

OCA & FCC PRESENT:

Asian American in 2018

IDENTITY · CHALLENGES · OPPORTUNITIES



Young Directors' Short Films

Engage with young directors and their short films on adoption.



Your Daughter Short Film 2015, 3 mins
Your Daughter was filmed in 2015, and continues to spark conversation about life as an adopted child. Written, filmed and edited in less than a week, as part of NYU's summer high school program, *Your Daughter* is a letter of confusion, longing and love from a Chinese adoptee to her birthmother.



Annie Swenson

Film Director

Ann Ju Xin, "Annie" to her friends and family, is a junior at NYU Tisch School of the Arts studying film and television. Ann was adopted from Suzhou to a single mother and spent her childhood growing up in Maine. She has one older sister who was also adopted from China (though she is not biologically related). Growing up in a predominately white state, Ann tries to surround herself with as much cultural, racial and religious diversity as she can in NYC and tries to incorporate her experiences in her stories.

Yuanfen Animated Short 2018, 4 mins

A young orphan is guided on a journey through China to be united with her parents to be. *Yuanfen* is a Computer Graphics Animated short film directed by Amanda Sparso and produced at the School of Visual Arts. In hopes of shedding a positive light on adoption and raising more awareness for the issue, the film tells a heartwarming tale of adoption as seen through the eyes of a child.

Amanda Sparso

Film Director

Amanda is a Computer Graphics artist working in the film and animation industry in NYC. She is best known for directing the CG Animated Short Film, *Yuanfen*. As an adoptee from Guangzhou, China, Amanda's film tells a personal tale of adoption as seen through the eyes of a child. Prior to beginning her career as a CG artist, Amanda heavily focused her training on ballet, piano, singing, and musical theater. She was given the opportunity to train pre-professionally with American Ballet Theater and Gelsey Kirkland Academy, and later went on to earn a coveted internship on Disney's College Program. Amanda recently graduated from the School of Visual Arts with a BFA in Computer Animation.



Maya Delany

Q&A Moderator

Maya graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 2017 with a self-designed major in American Studies and a Film Studies minor. She worked to center Asian American and other marginalized narratives in both disciplines. Being part of FCCNY's Adoptee Board has been an incredibly important part of her personal determination to heal from feelings of erasure in Asian American communities, communities of color, and society as a whole, asserting that Chinese Adoptee stories are of value and deserving of attention. Maya formerly worked in film, managing production office space, and currently works at Amnesty International.