Dear Ms. Anciaux Aoki,

We are proud to announce the following exciting news:

1/ Formation of the Vietnamese Heritage Language School Coalition (The Coalition)

Recognizing the formidable power of collaborative work through group process and communal problem solving that would bring about innumerable benefits to local area’s independent Vietnamese Heritage Language Schools, five Greater Puget Sound area Vietnamese Heritage Language Schools and active Vietnamese community members banned together to form the Advocates for the Vietnamese Heritage Language School Coalition (The Advocates).

Since November 2005, The Advocates’ main focus has been to define common benefits and goals, capacity to reach goals, and infrastructure for the new organization. Once the tasks are completed, The Advocates will facilitate a general meeting with all teachers, administrators, parents from all schools to review the proposal, to vote for the formation of The Coalition and its governing body. At that point, The Advocates will cease to exist and transfer all responsibilities and research materials to The Coalition.

2/ Teaching Vietnamese: in Formal and Informal Settings

One of the many needs for parents and Vietnamese Language School teachers is the support and training on how to teach Vietnamese. The Advocates invited two renowned educators/trainers from California to provide for such a need, Dr. Kin-Oanh Nguyễn-Lâm and Writer Quyên Di. Training participants can expect a day filled with learning, growing and laughter, similar to the caliber that was presented last year.

The following are pertinent information about the training:

For Whom: Parents, Community Members, current and future Vietnamese Language Teachers

When: Saturday, May 13, 2006, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Swedish-Providence Medical Center (Pinard Foyer)

Cost: $25 per participant, excluding parking and lunch

Registration Deadline: Saturday, May 6, 2006

Contact: Thu Van Nguyen, 206-619-6158, thu_van98122@yahoo.com
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We hope to have your support in the form of dissemination of the information, endorsement of the training and the formation of The Coalition. The maintenance and learning of Vietnamese language and culture, be it within the Vietnamese community or non-Vietnamese community, will benefit all of us globally and will continue to add to the richness and diversity of the human race.

Sincerely,

Advocates for the Vietnamese Heritage Language School Coalition