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**EL CERRITO HOSTS DIVERSITY FORUM, FREE FILM**

**El Cerrito, CA:** The City of El Cerrito Human Relations Commission will present their fifth annual Diversity Forum on Sunday, May 18, 2008, starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Cerrito Speakeasy Theater, 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito.

In support for Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month, this year's event features a screening of the multiple award winning documentary, "From A Silk Cocoon", followed by a discussion with Executive Producer/Co-Director/Writer Satsuki Ina and a reception.

"This film captures the emotional and physical hardships endured by Dr. Satsuki Ina's parents during their time in American internment camps of the 1940s," explained Human Relations Commissioner Shawn Jackson. "We hope that everyone who attends the event will be moved by the power of the film and participate in the discussion that will be held afterwards. Dr. Ina will lead the discussion and share personal insights on her parents' experiences," Jackson added.

The event is free and all ages are welcome. The film is best suited for adults and children aged 12 and up.

The City of El Cerrito Human Relations Commission is an appointed group of residents who work to develop positive human relations and recognize the racial, ethnic, religious and cultural

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diversity of the El Cerrito community. For the past 19 years, the Human Relations Commission has coordinated the annual El Cerrito Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King parade and rally each January, which is the center piece of the Commission's work each year. In an effort to better reflect the diversity of people in El Cerrito, the Commission is making efforts to present more events that celebrate different racial, ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds.

In 2006, "From a Silk Cocoon" won:

- Northern California Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement Historical/Cultural – Program
- The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, San Francisco/Northern California Chapter, in the Historical/Cultural Program-Segment category
- 2006 Silver Telly Award for Outstanding Documentary Program
- 2006 Bronze Telly Award for Outstanding Cultural Program

For more information about the 2008 Diversity Forum, visit the City of El Cerrito's website at <http://www.el-cerrito.org/gov/hrcommission.html>.

For more information about the Human Relations Commission, please call the City of El Cerrito at (510) 215-4304.

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