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Welly Yang

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second Generation Presents the Fourth Annual Concert of Excellence Celebrate Asian Americans in the Performing Arts in Second Generation's Fourth Annual Concert of Excellence

October 26th, 2004 - New York, NY- Second Generation is proud to present its Fourth Annual Concert of Excellence featuring the Rémy Martin X.O Excellence Awards on Monday, November 22, 2004, 7:30 p.m., at the highly anticipated Jazz at Lincoln Center's new home Frederick P. Rose Hall, located Broadway at 60th Street, New York City. **Second** Generation will be holding a press conference on Friday, October 29th, with producing partners Rémy Martin and Chase Home Finance, to announce surprise quests and additional performers.

Attendees of the concert will revel in a star-studded and talent-filled evening that Tony Award and past Rémy Martin X.O Excellence Award winner David Henry Hwang calls "the most professional, most fun, and most prestigious event of its kind for Asian and Asian American artists." Luminaries from the worldwide Asian performing arts community will gather one night only for this annual sold out celebration of song and dance for what B.D Wong calls "the platform by which Asian Americans artists can empower themselves and create meaningful change."

One of the highlights of the extravaganza is the presentation of the Rémy Martin X.O Excellence Awards, honoring Asian Americans who have made pioneering contributions to the performing arts. This year's honorees include **Kelly Hu** (X-Men 2, The Scorpion King), Pat Morita (Academy Award-Nominated Actor, The Karate Kid series), and Donnie Yen (Hero, Shanghai Nights, Once Upon a Time in China 2, winner 2002 World Stunt Awards for choreographing Iron Monkey). National Poetry Slam expert and Broadway performer Beau Sia will entertain the audience as the "slamming" master of ceremonies, along with a host of celebrity presenters including Ralph Macchio (The Karate Kid I and II).

Second Generation Artistic Director Welly Yang, Co-Director/Chorographer - Chase Brock (Nothing Like a Dame, Wonderful Town), and Musical Director - Tom Kitt have created an evening of top-notch entertainment. An ensemble of 30 performers, including stars such as Margaret Ann Gates and Kevin Grey from Phantom of the Opera, Joan Almedilla and Dina Morishita from Les Miserables will showcase the best of Broadway in over 14 numbers assembled just for the evening. The theme for the 2004 Concert of Excellence is Artistic Creation and the audience can expect artistic magic in visuals, song, and dance throughout the evening.

The select 15-voice 2g Kids ensemble will be led by former All American Boys Chorus Director David Albulario and presented by Chase Home Finance. The Chase Home Finance Kids' ensemble will perform a selection from Oliver, rewritten to celebrate Asian food. to the tune of "Food Glorious Food" which will be sure to warm audiences hearts.

Second Generation

bringing our stories to the world's stage

With previous concerts having sold out Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's New York State Theater and Alice Tully Hall, this year's **Concert of Excellence** at New York's state-of-the-art performance space, Jazz at Lincoln Center 's new home Frederick P. Rose Hall, promises to be the most spectacular to date.

Ticket prices are \$100, and \$250 VIP. Tickets are currently on sale at coe.2g.org, and available by phone at 212-561-1658.

For more Information about the Concert, Please Contact:

Grace C. Lee
Executive Producer, The Concert of Excellence

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The press conference will be hosted on Friday October 29th at Riingo, executive chefed by Marcus Samuelson, located at The Alex Hotel.

Where: Riingo, 2nd floor, The Alex Hotel, 205 E. 45th Street (between 2nd & 3rd Ave)

www.thealexhotel.com: Introducing a new generation of luxury accommodations in

midtown Manhattan

When: Friday, October 29, 2004 – 1 pm -----

Second Generation is a New York-based non-profit theater company dedicated to bringing Asian American stories to the world stage. The company commissions and produces full Broadway-scale musicals, such as *The Wedding Banquet: The Musical* and *Making Tracks*, and tours them nationally and internationally. In New York, the company produces and develops Off-Broadway plays, readings, concerts, including the off-Broadway hit, *The Karaoke Show*. The Fourth Annual *Concert of Excellence* is sponsored by Rémy Martin, with major support from Chase Home Finance. Additional sponsors include NY1, Time Warner Cable, World Journal, Amerasia Bank, Holiday Inn Downtown, Imaginasian Entertainment, Con Edison, Loftworks Discount Designer Clothing Company, Lehman Brothers, Crystal Windows & Doors, Ltd, and Pro-Motion.

For more information on the Concert of Excellence, log onto www.2g,org.