

HUNTINGTON  
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# ARTS *Cultural News*

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## **2002 Governor's Arts Award Recipient H.T. Chen & Dancers**

For the last several years, H.T. Chen has created a répertory for H.T. Chen & Dancers that has given poetic voice to the journeys of Asians becoming Americans. The dance piece **Bamboo Oracle: Bian Dan** follows in this tradition of creating culturally significant works in order to explore and celebrate the dramatic and dynamic interweaving of generations and cultures. Bian Dan is the Chinese word for the bamboo shoulder poles used throughout Asia to carry heavy loads, here used to represent the cultural "burdens" immigrants sometimes place on their children. The goal of the work is to bring to light, through the experiences of Asian immigrants, the issues of identity as experienced by new American families. Young children, teenagers, adults and seniors of Asian descent within the Long Island community will be prepared and incorporated into the dance performance to be given at the Chapin Rainbow Stage, Heckscher Park on Sunday, June 29th as part of the 38th Annual Huntington Summer Arts Festival. The Huntington Arts Council is serving as the presenting organization for the company's residency, which will



**Company performs Bamboo Oracle**

include community forums, workshops/demonstrations and dance master classes. The first forum was held on Thursday, November 7th at the Smithtown Township Council on Arts and Humanities. H.T. Chen & Dancers is the recipient of this year's NYS Governor Arts Award. This project is supported by the NY DanceForce, National Endowment for the Arts, the Huntington Arts Council, Inc. and the Town of Huntington. If you wish to participate in the dance program or host a workshop, please contact Dan Forte, Program Director, at (631) 271-271-8423 ext. 11 or email [fortehac@optonline.net](mailto:fortehac@optonline.net). ■