

## **IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE AND JUSTICE FOR ALL**

**The 4th Annual “Change the world It just takes cents!”™ (CTWIJTC) Student anti-genocide Forum, will take place on February 3, 2010 in the Davis Auditorium - Sturm Hall – University of Denver on February 3, 2010, from 10:00am – 12 Noon.**

**“Change the world It just takes cents!”™**, the first Middle School experiential service learning, philanthropic and social action movement, has over the past four years impacted and showcased Colorado’s youth, and received recognition from politicians, clergy, human rights activists, and educators for their initiative. Having drawn attention to the power of the youth voice, **CTWIJTC** has become a respected body prompting international social action institutions to review their outreach efforts to include youth awareness and action education.

**CTWIJTC** service learning education incorporates historical, global, current issues and genocide as well as public relations, and accounting. The program allows students to transform their education into informed social action, utilizing their individual skills to present their case as a group. Since conception in 2006, CTWIJTC students have discovered their voice and become sought after speakers at local and national rallies and events, to share their knowledge of the topic, advocate for humanity and justice, and infuse their tireless passion into others, as they promote their fundraising efforts to assist in the rebuilding of schools in Darfur. These young social activists have motivated many from our diverse community to stand up for human rights and justice.

A reputable **“Change the world It just takes cents!”™** event is the Annual Student Anti-genocide Forum at which middle and high school students make a powerful statement; *“We are aware. We will not tolerate genocide. We will endeavor to make our world a just and fair one in which all youth are equal, respected, and have the opportunity to become productive members of society”* says 15 year old Simon Kaufman, a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation CTGWIJTC activist.

The Forum attracts growing numbers of students. The 2009 Forum, entitled *“For the Children”*, hosted 950 students at Hamilton Middle School with presentations demonstrating the intense passion and exceptional intellectual and technical ability of Colorado youth. This year, students will address **“...And Justice For ALL”**, meet and learn from social activists, victims and survivors of genocide, and law professionals.

**Professor David Akerson**, Adjunct Professor of Law at University of Denver and a trial lawyer with a broad international law and human rights portfolio, ranging from human rights work in apartheid South Africa to prosecuting perpetrators at the Yugoslavia and Rwanda international criminal tribunals will Emcee the “...and justice for ALL” Forum. He will share anecdotes of his experiences as a specialist in core international crimes of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, international tribunals, international criminal litigation, and international tribunal policy and management. Prof. Akerson is the Board Chair of the Africa School Assistance Project (ASAP), which assists under privileged rural African communities build and refurbish schools for their youth.

**Katie Jay Scott** - A change-maker whose motto is “**Activate. Educate. Empower**” serves as the Director of Community Programming at i-ACT and Community Outreach Coordinator at Stop Genocide Now. Having visited Darfur and the Chad refugee camps to provide life saving support and assist in preserving what is left of Darfuri culture, she works throughout the USA to raise awareness and empower diverse intergenerational groups into action. She brings the voice of the survivor to the forefront, linking USA advocates and communities to Darfuri refugees.

**Izabela Lundberg**, a survivor of the Balkan War pursues a career in human rights and global business management. She puts a face to genocide, not only through her own experiences, but also through the eye of a photographer, the mind of a philosopher and the heart of a poet.

**Dr. Hashim el-Tinay** is founder and president of the Salam Sudan Foundation advocating for intercultural, interfaith understanding, democracy and human rights through dialogue and diplomacy. As a former Sudanese diplomat and 2011 presidential candidate he has a positive vision of hope for the future of Sudan.

**Al-Ghali Shagifat**, a victim of injustice is a a freelance writer and head of the Association of Darfur Journalists, targeted by the Sudanese government for his reports, publicizing the atrocities against the people of the Darfur region. He was one of 155 non-military professionals arrested, accused but not charged with aiding a May 10th attack on Khartoum by the Justice and Equality Movement(JEM). Shagifat was picked up and blind taken to a warehouse, a ‘Ghost House’, where he was intimidated and cruelly treated. He was eventually transferred to Kober, an official prison in Khartoum where his captors unsuccessfully attempted to extract a confession through psychological torture. CTWIJTC actively advocated together with other

agencies for his release. After 65 days he was released on condition that he sign a document promising not to engage in activities against the state, not to transfer any Darfur news or work to affect public sentiment. Alghali has been granted asylum in the United States.

Among the many student-presenters will be Arrupe Student, **Asheng Yai**, a young Sudanese, who will share her motivation in aligning herself with the CTGWIJTC student-led anti-genocide movement.

The annual “Change the world It just takes cent!”™ student program has the support of many educational, human rights and communal organizations such as Stop Genocide Now, Anti Defamation League of Colorado, American Jewish Committee, JCRC of the Allied Jewish Federation , ENOUGH!, Facing History and Ourselves, Genocide Intervention Network, ISIME at University of Denver, Mizel Museum, Save Darfur. Local and national celebrities and advocates such as Tamara Banks, Andrew Romanoff, Pastor Heidi Mc Ginness have aligned themselves with this student initiative as have Mr. George Clooney and Adam Sterling of “Darfur Now” fame.

**For more information about “Change the world. It just takes cents!”™ and the Annual Student Anti-genocide Forum contact Sara Kornfeld at 303-596-8210 / [ctwijtc@gmail.com](mailto:ctwijtc@gmail.com)**

*"Change the world. It just takes cents"™ is an experiential, meaningful, non-partisan middle/high school service learning process and movement, which empowers youth. Through informed global awareness and action, youth lead, speak out and raise funds to educate Darfuri youth at home and abroad.*

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