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Compassion Arrives in Seattle This Week with Five-Day Dalai Lama Visit

Public Workshops Remain Open, and Many Events to Be Broadcast and Webcast

SEATTLE – April 10, 2008 – More than 150,000 people have secured tickets to attend events for the Seeds of Compassion gathering with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Seattle from April 11-15. Events for the five-day gathering include panel discussions, speeches and artistic performances, all of which are free with the exception of two benefit concerts, one featuring Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds.

Seeds of Compassion is an initiative to bring world attention to the importance of nurturing kindness and compassion beginning with children and extending to all who touch their lives. Seeds of Compassion came about through a collaboration of the Kirlin Charitable Foundation and Lama Tenzin Dhonden, the Personal Emissary of Peace for the Dalai Lama, to create and sustain a global compassion movement.

Seattle will launch the initiative with a community-based gathering, April 11-15, featuring dynamic discussions with scientists, researchers, public policy leaders, experts in childhood development and the greater Seattle community.

The five-day public event will celebrate and explore opportunities for building compassion through forums and discussions, compassion-in-action workshops, a resource fair and an inter-spirituality dialogue.

“Now is the time to launch a global compassion movement, a sustainable effort that will raise people’s awareness of the importance of compassion,” said Lama Tenzin Dhonden, co-founder of Seeds of Compassion. “Together we can create a more compassionate society for the children of the world.”

Although most of the ticketed events for Seeds of Compassion have no seats available, including the massive gathering at Qwest Field on Saturday, April 12, it is still possible for those interested to be involved. Seeds of Compassion recently announced that most events will be webcast live at www.seedsofcompassion.org in 24 languages and

broadcast on several local TV channels. **The Qwest Field event will be broadcast live on NBC KONG 6/16, from 1 to 3 p.m.** Several other major events will be broadcast on UWTW Channel 27 and Seattle Channel 21. For a complete list of the broadcast schedule, go to www.seedsofcompassion.org.

“We’re very excited about the full lineup of live broadcast and web streaming channels,” said Daniel Kranzler, co-founder and president of the Kirlin Charitable Foundation. “These channels will allow us to reach a much larger, diverse audience, regardless of location.”

For those wishing to attend in person, about 80 public workshops taking place on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday (April 13-15) remain open on a first-come, first-served basis. The workshops bring together individuals dedicated to promoting compassion, with topics including parenting, education and public policy.

A limited number of tickets are also still available for the Seeds for the Spirit concert, a benefit for Seeds of Compassion that will take place at McCaw Hall on Monday, April 14, at 7 p.m., and will feature the following artists:

- Grammy award-winning musicians Tingstad & Rumbel, playing virtuoso acoustic music on American finger-style guitar and melodic woodwinds
- Phil Borges, acclaimed humanitarian photographer and founder of Bridges to Understanding, presenting his inspiring photography of indigenous cultures plus digital stories as shared by youth from around the world
- Mystical music from the Middle East, with the Yuval Ron Ensemble (led by the Oscar-winning composer), Owwalli master vocalist Sukhawat Ali Khan and the Sufi whirling dervish Aziz
- Plus special guests: the Reverend Samuel McKinney, civil rights pioneer; Ishmael Beah, author and former child soldier from Sierra Leone; and Gina Salá, acclaimed vocalist and composer

Benefit concert tickets are \$65 and are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at Ticketmaster.com or by phone at (206) 628-0888.

A very limited number of special VIP packages are also still available. These VIP packages offer preferred seating at the event and an opportunity to attend a private reception afterward with Yuval Ron, members of his ensemble and other notables. A special gift bag is part of the package including CDs by the performers and a few surprises. As an added incentive, the first 100 VIP requests will each receive one ticket to the sold out Seeds of Compassion InterSpiritual Day to be held at the Bank of America Pavilion, April 15, at 9:30 a.m.

Tickets for the special VIP packages are \$350, and 100 percent of the \$350 price goes directly to support Seeds of Compassion. To order VIP packages, e-mail spirit@seedsofcompassion.org.

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About Seeds of Compassion

Seeds of Compassion is an initiative of the Kirlin Charitable Foundation. The purpose of the initiative is to nurture kindness and compassion in the world, starting with children and all those who touch their lives. Seeds of Compassion is partnering with early-childhood-development advocates and organizations, foundations, educators, scientists, business leaders and the greater community to highlight and promote the evidence-based programs, tools and strategies that greatly assist with the healthy development of children as happy, compassionate members of society.

For more information, visit www.seedscompassion.org.

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