

EXPRESSIONS TIBET PRESENTS

TIBETAN OPERA

An after school program for children 10-15 years old



Project Proposal by Expressions Tibet



THE PROGRAM

The Tibetan Arts and Music Education program (TAME) is focusing on presenting the unique performing art of traditional Tibetan Opera to local Tibetans. Through this program, Tibetan children will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in their motherland's language and culture while nurturing their own artistic expression. Additionally, while the after school program is centered at bridging Tibetan youngsters to their cultural identity, TAME also wants the attendees to be successful at school, and therefore plans to allot time in the program for homework help.



THE TEACHERS

The program will be led by renowned master Tibetan opera singer Sonam Phuntsok and senior Tibetan Opera performer Tsering Youdon.



SONAM PHUNTSOK



Master Sonam Phuntsok is a second generation Tibetan born in India. He grew up in Tibetan refugee camps, learning Tibetan culture through his parents. After joining the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA) in India, Sonam excelled in Tibetan opera singing, receiving the highest honor as one of the greatest Tibetan opera performers outside of Tibet. His mastery of opera allowed him to continue the legacy of his mentor, master Nobu Tsering La, and he quickly became the face of a new generation of Tibetan Opera Master. In his 45-year career as a master opera performer, Sonam Phuntsok has conducted 12 Tibetan Operas while composing acclaimed works such as *Milarepa*, *Sakya Pandita and Buddha*. Today he lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and has humbly accepted to be part of Expression Tibet.

TSERING YOUDON



Master Tsering Youdon, born in India, began her studies of Tibetan art and music at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA). Enrolled by her mother at a very young age, Tsering soon developed a keen interest in her studies and found a deeper connection to the music of Tibet, which led her to earn a degree in Tibetan folk dance, music, and opera. Not long after her graduation, Tsering officially began her career as an artist and traveled worldwide with TIPA to perform at various festivals, showcasing her talents on the world stage. Tsering left India in 1999 to live in the United States and has since helped promote Traditional Tibetan art and music in the West.