

## **Nobel Peace Prize Forum's Arts and Music Day on March 1**

Program explores impact of music, written word on peace;  
conflict resolution via collaboration and improvisation

(MINNEAPOLIS) – Learn about the impacts to arts, music and peace from issues such as conflict resolution, collaboration, and improvisation at the 24<sup>th</sup> annual Nobel Peace Prize Forum's Arts and Music Day on March 1.

The Forum, a premier international event that is open to the public and that celebrates Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, explores issues related to peacemaking and causes of conflict and war. It runs from March 1-3 on the campuses of Augsburg College and the University of Minnesota and includes tracks on arts and music, business, education, and global studies.

Arts and Music Day is from 12:15-10 p.m., March 1, on the University of Minnesota West Bank Campus. Sessions include:

- **Opening Keynote-Adam Hochschild**, journalist and author of *King Leopold's Ghost*, will address on the moral drama surrounding World War I as he explores "The Price of War: Who Tried to Prevent the Carnage."
- **8,000 Years to Peace**. Explore the role of laureates, loved ones, and composers and conductors in furthering peace by examining collaboration that led to the creation *Coming Forth Into Day*. (Libby Larsen, American Composers Forum)
- **Conflict Resolution Through Collaborative Improvisation**. This hands-on session illustrates how music can reflect community building. (Sarah Schmalenberger and Vanessa Cornett-Murtada, University of St. Thomas)
- **Avant Jazz for Peace: Improvising Visions of a World Without War**. Explore how improvised music can be an effective use of talent and time and advance world peace by learning about a grassroots coalition of musicians, dancers, poets, and artists from New York City's Lower East Side. (Scott Currie, University of Minnesota)
- **Iraqi Body Count**. Examine the process of artists and scholars coming together to gather data related to civilian casualties during the Iraq invasion and to represent the "cost" of war. (Scott Lipscomb, University of Minnesota)
- **Writing as a Tool for Peace, Justice**. The written word can be used to help end conflict. This session explores what we can learn from journalists. (Adam Hochschild, University of California-Berkeley, Graduate School of Journalism)
- **South African Freedom Songs: Can Music Change the World?** A group of musicians raised during apartheid in South Africa shares experiences using music to express social struggle and whether they achieved the goals they identified as young musicians. The group will assess the impact of music on dismantling apartheid. (Brendon Adams, Gaylene Adams, Chantay Haynes, TK Kabambes, Tyty Kabambes, Mirriam Doreen, Thandokazi May)
- **Benjamin Britten's War Requiem: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Performance**. (Separate ticket required)

On March 2, nationally known hip hop artist Dessa will address questions facing hip hop, including whether artists have special moral responsibilities, if asking rappers to be mindful of their content is censorship, and whether artists can craft peace-promoting lyrics without coming off as trite. She'll also talk about experiences on and off stage and the social and moral dimensions of hip hop as a force to unite communities but one that also is burdened with some regressive attitudes.

A specially commissioned choral work, *Across a Border*, will premiere on March 3. The piece, written for the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize Forum by Minneapolis composer Jocelyn Hagen with lyrics by poet Patrick Hicks, will be performed by the Augustana Choir.

Registration is \$40 for adults, \$20 for students. Separate tickets are required for each track (business, education, arts and music, global studies, *War Requiem*, and Dessa). To register, and see other tracks, visit <http://nobelpeaceprizeforum.org/>. Specific room locations for each presenter will be available soon, and will be posted on the website.

The forum is organized by Augsburg College (<http://www.augsburg.edu/>) in partnership with the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and with ongoing sponsorship from the original college partners. The Nobel Peace Prize Forum is the only affiliation of the Nobel Institute outside Norway. It was founded during 1989 through a unique partnership between the Norwegian Nobel Institute and five private colleges – Augsburg, Augustana, Concordia (Moorhead), Luther and St. Olaf.

Major support is provided by The El-Hibri Charitable Foundation, Land O' Lakes, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

– END –