

# DISCOVERING COMMUNITY IN THE BORDERLANDS




place  
stamp  
here

---

**WHAT'S A GAME THAT YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT? DO YOU THINK THAT  
GAME IS A FORM OF ART? WHY OR WHY NOT?**

Photo on opposite: Still from footage of Jackson Veneklasen performing Chinese yoyo at Mission Garden, February 5th 2022 by Nolan Veneklasen.

A man in a black jacket and cap is performing Kongzhu (Chinese yo yo) outdoors. He is holding a thin stick with a small disc attached, which is suspended in the air. He is crouching slightly, looking up at the disc. In the background, there are bare trees, a large green cactus with red flowers, and a group of people watching. To the left, there is a red decorative object on a stone base.

“Kongzhu, or Chinese yo yo, is an ancient performance discipline in Chinese culture. It is well-documented from the 14th Century onward in the courts of the Chinese Emperors and in other locations, including festivals roving from village to village. Traditionally it was called the Empty Bell because of the sounds made during performance; the disc was formed in such a way that it created a whistling sound. Now it is very popular among young Chinese Americans wishing to stay in touch with their traditional culture.”

- Robin Blackwood, TCCC History Committee Member