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Tram Nguyen book talk - press release

Northeastern University Libraries

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Libraries

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release: September 13, 2005

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Snell Library Book Talk – We Are All Suspects Now

On September 21st at noon, author Tram Nguyen will participate in Northeastern's Meet the Author Series, in room 90 in Snell Library. She will speak about her work *We Are All Suspects Now: Untold Stories from Immigrant Communities after 9/11*.

America was founded on principles of equality and fairness for all its citizens. However, in today's world, with war and terrorism as persistent concerns, there is apprehension that anyone we meet could be the enemy.

Since 9/11, there is no doubt that America has significantly changed. Homeland Security has become one of the highest priorities for governing officials. Citizens are more alert to suspicious activity. Community members congregate to determine stringent neighborhood watch policies. And although these new security policies are not only beneficial but necessary, there is also a darker side to America's new awareness.

Historically, racism and hate crimes have had a firm foothold in American culture. After the 9/11 crisis, however, parts of America have become zones of rampant racism. For example, almost 20,000 residents of an area in Midwood, Brooklyn known as "Little Pakistan" have found it unsafe for them to remain there, and they have abandoned the community in search of a safer place to call home.

Author Tram Nguyen explores the delicate subject of hate in America after the events of September 11, 2001. Nguyen addresses the devastation that individuals have been forced to face due to their immigration status, nationality, and religion. Nguyen reports from the front lines about the families, detainees, community advocates, and others who are living in and suffering through these changing times.

About the Author:

Tram Nguyen is currently the executive editor of ColorLines Magazine. She has also written for many publications, including the *Boston Globe*, *Amerasia Journal*, *New California Media*, and *AlterNet*, and has also published works in a number of Asian-American anthologies. Nguyen has been a trainer and editor at LA Youth, an education

reporter for the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, and the editor for *Gidra* magazine in Los Angeles.

This free event is part of the **Northeastern University Libraries Meet the Author Series**, which presents local and visiting authors to the NU community. This event will be held in Snell Library, Room 90, Northeastern University Campus, 360 Huntington Avenue. Refreshments will be served. For more information or special needs assistance, please contact Maria Carpenter, 617-373-2821. The public is welcome. Seating is limited so please arrive early.

The NU Libraries, NU Bookstore, and the International Student & Scholar Institute (ISSI) are pleased to sponsor this event.

Information on book material provided by the publisher, Beacon Press.

-Stephanie Chang