

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Justice Conference Announces Debut Film Fest

World Vision and Propeller Partner To Host

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 6, 2013 - <u>The Justice Conference</u> in partnership with <u>World Vision</u> and <u>Propeller</u> is announcing the first annual <u>Justice Film Festival</u> to coincide with its 4th annual conference, February 22nd-24th in Philadelphia, Penn. The event will include feature films, documentaries, and shorts from both well known and emerging filmmakers as well as a live performance from guest judge and festival artist-in-residence, Michael Gungor.

"After premiering *Blue Like Jazz* the movie for a sold out crowd at The Justice Conference in February 2012, we decided this enhancement was a perfect fit with our mission by celebrating filmmakers who are impacting a generation for justice through the medium of film," said Erin Lytle, The Justice Conference director.

World Vision's Steve Reynold adds, "The Justice Conference is quickly becoming one of the largest and most influential gatherings of justice-minded people in the country and the Justice Film Festival is a wonderful addition, providing a venue for emerging filmmakers to inspire us with new justice stories. World Vision is excited to be a partner in this growing movement."

The festival will open Friday night with Grammy Award-nominated recording artist Michael Gungor hosting a special performance and discussion centered around themes from his latest book *The Crowd, The Critic, and The Muse*.

The feature film *Not Today* will kick-off the movie offerings at the festival on Saturday night. The film due in theaters this April, explores human slavery among the Dalit people of India. Following the film, World Vision will host a Q&A with filmmakers and activists discussing the issue of human trafficking.

The fest also marks the Philadelphia premiere of *3801 Lancaster*, which investigates abortion practices at a Philadelphia clinic in the 1990's; and a short documentary entitled *Girl Rising*, which features the voice of Meryl Streep as narrator and original music from Academy Award-winner Rachel Portman (*Emma*), in collaboration with four time Grammy Award-winner Hans Zimmer (*The Lion King*).

Closing out the festival on Sunday evening will be *Trade of Innocents*, starring Academy Award-winner Mira Sorvino (*Mighty Aphrodite*) and Dermot Mulroney (*My Best Friend's Wedding*) in a film that is set against the backdrop of the dangerous human trafficking world in Cambodia.

"We are proud to present such a diverse array of films from a broad spectrum of filmmakers at this inaugural event," noted festival director Andy Peterson. "The city of Philadelphia is a perfect venue for what we're trying to accomplish with the Justice Film Festival, as we shine a light on justice in film for a new generation of arts minded activists." The Justice Film Festival boasts an esteemed lineup of judges including veteran artist and filmmaker Steve Taylor, author Susan Isaacs, *USA Today* journalist Garrett Hubbard, former CEO of The Documentary Channel James Ackerman, and Joshua Dubois, Special Assistant to President Obama and Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, among many others.

For a complete listing of judges, awards and films being show as well as information on tickets and location, please visit <u>www.justicefilmfest.com</u>.

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ABOUT WORLD VISION

World Vision is a Christian relief, development, and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. For more information, visit <u>www.worldvision.org/press</u>

ABOUT THE JUSTICE CONFERENCE

The Justice Conference is a two-day annual event to promote dialogue around justice related issues such as human trafficking, slavery, poverty, HIV/AIDS and human rights, featuring internationally acclaimed speakers, hundreds of humanitarian organizations and dozens of pre-conference workshops. For more information, visit www.thejusticeconference.com

ABOUT PROPELLER

Propeller is a creative consultancy specializing in developing powerful brand experiences to reach faith and family consumers. With a unique blend of strategic marketing, product development, new media expertise and public relations, the team at Propeller serves some of the most well known brands in entertainment media. For more information, visit www.flypropeller.com

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