

NAME (last, first, middle initial) DING LONI (aka Welsh, Isadora Ding)	U.S. Citizenship: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Resident: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Green Card No. _____
ADDRESS: Include Zip Code and Apt. No. 2335 Jones Street San Francisco, CA 94133	Age _____ Birthplace <u>San Francisco</u> Social Security No. _____ Home Phone No. _____

TITLE OF PROJECT: 442nd: AMERICAN SAMURAI, STANDARD BEARERS FOR AN EXILED PEOPLE
 Dramatic () Documentary (X) Experimental () Animated () Other _____
 Approx. length 60 min. B&W () Color (X) Gauge X
 16mm 35mm Video Other _____

AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM AFI: \$ 20,000 FOR: Complete Budget (); OR:
 Finishing Funds () for a Total Budget of \$ _____;
 Partial Funding (X) for a Total Budget of \$ 115,120.

SCHEDULE FOR GRANT PAYMENTS: (See Instructions on Other Side.)

	Date	Amount
Beginning Photography:	March 82	\$ 10,000
Beginning Post-Production:	June 82	\$ 4,000
Completion of Rough Cut:	Sept 82	\$ 3,000
Final Payment (15% of Total); to be made after delivery of 3 release prints to AFI.	March 83	\$ 3,000
	TOTAL:	\$ 20,000

SYNOPSIS OF PROJECT: Hour documentary with dramatic vignettes reveals the clash of values & extreme moral choices resulting in the formation of the famed 100th Battalion and 442nd Japanese American Regimental Combat Team of WW II. These were men who inspite of averaging 5'4", 115 lbs., & size 4 shoes-they had to get their shoes from the WACs-nevertheless went on to become the "most decorated unit in the history of the US Army", & to be credited by Gen. MacArthur as "probably saving a million lives, & shortening the war by two years". Their courage and fighting skill made them the spearhead unit for 7 major European campaigns, as they battled from Naples to the Rhineland, cracking open along the way, Hitler's last Western defense, the impregnable Gothic Line, which had defied Allied assault for 5 months, but which the 442nd took in 32 incredible minutes. How was this possible? Their success lies, in part, in their origin: most of these young men came from America's wartime internment camps, where 120,000 Japanese Americans, men, women and children, uprooted from their West Coast communities, & dispossessed of all belongings, sat waiting out the war in crowded communal tar paper barracks, isolated, surrounded by electrified barb wire, & watched over by armed sentries. Their isolation & denigration had to be rescued & redeemed by the conspicuous heroism & bloody sacrifice of sons & brothers playing out on an epic scale their response to the anguishing issues of personal honor, family loyalty & love of country. Live interviews, dramatic re-enactments, War Department footage, 18,000 National Archive internment camp stills by Dorothea Lange & Ansel Adams, as well as personal mementoes of 442nd vets, friends and families, covering a period from before Pearl Harbor to the present, will be used to create (working title):
 The 442nd: AMERICAN SAMURAI, STANDARD BEARERS FOR AN EXILED PEOPLE.

CAREER SUMMARY OR BACKGROUND: I. Film/Television Production: Project director, producer director, writer & editor for Bean Sprouts, a series of 5 programs, HEW funded for \$300,000, about Chinese American children & their friends, done by independent production unit that Loni Ding founded. Carried nationally by PBS on 180 stations (1980). Was nominated for 3 Emmys & won 2, plus Broadcast Media Award. From 1971-77, was producer/director for over 250 TV programs on "Open Studio", a community-access production unit she helped found at KQED, San Francisco PBS station. Co-founded the Chinese Media Committee, directed & produced its 65 program TV English project which won an EMMY. Currently producing series of TV programs on Asian women in the workplace. Recognition of career accomplishments include Univ. Citation for Achievement in Community Television (Syracuse Univ) & Broadcast Preceptor Award (S.F. State Univ) II. Community Arts Organizing: Helped found the Neighborhood Arts Program, San Francisco Art Commission, bringing together artists & community in culturally varied parts of the city, staging indoor & outdoor exhibits & performances. III. University Teaching & Research: Taught art history at San Francisco Art Institute, and courses in sociology at Mills College & University of California, Berkeley. Currently teaching "Media Production for the Community" part-time at U.C. Berkeley.