

PILLARS *of* PEACE

— HAWAI‘I —

Building Peace on a Foundation of Aloha

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Elders to Headline Pillars of Peace Hawai‘i Events

Pillars of Peace Hawai‘i to host peace leaders Gro Harlem Brundtland, Hina Jilani, and Desmond Tutu in a series of community events.

Honolulu, HI (July 14, 2014) – Pillars of Peace Hawai‘i, an initiative of the [Hawai‘i Community Foundation](#), will host three preeminent global leaders from The Elders from August 29-31. While in Honolulu, they will engage in a series of exchanges with the people of Hawai‘i on peace, compassion, and ethical leadership. The Pillars of Peace Hawaii program was established in part to inspire our community to cultivate empathy, mindfulness and justice in our daily lives and better understand the roles of diversity and culture in the practice of peace.

The Elders include former Prime Minister of Norway and former Director-General of the World Health Organization, Gro Harlem Brundtland; renowned lawyer, pro-democracy campaigner and Pakistani women’s movement leader Hina Jilani; and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Laureate, veteran anti-apartheid activist and peace campaigner.

This is the first time that representatives of The Elders will engage Hawai‘i. The community will have the unique opportunity to listen to this world-renowned group of leaders in a public forum entitled “A Just and Inclusive Global Community,” on Sunday, August 31, 4:00 p.m. at the Hawai‘i Convention Center’s Lili‘u Theater. Tickets for the public presentation will be available for purchase at <http://pillarsofpeacehawaii.org/schedule-tickets-the-elders> on August 1st. Student tickets are \$12 and general public tickets are \$20; both include validated parking at the Hawai‘i Convention Center.

There will also be an opportunity for selected Hawai‘i students to attend a special Student Leaders Program, “Leaders Make the Future: the Wisdom of Elders and Youngers.” The student

leaders will be chosen to attend by their schools' administrators or teachers. Other areas of discussion during the Elders' visit to Hawai'i include climate change and ethical leadership.

"We are honored to have such an esteemed group of leaders come to Hawai'i to share their global experiences and perspectives on peace issues," said Kelvin H. Taketa, President and CEO of Hawai'i Community Foundation. "Their visit will enable us, in turn, to share our approach to peace, influenced by the spirit of aloha and our community that merges numerous cultural influences."

The Elders is an independent group of global leaders brought together by Nelson Mandela in 2007; they use their collective wisdom, experience, and influence to support peace building, address major causes of human suffering, and promote the shared interests of humanity. Kofi Annan, former United Nations Secretary-General, currently chairs The Elders. Archbishop Tutu served for six years as Chair and remains an Honorary Elder. Using its members' collective experiences and insights, the group promotes universal human rights and peace. For more information on The Elders, please visit <http://www.theelders.org/>.

The Elders' visit is part of "Pillars of Peace Hawai'i: Building Peace on a Foundation of Aloha," an initiative of the Hawai'i Community Foundation launched in 2012. The program's events aim to spark conversations about the roles of compassion, diversity, and culture in the practice of peace. Highlighting Hawai'i's culture and its spirit of aloha, the program also positions Hawai'i as a leading voice for peace. Pillars of Peace Hawai'i is funded by the Omidyar 'Ohana Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation and other partners. For more information on this initiative, please visit <http://pillarsofpeacehawaii.org/>.

About Hawai'i Community Foundation

The Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF), with 98 years of community service, is the leading philanthropic institution in the state. The Foundation is a steward of over 650 funds, including more than 190 scholarship funds, created by donors who desire to transform lives and improve communities. In 2013, \$43 million in grants and contracts were distributed by HCF statewide, including \$4 million in scholarships. The HCF also serves as a resource on community issues and trends in the nonprofit sector. For more information on HCF, please visit <http://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/>.

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