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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – December 15, 2010

March 2 – 5, 2011
8th Annual BaoBao Festival
West African Drumming, Dancing, and Storytelling

The 8th Annual BaoBao Festival brings together local, national, and international performers for a celebration of Africa's age-old community theater experience of gathering under the baobab tree, March 2-5 in Boulder and Denver. Former members of the Ghana National Dance Ensemble and Abibigroma will perform and host a night of performances including storytelling by Akramah Cofie and Santemu Aakhu. The theme of this year's festival is based on the Ashanti Adinkra symbol, Ananse Ntontan, which means spider's web. The classic stories of Ananse the spider, a well-known and cunning character in African folktales, will be woven with vibrant dances and authentic West African drumming. The Festival is a diverse and educational experience that will engage and entertain world culture fans of all ages.

The baobab tree, from which the festival derives its name, serves as a symbol of unity among many African communities. It is where the community gathers to celebrate life and its many opportunities. Music, dance, storytelling and enactment form an integral part of gatherings under the baobab tree. The BaoBao Festival, founded in 2004 and held in Colorado each March, draws on this tradition in its mission to build community through multi-cultural experiences in the performing arts. The Festival, started by Boulder resident Adjei Abankwah, a lead dancer and choreographer with the Ghana National Dance Ensemble for 11 years, has been a perennial favorite among Boulder and Denver audiences.

BaoBao Festival 2011 Main Performance Schedule:

Other performances, workshops, classes, and events will be listed at www.baobaofest.org

Thursday, March 3, 6:30pm
KIDS PERFORMANCE
Harlequin Theater
990 S. Public Rd., Lafayette, CO
303-786-8727

Friday, March 4, 7 pm
Auraria Higher Education Center
St. Catejans Center
855 Lawrence Way, Denver, CO [map](#)
303-556-2296

Saturday, March 5, 7 pm
Boulder Theater
2032 14th Street, Boulder, CO
303-786-7030 [map](#)

Please see www.baobaofest.org for press photos from past events. Please use appropriate photo credit for the photographer. Most of the festival photos on the website are © Neil Parker 303-926-1353
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