

THE KHMER GENERATIONS PROJECT

PRESENTED AT THE 12TH ANNUAL KSCC

DR. CHRISTINE SU

NOVEMBER 19, 2016

"The universe is made of stories,
not of atoms."

➤ Muriel Rukeyser, American poet

THE KHMER GENERATIONS PROJECT

- The Khmer Generations Project (KGP) is built on the belief that **everyone has an important and meaningful story**, and that **each story holds transformative power**.

STORIES INSPIRE

- Facts inform, and arguments can persuade, but a well-told story can reach out and inspire.



STORIES CONNECT

- The spoken word brings people into each other's presence.

Iko-Iko: a traditional storytelling method originating in Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia, among the *Bajau* people.



STORIES DOCUMENT

- When a story dies, a little bit of history dies.
- So one's story should be shared with others, who will share it again and keep the story alive.



STORIES FILL IN THE BLANKS

- Eyewitnesses to events contribute perspectives that fill in the gaps in documented history, sometimes correcting or even contradicting the written record.



Hom Chhorn, *Camp 32*

KGP MISSION

- By documenting and sharing these stories, the Khmer Generations Project seeks to *promote understanding, support healing, and facilitate connections* between individuals, families, and communities across generations.





SOTHO KULIKAR, *THE LAST REEL*

"The Last Reel portrays my belief in the overwhelming human need for stories and storytelling as a part of the reconciliation process toward restoring a country and a culture that was devastated by genocide and war. It takes courage to open our hearts and minds and to relive what has gone before."

THE KHMER GENERATIONS PROJECT

- A digital storytelling project
- Project participants will learn how to **create a digital story** about a personal or family migration experience

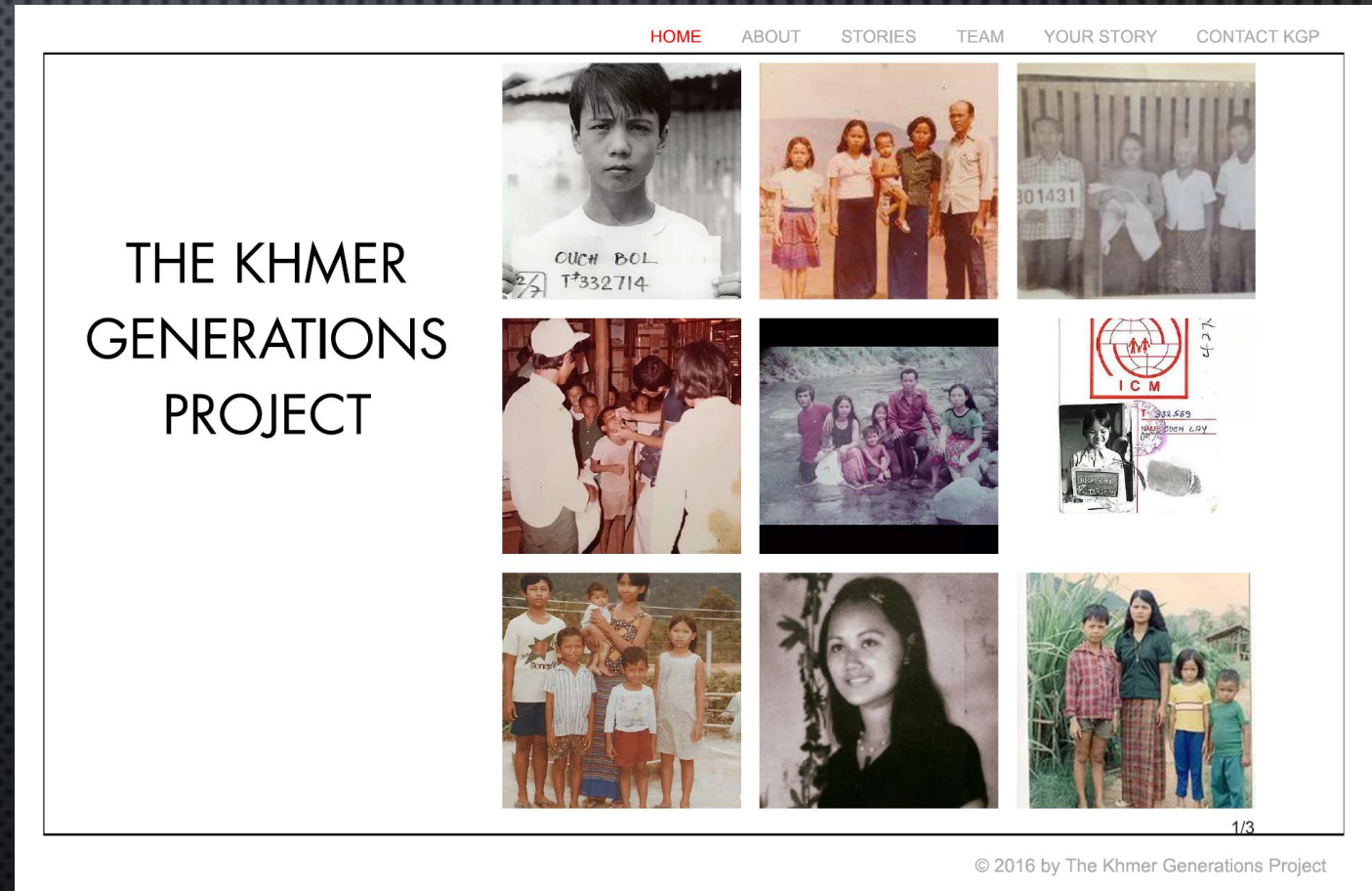


WHAT IS DIGITAL STORYTELLING?

- Using computer-based tools to tell stories
- In general, digital storytelling involves combining the art of telling stories with a variety of multimedia, including **photos, documents, text, recorded audio narrative, video clips, music, and Web publishing**

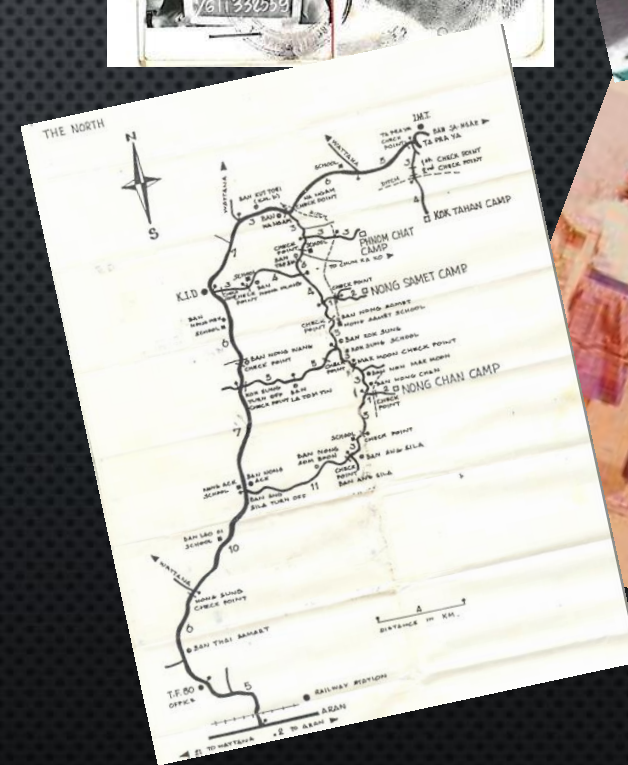
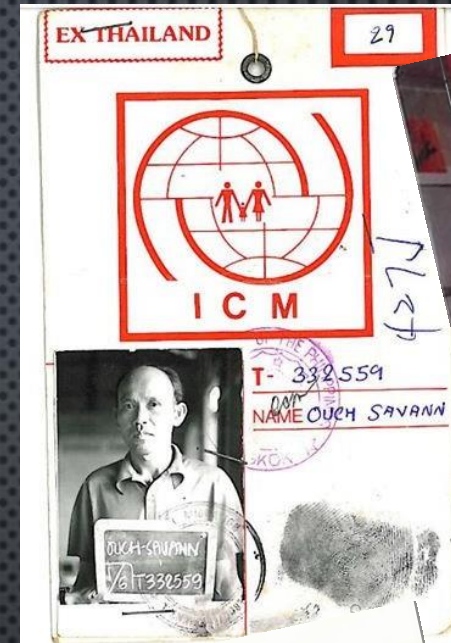
KGP GOAL 1:

- To create a **user-friendly digital archive of Khmer stories** documenting a broad range of immigrant and refugee experiences



KGP GOAL 2:

- To provide **step-by-step training and workshops** for community members on **how to assemble and digitally record stories** about their personal or family migration experiences



KGP DIGITAL STORY WORKSHOPS

- How do they work?
 - TIME: Workshops can be held over a long weekend (intensive) or over a series of weeks or months
 - What is important to remember is that creating the digital story is a process, even though the end result is approximately 5-7 minutes



Pre-workshop:

- Collect photos and documents



Workshop 1:

- Write your story (300-500 words)
 - Story prompts



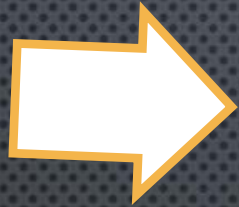
Workshop 2:

Record your voiceover

Find additional images and sounds (music) – creativecommons.org

Our Family's Immigration Story

Ariana Yang



Workshop 3:

- Put it all together



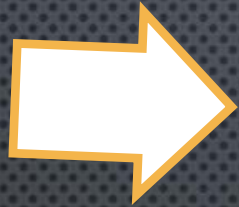
Save - .mov, .wmv, .mp4

Share – with family, friends,
Upload- to KGP

Discuss – community
forums, conferences,
workshops

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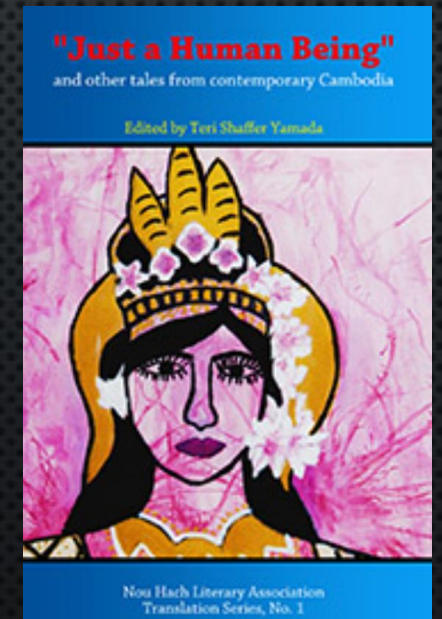
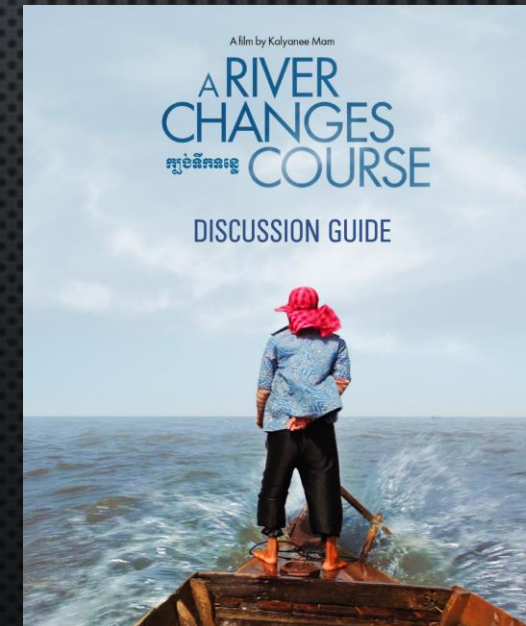
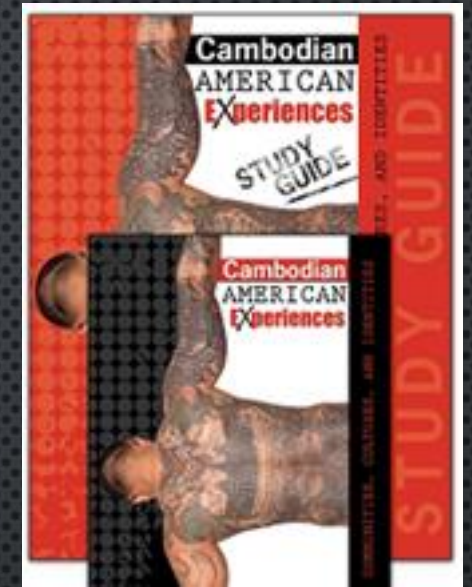
KGP GOAL 3:

- To use the Khmer Generations Project to support dialogue and discussion about the Khmer experience between individuals of all backgrounds and across generations



KGP GOAL 4:

- To support Khmer scholarship, publication, and cultural exploration



THE KHMER STUDIES FORUM

Highlights of the
Fifth Annual Khmer Studies Forum
Ohio University

Friday, March 15:
Keynote address by Dr. Sopha Ear
10am, Baker Theater

Saturday, March 16:
Screening of *A River Changes Course*
7pm, Athena Cinema

Sunday, March 17:
Genocide Education Workshop
12 noon, Scripps Hall, Anderson Auditorium

For the full conference schedule, go to
www.seas.ohio.edu/ksf2013.html
or scan the barcode below:



Hosted by the Center for
Southeast Asian Studies



OHIO
UNIVERSITY

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR

The Sixth Annual Khmer (Cambodian) Studies Forum

March 14-16, 2014
Ohio University, Athens, OH U.S.A.

The Sixth Khmer Studies Forum (KSF) has as its theme,
"Cambodia at a Crossroads."

Cambodia has been changing at a rapid pace: urban development is astonishing, foreign investment extensive, environmental destruction staggering. Protests by dissatisfied factory workers and victims of land-grabbing show Cambodians' increasing unwillingness to accept injustice; the recent protests over the dubious results of the national elections underlines their desire for reform.

Yet this enthusiasm for change is accompanied by anxiety. What will become of Cambodia? Will these changes help or hurt Cambodia? Indeed, Cambodia stands at a crossroads, and these questions cannot easily be answered.

Scholars, artists, filmmakers, and community members are invited to submit abstracts for individual papers, panels, or roundtable discussion groups that explore the various ways in which Cambodia is currently changing and might further transform itself, and the possible consequences of the paths Cambodia and Cambodians may take.

Please submit abstracts to the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at cseas@ohio.edu by November 15, 2013.

For more information and details about the conference, go to www.seas.ohio.edu/ksf2014.html or contact Christine Su, CSEAS Director, at cseas@ohio.edu



The Sixth Annual Khmer Studies Forum is kindly supported and sponsored by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Ohio Humanities Council, the Center for International Studies, the Center for Law, Justice and Culture, the Contemporary History Institute, and the Southeast Asia Students Association at Ohio University.

KGP MISSION

- The Khmer Generations Project (KGP) is committed to honoring and recording the stories of Khmer (Cambodians) throughout the world.



WWW.KHMERGENERATIONS.ORG

The Khmer Generations Project

The Khmer Generations Project (KGP) is built on the belief that everyone has an important and meaningful story, and that every story holds transformative power. It is our stories that give our lives purpose, and through which we are able to connect with others.



KGP NEXT STEPS

- Gauge interest in the Khmer Generations Project
- Assemble Project Team
- Schedule and conduct trainings
- Gather digital stories
- Hold community screenings
- Evaluate project

QUESTIONS?

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