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News Release

Local Documentary Group Takes Home Regional Emmy
Ian McCluskey, director, honored at June 25th ceremony in Seattle

SEATTLE, WA—The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Northwest Chapter awarded an Emmy for best cultural/historical documentary to Ian McCluskey for his 2004 production *Sun Gu Ja: A Century of Korean Pioneers*. The 42nd Annual NW Regional Emmy Awards ceremony was held June 25th at The Bagley Wright Theatre in central Seattle.

McCluskey is director of the Portland non-profit organization NW Documentary Arts & Media, and has received numerous awards for *Sun Gu Ja*, which premiered last summer at the Portland Art Museum's Whitsell Auditorium. The hour-long documentary has also received a CINE Golden Eagle Award, four Telly Awards, four Videographer Awards of Distinction, and four Aurora Awards.

Sun Gu Ja retraces the 100-year history of Korean immigration to the Northwest through first-hand stories, rare archive, and original footage. The soundtrack features specially composed traditional music performed by Korean-Americans.

The Regional Emmy Awards honors the very best in television productions from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska. At just two years old, NW Documentary has made a mark among the region's well-established filmmakers and arts organizations. McCluskey was honored to be among such esteemed colleagues.

"Honestly, it was a shock to see my film playing as they announced the winner," said McCluskey. "It took a minute to sink in, and then I ran up on stage to improvise a speech."

Sun Gu Ja has been formatted to PBS educational standards, and aired locally on OPB last fall. The production was made possible through collaboration with The Korean Society of Oregon and The Korean Foundation of Oregon.

NW Documentary Arts & Media was formed to create quality documentary works, while providing educational opportunities through the creation of original works from the northwest region, and to strengthen local communities through the research, production, and presentation of documentary arts and media. Their current project details the relationship and travels of photographer Edward Weston and his wife Charis Wilson, a Portland native. For more information, visit www.nwdocumentary.org.

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