

a family uncovers the truth about their son's death



Looking for Luke

PRESS KIT



The Clay Center for
Young Healthy Minds
Strengthening families through education.



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL



MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

#LOOKINGFORLUKEFILM



Luke in high school

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu

Synopsis

Wendell and Christina Tang attempt to understand why their son Luke, a well-liked Harvard sophomore, died by suicide.

Issue Background

According to the American Psychological Association¹, Asian American college students have higher rates of suicidal thoughts than their counterparts. What's more, cultural stigma often prevents students who are struggling from seeking help. This problem is compounded by a lack of awareness and open conversations about mental health within the Asian American community.

1. Source: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/ethnicity-health/asian-american/suicide.aspx>





"Enter to grow in wisdom" engraved in the entrance to Harvard Yard

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu

Director's Statement

As an Asian American, I believe in the power of films to amplify voices within our community. When I first heard about Luke's suicide, my heart broke. I never met Luke, but I felt I knew who he was because we shared much in common. On the surface, he seemed like a successful, passionate, beloved, selfless young man. As I started to dig deeper, however, I realized he carried with him an internal pain that rarely revealed itself. His suicide took his friends and family by surprise.



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Filmmakers

Eric I. Lu - Director / Writer / Producer



With a background in filming and medicine, Eric makes films that heal. Upon graduating from Harvard Medical School, he decided to pursue filmmaking full-time. Previously, Eric co-founded Jubilee Project and made films that have been seen by millions around the world. Eric is currently writing his first narrative feature film, and working on more projects with The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds. Follow him on Twitter at @ericilu.

Elaine Coin - Cinematographer / Editor



Elaine was previously the Chief Operating Officer and producer at Jubilee Project, a production company that makes films to inspire change. While she has made personal films before, "Looking for Luke" marks her first extensive film work. Elaine graduated from New York University Stern School of Business, and worked previously in finance. Follow her on Twitter at @elainecoin.



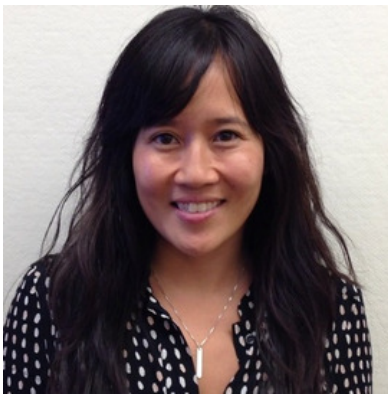
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Wendell Tang searching for explanations for Luke's death

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu

Juliana Chen, M.D. - Executive Producer



Dr. Juliana Chen is a child and adolescent psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Newton-Wellesley Hospital, as well as an instructor in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. She produced "Looking for Luke" with funding through the American Psychiatric Association SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program and in collaboration with The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds at MGH, in hopes of reducing stigma, and educating Asian-American families about mental health issues. Dr. Chen received her B.A. from the University of Rochester, and her M.D. from Yale University. She completed her adult psychiatry residency training at Harvard Longwood, and her child and adolescent psychiatry training at MGH and McLean Hospital.

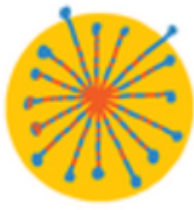
Gene Beresin, M.D., M.A. - Executive Producer / Music Composer



Dr. Gene Beresin is executive director of The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), a full professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and senior educator in child and adolescent psychiatry at MGH. He received a B.A. in music from Princeton University, and an M.A. in philosophy along with his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Beresin founded The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds in 2013 in response to the stark reality that an estimated 1 in 4 individuals will experience a mental illness during the course of his or her lifetime, with 50% beginning in childhood, adolescence, or young adulthood. It is Dr. Beresin's belief and hope that The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds, through its dissemination of quality mental health information, will serve as a vehicle for fighting the stigma that continues to permeate our society despite this widespread prevalence.



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Exploring Gender Dysphoria

Gender dysphoria, which most commonly occurs during adolescence, refers to one's discomfort with his or her biological gender. Here, Steve explores what parents should know about this and other gender identity issues.



[View More](#)



Screenshot of the website for the Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds

Courtesy of Liz Jarrell

The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds

"Looking for Luke" is produced by The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds at Massachusetts General Hospital, a web-based resource that educates parents and other caregivers about the psychological development and emotional well-being of children, adolescents, and young adults who struggle with behavioral, emotional, and/or learning challenges. The Clay Center utilizes a narrative multimedia approach that delivers high-quality content via multiple formats, including blogs, audio podcasts, online videos, and social media. For more information, visit www.mghclaycenter.org, and follow The Clay Center on Twitter (@MGHClayCenter), and Facebook (massgeneralclaycenter).





Christina Tang visits her son's memorial

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu

SAMHSA

"Looking for Luke" is supported in part by a grant from the American Psychiatric Association's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Minority Fellowship Grant. SAMHSA is an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.



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Technical Specifications

Genre: Documentary Short
Runtime: 26 minutes 16 seconds
Shooting Format: HD
Screening Format: HD
Digital Format: MP4
Country: USA
Language: English/Mandarin
Subtitles: English



Painting of Luke Tang

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu

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Christina Tang at church and Wendell Tang at home

Courtesy of Eric I. Lu



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