

SOCIETY of
HERITAGE
PERFORMERS

Lodestone

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ALL-STAR ASIAN AMERICAN COMEDY JAM LODESTONE HIGHLIGHTS & PROMOTES COMIC TALENT IN A FUN-FILLED FUNDRAISING EVENING

Alec Mapa and Bobby Lee Headline Much-Anticipated Comic Event

Lodestone Theatre Ensemble announces the *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam* – a fundraising event designed to increase the awareness of Asian American talent as well as assist Lodestone in its ongoing theatrical and community endeavors. *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam* will be held at Rosen Brewery Restaurant – located at 400 S. Western (4th & Western) in LA's Koreatown – on Saturday, May 10, 2003 at 8:00 p.m.

In its effort to increase diversity on television and specifically to reach out to the Asian American community, FOX Broadcasting has agreed to sponsor this year's event and will offer a "sneak peek" of one of its new upcoming shows. In targeting the young and hip and Asian America, it made perfect sense for FOX to come on board and support Lodestone's first annual comic jam.

All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam will be hosted by Gedde Watanabe (*ER, Edtv*), who in an ironic twist of fate portrayed the stereotype "Long Duk Dong" in *Sixteen Candles* – a never-to-be-forgotten bane to many Asian American boys growing up in this country. Headlining *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam* will be comedians Alec Mapa (UPN's *Half and Half*, as well as the highly acclaimed one-man shows *Mapa Mia!* and *I Remember Mapa*) – in a rare stand-up appearance – and *Mad TV*'s Bobby Lee, whose stand-up routines have been featured on *The Tonight Show*, NBC's *Late Night* and Comedy Central's *Premium Blend*.

The *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam* would not be complete without the comic talents of Mark Fernandez – winner of NBC's comedy search, Dr. Ken Jeong, Kayo, Phil Nee from the comedy improv group *Cold Tofu*, Dan Gabriel, Amy Anderson and Dat Phan.

According to FOX Entertainment's Senior Vice President of Diversity, Mitsy Wilson, the decision to come on board was quite easy. "We're thrilled to sponsor a showcase that celebrates the diversity of thought within the Asian community. Our participation in this comedy festival is yet another example of FOX's commitment to casting the widest possible net in order to discover singular voices."

Having established itself to much critical acclaim in the L.A. theatre scene, Lodestone Theatre Ensemble is now embarking on a quest for a permanent home. Proceeds of *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam* will assist in this cause as well as Lodestone's ongoing efforts to help nurture and develop "At-Risk Youth" and fund the upcoming very-contemporary-magical-multicultural-folktale-journey known as *When Tigers Smoked Long Pipes*, a play written by Angela Kang that will be co-produced with Orphans Theater and will open a six-week run on June 14, 2003.

Lodestone Theatre Ensemble's mission is to develop, create, promote and present edgy, compelling and impassioned works that bridge communities through truthful and entertaining artistry.

Tickets for *All-Star Asian American Comedy Jam*: \$20 in Advance; \$25 at the Door; \$30 for VIP Seating. In order to receive the advance ticket discount, please make a check payable to "Lodestone Theatre Ensemble" and send (along with your phone number and e-mail address, so that we can confirm your purchase) to: Lodestone Theatre Ensemble, c/o All-Star AA Comedy Jam, P.O. Box 1072, Studio City, CA 91614. Payments Must Be Received By Thursday, May 8, 2003 in order to receive this discount. On top of the discount you will also receive a very special t-shirt to help commemorate this fun-filled evening. For more ticket and general information, call the Lodestone Theatre hotline at (323) 993-7245 or visit our website at www.lodestonetheatre.org

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Rosen Brewery Restaurant is located at 400 S. Western (4th & Western) in LA's Koreatown. Drink specials from 7-9 PM: \$9 for pitchers and \$3 for glasses of their micro-brewed beers. Dinner is available; call the Rosen Brewery Restaurant at (213) 388-0061 for reservations.

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