

For Immediate Release



## An Exciting Dream Leads to a '*Racing Heart*'

"I feel like I've awoken from a two year dream with a *Racing Heart*," chuckles Chris Williamson, speaking of his recently completed feature-length documentary. "To finally be done", he said, "is a dream come true."

And not only for himself, but the two subjects of his documentary as well, brothers Pone and Chan Thammavongsa. They were forced out of Laos when the Communists

took over the country and spent their childhoods in a refugee camp in Thailand. Finally the U.S. granted

their family entry and they began life anew. Tragically, their father died shortly after moving here. Older brother Pone became the man of the house. Struggling to survive, they could've turned to gangs for support, as many young Laotians did, but they didn't. They found solace and focus in working on their cars and eventually decided to build a real drag racing team.

have to abide by the National Hot Rod Association's safety rules, purchase expensive parts, and have the know-how to put it all together. Many nights were spent at the Kansas City International Raceway testing and tuning the vehicle.

"This project took me all over the midwest as I went to track meets with the Brothers and travelled with them to get the car tuned by the fastest guy in their class Tony Palo. I even took a crew down to Saginaw, TX where the brothers attended a Lao New Year festival at a buddhist temple.

The American Dream is alive and well for this filmmaker. On April 12th, *Racing Heart* will screen at the University of California Berkley campus during the First International Lao New Year Festival. He then hopes to bring it back to Kansas City and screen it in local theaters.



The Brothers explaining Buddhist traditions.

"It's amazing what I've seen them do, and build, with their bare hands," says Williamson, "They are amazing people and I admire their tenacity. We worked well on the film together because like them, I had a dream and nothing was going to stop me from achieving it!"

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There are many perils in starting a drag racing team from scratch and it is no easy feat. You

For more information on *Racing Heart* please visit [racingheartmovie.com](http://racingheartmovie.com) or email [racingheartmovie@gmail.com](mailto:racingheartmovie@gmail.com)

PACIFIC EARTH MEDIA PRESENTS A HYDE PARK PICTURES PRODUCTION "RACING HEART"

A FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARY FILM BY CHRIS WILLIAMSON PRODUCED BY STEPHANIE WILLIAMSON AND GREG HAWKINS

FEATURING PONE AND CHAN THAMMAVONGSA A.K.A. "THE BROTHERS" TONY PALO LUCKY C. JOHNNY P.

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