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Distinguished artists take center stage at UM's annual tribute to fine arts alumni

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NEWS RELEASE

March 21, 2008

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DISTINGUISHED ARTISTS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT UM'S ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO FINE ARTS ALUMNI

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana's School of Fine Arts will honor Beth Lo and David Simmons, two versatile artists and UM alumni, at the upcoming eighth annual "Odyssey of the Stars – A Celebration of Artistic Journeys."

This year's event, titled "A Kaleidoscope of Sights and Sounds," begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 5, in the University Theatre. All proceeds go toward UM's School of Fine Arts scholarships.

"Odyssey of the Stars" showcases performing and visual arts alumni who have gone on to successful careers in the arts, along with current UM students. This year's event will spotlight students from the Departments of Music and Drama/Dance, assisted by the Department of Media Arts and the Department of Art.

Lo, a professor of art at UM, is a distinguished ceramicist whose work has been displayed in major venues throughout the United States and around the world. As a first generation Chinese-American, much of Lo's ceramic and mixed media artwork revolves around family and ethnicity. She is the recipient of several awards including a National Endowment for the Arts grant in 1994, a Montana Arts Council fellowship in 1989 and an American Craft Design Award in 1986.

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