges everything she thought she knew about her son, as well as her preconceived notions of the queer community.

Director: Rich Yap

“A Special Advocate”

A Special Advocate is about Sue Thompson, who is a volunteer with the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Los Angeles. Sue has assisted many foster youth through the Child Dependency system and developed a special relationship with the Spicer family.

Director: Karri L. Mayhan

“A Salon Story”

The mention of nail salons often evokes images of acrylic nails, and heating lamps, neon signs and nail polish. The Vietnamese salon worker has become a recognized image within the industry. Who are these salon workers and what is their story?

Director: Chuck Diep

2009-2010

“Heaven and Earth”

Heaven and Earth depicts how the bonsai hobby empowers an 83-year-old, second generation Japanese American, Ted Oka. Bonsai is an art that gives Ted satisfaction, energy and life.

Director: Ryoko Onishi

“MiXeD mE”

A retrospective look at one mixed-Asian's journey from the rural Midwest to cosmopolitan Los Angeles, whose identity was befriended, digitized and united online. Featuring the stories of three other mixed-Asians cyberspace users.

Directors: Kristen Lee, Nancy Wen and Chris Woon

“Dandiggity: The Corner Shop Poet”

Danny is a Vietnamese American spoken word artist who lives in San Jose, CA. By creating his own identity as a poet, he tries to balance his life as an artist while maintaining the traditional values of his first-generation Vietnamese American parents as he works at the Corner Shop Stop.

Directors: Viet Nam Nguyen and Jennifer Doane

“Thread”

This documentary examines the life of Aida, the vivacious owner of a hip threading salon in the heart of Los Angeles. Growing up as an ethnic minority in the Midwest, Aida's experiences shed light onto conceptions of beauty and belonging in the United States.

Directors: Veena Hampapur and Yuki Akaishi

“At Odds”

At Odds tells the personal story of a Christian's intense struggle with same-sex attraction. It is a visual life history of Paul De Partee and the journey he took to negotiate his conflicting identities.

Director: Shaina Pan

“Student Power, ¡Si!”

We are more than students. We are change for the future. We are activists for a better and equal tomorrow. This film depicts how Sarina Sanchez became involve in student activism and how she stays motivated to be involved in a student movement.

Directors: Lucia Lin, Thai Le, Stephanie Wong

“interspection”

interspection explores the “coming-out” narratives of two queer APIA women through personal stories and musings on the circumstances that led to their first coming-out and how they grapple with the ongoing process of sharing or not sharing this aspect of their lives with others. The film examines how these women express their identities as complex intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class by capturing moments of personal introspection and reflection.

Directors: May Lin, Carrie Wong, AJ Lee

“Trouble in Paradise”

A brief look at gang violence within the Polynesian community and how two Polynesian artists are using their talents to promote a celebration of culture and community unity through hip-hop.

Directors: Suzzane Anau, Herman Chen, Michael Lutu

2010-2011

“Awaken”

David Cho and his family came to America when he was 9 years old, looking to fulfill the American dream. Through unforeseen circumstances, David’s family lost their legal status, and David became one off the hundreds of undocumented students in the UC system. This film lets David tell his story and struggle to fight for a chance to contribute back to this country he calls home.

Director: Dieu Huynh

“I Take Refuge”

I Take Refuge focuses on the importance of the latter in the formation of identity. This 8-minute documentary tells the story of Charlini Somaweera and Ravi Amarawansa, two Sinhalese Sri Lankan Americans from Southern California, and how these two were able to use their Buddhist temple as a site to connect with their Sri Lankan Sinhala identity. Somaweera and Amarawansa talk frankly about the subtle racism they have experienced and the notion that they are not "Sri Lankan enough." They describe how the temple is a site of refuge from the prejudices and confusions they face.

Directors: Mihiri Tillakaratne and Stephanie Aguilar

“Journey”

A visual life history of Julie Thi Underhill, born in 1976, to a Cham-French mother and American father who fled Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon. As a mixed-race Cham-American, growing up in Oklahoma and Texas, she struggled to fit in and find community. Through the search to uncover her own identity and Cham roots, she finds herself in Vietnam and Cambodia documenting Cham experiences through film.

Director: Asiroh Cham

“Made in P-Town”

This film tells the story of Johneric Concordia, a community organizer, business owner, chef, performer, and resident host of Tuesday Night Cafe from Historic Filipinotown in Los Angeles or “P-Town.” Growing up surrounded by gang violence and poverty, Johneric’s story will shed light upon the culture of art activism and how it can be used to mobilize the community.

Directors: Jessica Gin and Cheryl W. Yu

“Open to the Youth”

"Open to the Youth" documents the story of 2 youth advocate groups in Carson, California called Carson Student Movement and Filipino Student Forum. Together, they run campaigns related to drug and alcohol awareness and have built a bond in their struggle to make change in their community. They have successfully introduced and facilitated many community events and ordinances such as a city-wide Red Ribbon Week (celebrating a week of anti-drug awareness) and much more. Many youth who have gone through these groups have become leaders for change in the city of Carson at a young age.

Director: Jermaine Abrantes

“Planting Seeds, Preserving History”

This documentary highlights the long legacy of Filipino laborers in the California Central Valley, and Herb Jamero's continued efforts to preserve this important piece of Filipino American history years later. Herb Jamero currently lives on the property where the Filipino labor camp once stood, and has successfully taken care of the property and some of the original structures in order to share the story of the Manongs. Although he is unsure about the future of the farm, he does know that all we can do is "plant seeds" and hope the younger generations of the family will continue the work he has invested so much love and energy into.

Directors: Melissa Jamero and Jermaine Abrantes

“Tauhi Vaivai”

Focusing on the life of a Tongan woman who provides services to the elderly as a caregiver and how she works to grow and strengthen her family here in the United States.

Director: Natasha Saelua

“The Heart of a Caring Cook”

This film chronicles the story of a group called Caring Cooks that delivers Japanese food to local community members who are homebound, ill or going through hard times. Through personal stories and reflection, Betty Mikuni and friends show the central role of food in preserving culture, continuing a tradition of service past generational boundaries and sharing burdens within the Japanese American community.

Directors: Jenni Nakamura and Dieu Huynh

2011-2012

“500 Miles”

500 Miles takes a look at how the filmmaker conceived and developed his relationship with his schizophrenic older sister across time and distance. Throughout this film, the filmmaker sought to understand his older sister on a deeper level after decades of isolating himself from her. In the process, he also learns how his once peaceful family fell apart.

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Directors: Sara Seto and Fumiwo Miura

“Endless”

Phat Tran is known for being an involved great-grandfather and grandfather, a loving father, a devoted husband, and a committed friend. Despite all the difficult obstacles he has faced in his lifetime, he is determined to live life to its fullest whilst smiling radiantly.

Director: Judy Lu

“Siya”

Siya, is Ryth's video diary of coming out as a genderqueer Pilipin@. Ryth reflects on how this decision to live truly as their gender made an impact on their internal process, their family, and relationships to Pilipin@, queer, and transgender communities. Ryth contemplates on the feelings of isolation and love that steers their journey.

Directors: Ryth Abalos Mendez and Jan Victor Andasan

“Two Pills A Day”

Two Pills a Day is the story of mental illness in one Southeast Asian refugee family. The film follows the life of Tran Nguyen, a 36 year old Vietnamese American mother with a refugee background, as she navigates every day life, family, and community as an outpatient diagnosed with schizophrenia.

Directors: Chris Nguyen and Trung Nguyen

“Queer, Undocumented, and Unafraid”

Imelda Plascencia, a recent graduate of UCLA who identifies as both Queer and Undocumented, faces the daily struggles of being within two stigmatized communities. Although at times her efforts have led her to believe that she has been "working towards nothing," her self determination and self reflection have led her to accept both her identities.

Directors: Alexandra Margolin and Judy Lu

2012-2013

“Family Time”

Upon going away to school, a college student explores life, family, and the dinner table.

Director: Jean Okamoto

“Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home”

Ji Shin Balp Ki: The Sound of Home tells a story about an ancient Korean tradition brought back to life on Lunar New Year in Koreatown, Los Angeles by university students. The film seeks to convey the importance of Korean American history, community, and identity.

Directors: Clara Park, Charlie Wang, and Esther Park

“Mae Krua (Mother of the Kitchen)”

A Thai immigrant mother redefines courage, love, and happiness through the labor of love she endures for her family in America.

Director: Wanda Pathomrit

“My Mother's Disposition”

Being in an interracial relationship can lead to many experiences. When Natalie is faced with her mother's fervent wishes, she must re-evaluate her own desires in life.

Director: Natalie Yip

“People of Color at UCLA”

Throughout the history of UCLA, the contributions of people of color on this campus have not been transparent and it is still evident today. The people of color tour was created to shed light to these contributions.

Directors: Jamie Bondoc and Vincent Chou

“Remember Me”

After surviving dramatic times in Korea, Grandmother Yu Jai Hwang reluctantly immigrated to the United States. This film tells her story as an outsider in the US, and her struggle to uphold her role as mother and grandmother while living in a foreign country.

Director: Anny Lim

“Sessions LA”

Through the documentation and interviews of members in Sessions LA, a hip-hop oriented music program, we will discover how the program promotes values such as youth development, critical thinking, and community building through the process of creating music.

Director: Tom Wang

“Sức Khỏe”

During the New Year, greetings and wishes of good health are tossed in the air like confetti but in actuality, the health in the community is anything but good. This documentary explores what exactly is holding this community back.

Director: Uyen Hoang

“Twenty Years Later”

Twenty years after the LA Riots, a Korean American father and son have seen Koreatown develop into a thriving urban area.

Directors: Sarah Chung and Hannah Shon

“Who is Park Joo Young?”

Who is Park Joo Young? reflects on Robyn Schultz's personal quest for identity, family, and belonging within shifting conceptions of kinship and home. Against the heartache and struggle of birth family search and reunion, her pursuit for answers attests to broader conflicts and consequences that arise in the wake of the transnational, transracial Korean adoption system.

Director: Beth Kopacz

“Who is Vietnamese America?”

In the aftermath of an LGBT Vietnamese American group's exclusion from the annual Tet parade, two members work to build a stronger community through compassion.

Directors: Jennifer Giang and Beth Kopacz