



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Capturing Your Imagination

Prayer Ceremony at Buddhist Monastery Celebrating the First Ever Burmese-American Feature Film a Success

San Francisco, CA

On **Saturday, February 23rd, 2019**, cast and crew members of the first co-produced Burmese-American film *Myittar* enjoyed a successful start to the movie's production with food, prayer, and plenty of photos. Hosted by Mandalay Productions LLC, the celebration took place at Dhamma Nanda Vihara Monastery in Half Moon Bay. The day started with a flurry of excitement as Lu Min and Htun Aeindra Bo, two of the biggest names in Burmese film, arrived at the monastery greeted by friends, family, and fans.

Lu Min and Htun Aeindra Bo star alongside a diverse group of American actors of both Burmese and non-Burmese descent in *Myittar*, the "Movie-for-Charity" produced by Mandalay Productions LLC. The film aims to tell the story of ordinary people navigating through extraordinary challenges set in the Burmese/San Francisco community. American filmmaker Graham Streeter directs the film.

A buffet-style lunch featured some of Myanmar's most distinct and delicious dishes, including tea leaf salad, samosas, and chicken curry. Following lunch, the crowd shuffled into the monastery's main room to bless the film's production. The ceremony, a tradition in the Burmese film industry, was the first of its kind to be performed in the United States. Led by six of the monastery's resident monks, the attendants intermittently joined in collective prayer.

The film *Myittar* is a "Movie-for-Charity" project of the San Francisco-based Mary K. Yap Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that provides financial aid, education, and support for orphaned children in Myanmar. All proceeds from the film will benefit the orphanages.

Graham Streeter says of working with Mary K. Yap and Executive Producer Peter Yap, "It's been a dream come true to find such amazing people who have such a vision!"

Past Event Summary

Date/Time: **Saturday, February 23rd, 2019, 2:00 – 4:00pm**

Location: **Dhamma Nanda Vihara**, home of the Theravada Buddhist Society of America (TBSA)

Address: **17450 Cabrillo Hwy S, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019**

About Mandalay Productions

Mandalay Productions bring together multiple disciplines and diverse experiences into the film production business. With head offices in San Francisco, USA, and project offices in Yangon, Myanmar, the company is proud to be working in close partnership with the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization (MMPO).

The company's mission is to be the most trusted production house in Myanmar, delivering the next generation of filmmaking solutions, and supporting the combined talents of local and foreign screenplay artists, directors, photographers, composers, and screenwriters from around the globe.

Mandalay Productions Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/mandalayproductionsllc/>

Mary K. Yap Foundation Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/marykyapfoundation/>

Public Relations Contact

Eliza Cole, eliza[at]mandalayproductions.net