



Project Renew: Lao Buddhist Temple Benefit Event

Feb. 18 concert by local hip-hop artists & Asian community groups to raise funds for Laotian community's Buddhist Temple

What: Benefit event featuring local hip hop performers & Asian community groups

When: Sat. Feb. 18, 6:30-8:30 pm

Where: Davis Auditorium, Sturm College of Law, University of Denver

(Free or metered parking, Parking lot @ Race & Asbury, \$1.50/hr)

How Much: \$5 (additional donations accepted)

Why: The Lao Buddhist Temple of Colorado, the Laotian community's heart and soul, burned down on Dec. 5, and the community needs an estimated \$500,000-\$600,000 to rebuild.

Contact: Joie Ha, JoieHa@gmail.com; Leo Tsuo, LeoTsuo@gmail.com; Maly Khanthaphixay, Khantha.m@gmail.com

More information: <http://www.laotempleco.org/>

On December 5th, 2011, the Lao Buddhist Temple of Colorado in Westminster burned down. A pillar of hope and strength for the Laotian community was destroyed in a matter of hours. All that remained were a few pieces of darkened debris and remnants of memories that had filled the temple with meaning and heart.

Pioneer Breakers, a hip-hop group at the Denver University, and Next Generation Voices, an organization of Asian American youth, have decided to throw a benefit showcase in order to raise donations to rebuild the temple.

The benefit showcase will be held on Saturday, February 18th, 2012 in the Davis Auditorium in Sturm Hall at the University of Denver. The show will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The exhibition will include a variety of cultural and hip-hop dances to illustrate how the Asian and hip-hop community will rise in solidarity for the Laotian community.

Admission is \$5 and all proceeds will go to the temple's rebuilding fund.

Performances will include various Asian cultural dances and musical numbers from local community organizations as well as hip-hop choreography showcases and battles. We will also have an all styles hip-hop battle.

LIST OF PERFORMERS (photos available upon request):

Hip-Hop

1. Hype 303 (hip-hop choreography dance group formed in 2009)
2. Soundless Flow (high school-aged dance crew, rising stars in the Colorado scene.)
3. BreakEFX (Colorado group that competed in MTV's America's Best Dance Crew)
4. 4. Machinez Remainz (Denver-based popping duo, robotic movements, old-school popping)

Cultural

1. Lao Buddhist Temple Wannakhadee Group (Laotian traditional dance troupe of 19 youth performers ranging from age 6-17)
2. Mudra Dance Studio (classical and contemporary Indian dance)
3. Spirit of Cambodia Cultural Alliance (Khmer traditional folk dances)
4. Team Xtreme Martial Arts (high school students performing Tae Kwon Do; voted top martial arts demonstration team in Colorado in 2004)
5. Denver Taiko (Japanese drum group)
6. Wu Lan Lion Dance (Chinese lion dance group)

Project Renew is sponsored by University of Denver Pioneer Breakers, Next Generation Voices, Asian Avenue Magazine and Origin8.

