



FRIENDS OF HUE FOUNDATION

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Dear Ms. Heidi Kuhn:

I am writing you to express my sincere gratitude and admiration for your work in international development and peacemaking around the world. My name is Thien-Nhien Luong and I am the Executive Director for the Friends of Hue Foundation (FHF), and like your work at Roots of Peace, FHF has been actively working in Vietnam to provide sustainable and impact driven solutions to poverty in this war-torn country for the past ten years.

February 7, 2010 will mark our 10th year anniversary and on behalf of FHF's Board of Directors we would like to invite you to be our guest and Keynote Speaker at our Charity Gala to be held in San Jose, California. Your work and the story behind the success of Roots of Peace is the message we are hoping to share with our staff, supporters, and community leaders as we look to our next 10 year plan. As the pioneering organization to establish an NGO in Central Vietnam, we have experienced a number of successes as well as our fair share of struggles. We certainly would never boast that we are flawless; however, we are proud of our work for we know for certain that we've been able to improve the lives of thousands by championing for the victims of poverty, social and political turmoil, and a weak infrastructure.

It is no secret that Vietnam is currently undergoing rapid economic development and is experiencing capitalism at its peak. However, much of the country's infrastructure is still underdeveloped, public health is weak, poverty is soaring, and services to the victims affected by the war have yet to be adequately addressed. Our aim for the next ten years is to address these issues head on with a number of major initiatives and partnerships. With that said, we would be deeply honored if you would accept our invitation to our fundraising gala as our Keynote Speaker. Your story, mission, and goal for Vietnam is inspiring.

We will be holding our Gala at the Ranch Golf Club in San Jose's Silver Creek Valley. In addition to our evening program, we will be debuting FHF's first documentary as well as showcasing an Art Exhibition from a number of Vietnamese American Artists. The Saigon Chamber Orchestra along with the winner of *NBC's Last Comic Standing*, Dat Phan will also be performing. Our event planning team has been actively working on putting together a beautiful celebration to highlight our goals and mission over the last decade and plans for the next 10 years. We anticipate an audience of 300 plus, and members of a number of Vietnam base NGO's will be present.

In closing, we would be honored if you would consent to be our Keynote Speaker and I'd like to personally connect with you in the near future regarding possible collaborations with the Friends of Hue Foundation and Roots of Peace. After hearing about Roots of Peace and the number of lives you've touched, I was thrilled to hear of your expansion in Vietnam.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (408) 623-0211 with any questions.

With Gratitude,

Thien-Nhien Luong, MPH
Executive Director