

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Speakers and citizens to have conversations about Global Issues Affecting Local Life

PROGRAMS & PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: See Page 2 – 4 of release.

Tacoma, Wash. – Tacoma is hosting the first annual World Affairs Summit; compelling conversations with local and regional presenters on three themes: peace and social justice, the environment and education. All designed to broaden perspectives about how the global community impacts our own. The idea of the Summit comes from Boulder, Colorado where for over 50 years the community has held the Conference on World Affairs.

The goals of the World Affairs Summit are vast and diverse. First, to feed our heads. The Summit overflows with ideas, questions, and challenges which will expand our minds and spirits. Secondly, to help the South Sound take its place in world affairs. We want people on the West Coast, around the Pacific and all over the world to think of this as a breeding ground for ideas, energy and innovation. Third, to add to the excitement of downtown Tacoma by bringing people to our streets, our shops, our restaurants - and to showcase our world class schools and cultural institutions. And finally, to connect an implicit community, to weave another strand in the network of people who share ideas and a passion for ideas.

The World Affairs Summit will have presentations and conversations at many venues in downtown Tacoma, in the Museum District and along the Link Light Rail. The event is free of charge and attendees participate on a first come first served bases.

For more information, contact David Johnson (253) 948-2434, [islandfivedavid@fastmail.fm](mailto:islandfivedavid@fastmail.fm), Dawn Lucien (253) 272-7582 [dawnlucien@wamail.net](mailto:dawnlucien@wamail.net), or Gerald Denman (253) 840-8966 [gdenman@puyallup.k12.wa.us](mailto:gdenman@puyallup.k12.wa.us)

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Founding Sponsors:

The Grand Cinema, The News Tribune, Pacific Lutheran University , Puyallup School District, Tacoma School District, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma Downtown Merchants Group, The Broadway Center for the Performing Arts, Tacoma Regional Convention & Visitors Bureau, University of Puget Sound, University of Washington – Tacoma

Honorary Supporters:

ACLU, American Leadership Forum, Bates Technical College, Buzzards Discs, City of Tacoma, The Grand Cinema, The News Tribune, Puyallup School District, Offices of Congressmen Norm Dicks and Adam Smith, Pacific Lutheran University, Pierce County Building & Construction Trades Council, Purcell Advisory Services, Tacoma Downtown Merchants Group, Peninsula School District, Tacoma School District, Urban Xchange, Embellish, Moroccan Treasures, Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau, University of Puget Sound, University of Washington Tacoma, World Affairs Council Tacoma, and numerous individuals and small businesses.

PROGRAMS & PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES:

Thursday, April 19 – Saturday April 21, 2007

World Affairs Summit

PROGRAMS & PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

Opening Event

Time: Thursday, April 19, 2007, Doors open 6:00-event starts at 7:00pm

Location: Theatre on Square, 905 Broadway, Tacoma

Presenter and Mistress of Ceremonies: Nadia Chaney

Nadia Chaney has works in arts based empowerment, focusing on issues of identity, diversity and non-violence. She has a BA in English Lit, and has completed the Pacific Northwest Facilitator's Training. She is an accomplished events host, performer and artist. Her workshops have reached many communities, from Portland OR to Cortez Island, BC to Johannesburg, South Africa. She has worked with youth in detention,

rehab, on probation, in foster care, in US "failing schools," in local community centres, at camps, and at conferences. She has mostly worked with teenagers, and she has also done numerous trainings with service providers and teachers.

Topic: "Keep Sticking Your Neck Out"

Time: Friday, April 20, 11:30am-12:15pm

Presenter: John Graham – Giraffe Heroes Project

"Nothing is more important than leading a meaningful life and the way there is service"

He faced Libyan revolutionaries, Viet Cong guerillas, Khmer Rouge fanatics, Soviet missile targeters and tough opponents in battles over land and water use in the US.

Topic: "Keep Sticking Your Neck Out" - Staying Engaged in the Face of Obstacles

Location: Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma

Time: Friday, April 20 8:30-9:15am

Presenter: Bob Stilger, Co-President, The Berkana Institute

The Berkana Institute is a Utah based-nonprofit institute which works with pioneering leaders and communities in all types of organizations throughout the world. At Berkana his main work is co-entrepreneuring the Berkana Exchange – an innovative global learning network which supports leadership learning centres in places like Zimbabwe, South Africa, Senegal, Croatia, India, Brazil, Mexico, Holland and England. He plays a key role in developing and using Berkana's NewWorkSpaces: a social architecture and set of collaborative processes which uses the internet to support learning and collaboration at a distance.

Topic: Who are the Emerging Leaders?

Location: Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma

Time: Friday, April 20, 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.

Presenter: Carol Schillios – Schillios Consulting Group & Fabric of Life Foundation

Carol is a three-time Silver Award winner from the World Council of Credit Unions for her work in developing countries. She represented CU's at international forums in Latin America, Korea,

Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and China. The NW Cooperative Federation honored her with the DiMarcello Cooperative Spirit Award in 1998. In 2003, she received the Anna Read Award from the CU Women's Association of Oregon and the Ambassador Award from the Washington Credit Union League. Carol attended the International School in Geneva, Switzerland.

Topic: Good News Development Stories

Time: Friday, April 20, 4:00-4:45pm

Location: Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock Street, Tacoma

Presenter: Students from Pierce County

Students from all over Pierce County will perform music, dance, and drama. The themes will center on culture, diversity, and social justice.

Time: Friday, April 20, 6:00-9:00pm

Location: School of the Arts (SOTA), 1950 Tacoma Ave, Tacoma

Presenter: Representative Adam Smith – Congressman, 9th Congressional District of Washington

Congressman Adam Smith has lived his entire life in the 9th District. Adam graduated from Fordham University in 1987. He attended the University of Washington Law School and earned his law degree in 1990.

Wanting to give something back to the community and represent the people he grew up with, Adam ran for the State Senate in 1990. At only 25 years of age, he became the youngest state senator in the country when he took office in 1991.

Criminal justice issues captured much of Adam's time and attention. He served as Chair of the State Senate Law and Justice Committee and as a prosecutor for the city of Seattle, working on domestic violence and drunk driving cases when the Washington State Senate was not in session.

He developed a reputation as a centrist legislator focused on practical, problem-solving.

In 1996, he brought his thoughtful, commonsense leadership to Congress. Adam is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, where he chairs the Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee. He also serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Topic: Poverty Elimination – a critical issue that the United States must tackle with a global approach for world leadership.

Time: Saturday, April 21, 12:30 – 12:50pm

Location: Carwein Auditorium, UW Tacoma, 1900 Commerce St., Tacoma

Movie: Following Congressman Smith the movie, “Invisible Children” begins at 1:00pm

Invisible Children is a movie, a movement, and a mission. Its goal is to provide resources to children in the world who are invisible by telling their true and untold stories in a relevant way, which will result in positive change. Our dream is to inspire people in the developed world by showing them the lives of children in the developing world and then empower them to fight for the orphans, the widows, the hungry and the oppressed. This non-profit corporation was birthed from a large grassroots response to a documentary film titled Invisible Children: Rough Cut. The film tells the heart breaking yet inspiring stories of children ages 8-15 who live in war-affected region of Northern Uganda, where they are being abducted from their homes and forced to fight as child soldiers in a rebel army known as the Lord’s Resistance Army. Each night out of fear of being abducted, thousands of children commute from their homes in surrounding villages to sleep in the streets of Gulu town. Aside from forcing thousands of “night-commuting” children to walk miles each night to seek the relative safety of town, this twenty year long war has left thousands dead, thousands more injured and over 1.5 million people displaced from their homes living in Internally Displaced Peoples (IDP) camps.

While the topic of an African Civil War is heavy, this film is unique in that it is made for the young at heart to be apart of an adventure that led three friends to give away their life to a cause foreign to their personal lives. It seems that while Africa needs more to live, we in America need to start living for more.

The film has already been screened at thousands of high schools, colleges, and youth groups nationwide. Now we are coming to you.”

<http://www.invisiblechildren.com/theMovie/>

## Closing Event

Time: Saturday, April 21, 5:00pm

Location: Tollefson Plaza, 15th & Pacific Ave., Tacoma

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