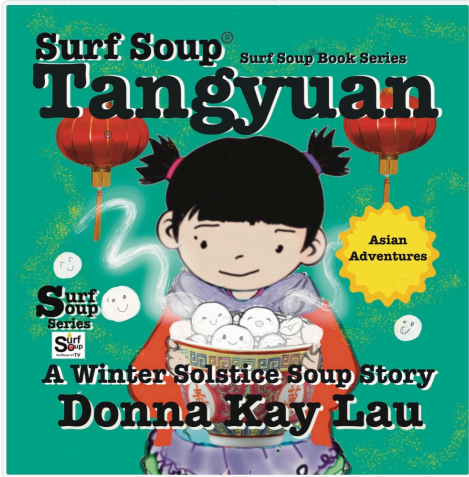


Cultural Traditions Meet STEAM: New Book ‘Surf Soup® Tangyuan’ Transforms the Ancient Winter Solstice Into a Mindful Learning Adventure for Children

As the Winter Solstice approaches, a new character-driven story blends the comforting tradition of sweet tangyuan broth with early childhood math and emotional literacy.

Los Angeles, California



with family traditions."

Lau, a seasoned entertainment industry animator who has lent her talents to beloved children's productions, brings decades of visual expertise to her self-funded, independent multimedia brand. *Surf Soup® Tangyuan* expands her mission of creating community-first, accessible education tools that inspire children to create, observe, and grow.

Media Kit & Interview Availability:

Donna Kay Lau is available for expert media commentary, podcast interviews, and feature articles leading up to the Winter Solstice (December 21–22).

Available Commentary Topics:

As families worldwide prepare for the Winter Solstice, veteran animator and author Donna Kay Lau announces the release of *Surf Soup® Tangyuan: A Winter Solstice Soup Story*. The latest installment in the *Surf Soup®* series bridges the ancient Cantonese holiday tradition of Dongzhi with modern, multi-sensory childhood education and emotional literacy.

In Chinese culture, the Winter Solstice (Dongzhi Festival) is a massive cultural milestone, historically celebrated with the sentiment "*Dongzhi da guo nian*"—implying the day holds even greater significance than the Lunar New Year itself. It marks the shortest day of the year, a cosmic shift where light and warmth slowly begin to return. To honor this, families traditionally gather to roll and eat *tangyuan*—sweet, round glutinous rice balls served in a warm ginger broth (*tong sui*). The round shape structurally symbolizes family unity, completeness, and a smooth year ahead.

Through vibrant, character-driven storytelling, *Surf Soup® Tangyuan* brings these comforting sensory rituals to life. The book serves as a creative springboard for parents and educators to introduce valuable project-based learning concepts right in the kitchen:

- **Culinary STEAM Integration:** Transforming the tactile process of rolling dough and measuring ingredients into interactive lessons in early mathematics, scientific observation, and culinary art.
- **Mindful Emotional Literacy:** Utilizing the comforting imagery of steaming, smiling tangyuan to teach children emotional resilience and mindful breathing exercises during the hectic winter season.
- **Cultural Preservation:** Offering modern mainstream shelves an authentic window into first-generation Asian American heritage, family harmony, and global holiday traditions.

"The kitchen is the ultimate classroom for a child," says Donna Kay Lau, creator of the Surf Soup® universe. "By blending the rich sensory history of my own Cantonese heritage with visual storytelling, we can teach children mindfulness, creativity, and mathematical concepts while they connect deeply