

**Fiji Theater Company, Inc.**

(New York, NY)

**Total Award: \$100,000 over 1 year**

*Ping Chong & Company – The Undesirable Elements Series*

To support *Ping Chong & Company - The Undesirable Elements Series*, an on-going collection of cross-cultural documentary theater works addressing race, identity and culture in three states; and developing outreach components for the theater's work. Ping Chong has created over 20 works in the *Undesirable Elements Series*. This series was designed to help communities confront and overcome cultural insularity by forging bridges between peoples and cultures in a community. Each production is made in partnership with a local host organization and is designed to address specific needs within a unique cultural and ethnic population of a US city. Each work is created in partnership with a host organization. The community partners have included universities, performing arts centers and social service agencies. It is important to this process that the work be seen widely by different constituencies in a community so that relationships can be redefined. The final productions are a chamber piece of personal testimonies by the performers who share their own stories with the audience. During the 2004-2005 season, Ping Chong will produce three new works in Washington, Kansas and Florida; develop a website as an on-line companion to works in the series and develop a training program which would allow individuals and community groups working in collaborative settings to replicate the series.

**Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1***