

**Subject: Lucky Girl Follow-up Symposium - Nov 7**

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**LUCKY GIRL FOLLOW-UP SYMPOSIUM**

on Saturday November 7, 2009 from 12:30PM-5:00PM

at NYU - register online now at [www.fccny.org](http://www.fccny.org)

On November 7th, APA-NYU, MOCA and FCCNY will host a day of workshops and discussions for adults and adoptees on some of the many topics this book raises...culture, identity, birth family, stereotypes, **birth search, etc.**

**The adoptee workshops are** geared for 13yrs and older, but you know your child best and should decide whether this event is appropriate for them. This event will likely lead to some important and powerful discussions within families, so parents should expect to talk about it **afterward.**

Although we encourage you to read the book, it will not be necessary to attend this symposium...and you don't need to be a parent of a **teen to attend. LUCKY GIRL** will be sold at the event and Mei-Ling will be **autographing books.**

Following the workshops there will be a cocktail reception with a performance by Jared **Rehberg.**

The Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University the Museum of Chinese in America and Families with Children from China of Greater New York present

**LUCKY GIRL by Mei-Ling Hopgood FOLLOW-UP SYMPOSIUM at New York University in Manhattan**

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7th, 2009 at 12:30PM - 5PM**  
19 University Place (near East 8th), NYU, NYC  
Join us for cocktail

**Workshop leaders to-date include:**

Amanda Baden, Ph.D.: psychologist, professor at Montclair State University, Chinese adoptee, and mother to a daughter adopted from China, will lead a talk for adults on how Asian, American and Asian-American stereotypes impact adopted tweens/teens.

Chris Hopgood: Mei-Ling's mom, who with husband Rollie, adopted Mei-Ling in 1974, will talk about her experiences as an adoptive mom during Mei-Ling's reunion with her birth family.

Mei-Ling Hopgood: author of LUCKY GIRL, Chinese adoptee and mother to a daughter, will explore issues around identity and family through a writing workshop for adoptees.

Kay Johnson, Ph.D.: China scholar at Hampshire College and author of WANTING A DAUGHTER, NEEDING A SON, will speak about the changing landscape of China adoption from the 1990s to today, looking at attitudes toward daughters/sons, the decline in abandonment of healthy infant girls, and the appearance of child trafficking and (occasional) overt birth planning seizures in recent years.

LiLi Johnson: NYU student, Kay's daughter and one of the first children adopted from mainland China, will join Amanda to discuss gender and cultural stereotypes.

Joy Lieberthal, LCSW: adoption professional, mother of two sons and Korean adoptee who is reunited with her birth family, will lead a talk with adoptees on adoption and dating.

Jared Rehberg: Musician, Vietnamese adoptee from Operation Babylift, will talk about his involvement in Filmmaker Tammy Nguyen Lee's new documentary, Operation Babylift: The lost children of Vietnam, as well as perform.

*Lucky Girl is excellent reading for anyone (adults and children 12 and over) "who's ever had a family... or two." This riveting memoir is about one person's surprise reunion and relationship with the complicated Chinese family that gave her up for adoption when she was a baby. Spanning cultures and continents, Mei-Ling Hopgood's journey brings home a tale of joy and regret, hilarity, deep sadness, and great discovery, as she untangles the unlikely strands that formed her destiny. As a journalist, Ms. Hopgood pushes herself to address from within many of the complex and difficult questions parents and adolescents struggle with around self-identity, adoption and the complicated concept of family today.*

*Although encouraged, it will not be necessary for you to have read the book to attend this symposium.*

For more information on Lucky Girl, check out [www.mei-linghopgood.com](http://www.mei-linghopgood.com), or check out her fan page on Facebook. You can also see the Lucky Girl Book Trailer at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wzuqKAGkz6g>

**Event Sponsors**

reception and a performance by Jared Rehberg after the workshops.

REGISTER online at [www.fccny.org](http://www.fccny.org) \$10 per person

Questions? Want to help? Contact Mary Nealon, [mary@nealonshapiro.com](mailto:mary@nealonshapiro.com)

**Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU -**

<http://nyu-apastudies.org> Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University recognizes that as the world becomes connected at higher speeds on a certain level, international cultural connection, translation and a shared re-imagined space come increasingly into play.

\*A/P/A Institute aims to promote discourse on Asian/Pacific America defying traditional boundaries, spanning Asia, to the Americas, through the Atlantic and Pacific Worlds.

\*A/P/A Institute works to dispel socio-cultural and political misconceptions, provide cultural and scholarly connections, lead collections building, and encourage innovative research and interdisciplinary exploration.

\*A/P/A Institute's goal is to serve as an international nexus of interactive exchange and access for scholars, cultural producers, and communities from New York to beyond.

**Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) - [www.mocanyc.org](http://www.mocanyc.org)**

Founded in 1980, Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history, heritage, culture and diverse experiences of people of Chinese descent in the United States. At the greatly expanded MOCA at 215 Centre Street the museum continues to be a national home for the precious narratives of diverse Chinese American communities, while striving to be a model among interactive museums.

**Families with Children from China of Greater New York -**

[www.fccny.org](http://www.fccny.org)

Families with Children from China of Greater New York (FCCNY) connects, sustains and celebrates families with children adopted from China.

Financial assistance is available: if you feel you can not afford FCCNY membership and/or this program please contact Kathy Urbina at [FCCNYBrooklyn@aol.com](mailto:FCCNYBrooklyn@aol.com)

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