



St. Christopher's School

ESTABLISHED 1911

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Contact: Susan Lawrence Cox
Marketing & Communications Director
St. Christopher's School
804-282-3185 x5310

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David Robinson Among the Slate of Internationally Known Speakers at St. Christopher's School's Community Leadership Symposium

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November Event Will Explore Essential Qualities of Real Leaders

Richmond, VA – Tickets are still available for *Building Leaders from the Inside Out*, the fourth in an ongoing series of community symposiums held on the campus of St. Christopher's School focusing on the essential components of leadership, to be held on November 21 and 22, 2014. As in previous Symposiums, a distinguished slate of prominent national and international speakers, including keynote speaker former NBA basketball star David Robinson and former child soldier Ishmael Beah, will share their individual and inspirational stories over the two-date event that is open to the public.

Tickets are \$20 for David Robinson at 7:00 pm Friday, November 21, 2014. For the event on Saturday, November 22 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm including lunch, tickets are \$50. For tickets and information visit www.stchristophers.com/symposium or call 804-282-8306.

Speakers will be focused on the connections between inspiration, initiative and integrity. They include:

Friday, November 21 Keynote Speaker

DAVID ROBINSON

U.S. NAVAL OFFICER, NBA STAR, CIVIC LEADER

A respected leader on the court and off, David Robinson is an active philanthropist, officer of the U.S. Navy, and accomplished basketball player. After completing his active duty with the Navy, Robinson played for the NBA's San Antonio Spurs. Known as "The Admiral," Robinson is widely considered one of the best centers in NBA history

Since hanging up his Spurs, Robinson has initiated several programs to benefit children. He founded Carver Academy, a charter school in San Antonio focused on giving children, many underprivileged, a well-rounded education.

Saturday, November 22 Speakers

ISHMAEL BEAH

RESCUED CHILD SOLDIER, VOICE FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY WAR, AUTHOR

Ishmael Beah was just 12 years old when a violent civil war broke out in his native Sierra Leone. He was transformed overnight from a child enthralled by American hip-hop music to a boy without a family, fighting for his life and forced to be a child soldier. After three years of chaos, Beah was about to go to a UNICEF rehabilitation center and eventually to the U.S.

Beah has made it his mission to be a voice for children affected by war. He is a UNICEF Ambassador, a cofounder of the Network of Young People Affected by War, and president of the Ishmael Beah Foundation, an organization dedicated to helping children affected by war.

Through his gift of writing, Beah also tells the stories of those same war-torn families. His bestseller, *A Long Way Gone*, has sold over 700,000 copies and been published in more than 40 languages. His latest book, a novel entitled *Radiance of Tomorrow*, was released to critical acclaim.

PHIL HANSEN

ARTIST EMBRACING HIS LIMITATIONS

Internationally recognized multimedia and offbeat artist, Phil Hansen has taken an innovative approach to managing what some may see as a limitation. After suffering crippling nerve damage, he initiated an unusual approach to art by "Embracing the Shake". He is most widely known for his meta-art, videos that document the creation process, showing millions that art is action, not just result. As a speaker, Hansen is devoted to showing the approaches to creativity that have changed both his outlook and his artistic endeavors.

Some of Hansen's unusual approaches to art include the use of hundreds of wriggling worms to make a real live image, hamburger grease and Coke for paintings, and turning hundreds of hand-written stories from individuals into an oversized portrait. More than an accomplished, thought-provoking artist, Hansen is proof that perseverance and patience to channel your gifts can ignite a whole new light. Hansen is the author of *Tattoo A Banana*, an innovative approach to everyday creativity.

CHAD PREGRACKE

PROTECTING OUR LIVING LANDS AND WATERS

Chad Pregracke was a successful commercial fisherman in 1998 when he decided to act on something that bothered him daily - the garbage that he saw collecting along the banks of the Mississippi River.

Determined to do what he could to clean the river that he loves, Pregracke founded Living Lands and Waters, a non-profit dedicated to waterway cleanup, "one river, one piece of garbage at a time." Using a fleet of barges and workboats and averaging nine states a year, volunteers organized into trash cleaning crews have made an enormous difference.

Since its inception, Living Lands and Waters has removed more than 6 million pounds of garbage from 22 rivers across the country. In June of 2002, Pregracke accepted the Jefferson Award for Public Service, America's version of the Nobel Prize for Public Service. He was named a CNN Hero in 2013. His book *From the Bottom Up - One Man's Crusade to Clean America's Rivers*, showcases the many twists and turns we take in our crusade to improve our habitat. Pregracke is proof that one person can make a difference.

LIZ MCCARTNEY

REBUILDING LIVES AFTER DISASTERS

St. Bernard Project cofounder Liz McCartney took a leap of faith when she left her job as a teacher to address the tremendous need in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina in 2006. Inspired by residents' collective spirit, openness and fierce desire to rebuild their lives and community, McCartney and founding partner Zack Rosenburg decided to create the St. Bernard Project and devote themselves to helping rebuild the devastated community, one home at a time.

What began as a clean-up effort in Louisiana, the St. Bernard Project is now dedicated to providing vital resources and support to families efficiently and seamlessly after a disaster. Harnessing the energy of over 45,000 volunteers, McCartney and her crew have helped rebuild lives and communities

Symposium corporate partners include: MeadWestvaco Foundation, Davenport & Company, Luck Companies Foundation, Altria Group and Wells Fargo Advisors among others.

St. Christopher's School, founded in 1911, is a college preparatory school for boys (junior kindergarten through 12th grade). A rigorous academic program, small classes, dedicated and nurturing teachers who are experts in how boys learn, a vibrant program in athletics and the arts, and a commitment to academic excellence and diversity are attributes of a St. Christopher's education.

Visit stchristophers.com/symposium for registration information and symposium news.

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