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Contact:

Erin Fogg/Maria Sundeen (415) 459-9211

Sustainable World Symposium set for May 13-14

**Summit Will Examine Social Causes of Environmental
Destruction, and Clarify the Solutions**

Mother's Day celebration featured

SAN FRANCISCO -- Slated for Saturday and Sunday, May 13 & 14, 2006, the 2006 *Sustainable World Symposium & Festival* will bring together national leaders and activists to educate, inspire and activate the public toward personal and planetary sustainability.

This important 2-day event will explore the major global issues we face, their effect on local communities, the cultural norms & issues behind them, and help people make more constructive personal lifestyle choices.

One of the speakers for this year's event, **Dr. Kevin Danaher**, co-founder and public education director of Global Exchange, likens it to curriculum focused on 'grassroots globalization.' "We want to empower local communities and citizens to create sustainable local economies for the long term."

This year's Symposium includes many nationally renowned speakers such as **Randy Hayes**, co-founder of the Rainforest Action Network and CEO of International Forum on Globalization, Author **John Robbins** (Diet for a New America), Radio Talk Show Host **Betsy Rosenberg** (KCBS, Air America), Author **Duane Elgin**, and Author/Activist **Lynne Twist**, plus 25 others.

The event -- held at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco -- will also feature live music and theater, 60 exhibitor booths, powerful videos presentations, green project demos, 2-hr daily Youth Symposium, an Ubuntu Cultural Village and World Café, and access to a network of people dedicated to maintaining sustainable practices.

A special Mother's Day Ceremony is planned for Sunday morning, to include multicultural performances, ceremonial music and a raffle.

(MORE)

Useful and Innovative Process

Taking a unique approach, the Symposium will focus on the psychological, social and cultural meaning behind our behavior and how it is affecting the world, a distinctive and insightful perspective that has been ignored by most mainstream research and media.

The event aims to achieve active results through:

- offering practical tools to support a low consumption lifestyle
- driving the creation of neighborhood Action Teams, to provide support for action people can take within their communities
- developing a producer's kit to enable non-profits in other US cities to produce local versions of the Symposium.

The Symposium was created by Vinit Allen, a Marin-based entrepreneur turned sustainability crusader. As founder of the Sustainable World Coalition, Allen developed the Sustainable World Symposium -- to educate, motivate and activate the general public, and to convene non-profit leaders working in differing areas of global sustainability to collaborate, strategize together and share resources.

"The urgency of our global ecological and social situation is a conversation we must be having," said Allen. "There are many potential solutions to the impending crises and sustainability is the key. We can heal much of the damage done by modeling more sustainable lifestyles and affecting corporate behavior."

All attendees will be asked to make a personal commitment to adopting a sustainable lifestyle, and will be given a copy of the Sustainable World SourceBook as a "take-away" for information on making 'green' choices and a resource directory to support taking action.

The 2-day conference will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco, with ongoing events and presentations from 9am-6pm Saturday and 9am-5:30pm Sunday. Tickets for both days are \$85 in advance/\$100 at the door. Special ticket prices will be offered to students, seniors, non-profit employees, and groups, as well as for one-day events. More information is available at <http://www.swcoalition.org>. Tickets for the Mother's Day Celebration are set at \$8 per person.

Multicultural performances in music, theater, poetry and dance will be hosted on Saturday evening from 7:15-9:45 pm for \$10 to the general public, free to conference attendees. Daily access to the Ubuntu Village, the World Cafe and the exhibitor booths is free to the general public, and all ages are welcome.

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The Sustainable World Symposium is produced by the Sustainable World Coalition, a non-profit project of Earth Island Institute, in partnership with The Pachamama Alliance, The Spitfire Agency, SustainLane and SF Bay Guardian. The event is a zero waste and carbon-neutral event through Green Mary and Native Energy.

For more information, contact the Sustainable World Coalition at 415/785-1888, or check out the web at www.swcoalition.org.

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Symposium speakers:

Andres Edwards
Author, Educator

Betsy Rosenberg
Radio Talk Show Host,
KCBS & Air America

Charlene Martínez
CIP Program Director,
Rockwood Institute

Charles McGlashan
Supervisor, Marin County

Rev. Cristhal Bennett
Interfaith Minister

Darian Heyman
Executive Director,
Craigslit Foundation

Drew Dellinger
Founder, Poets for Global Justice

Duane Elgin
Author and Speaker

Ellis Jones
Professor; lead author,
The Better World Handbook

L. Hunter Lovins, Esq.
President and Founder,
Natural Capitalism, Inc.

Jakada "J" Imani
Field Director, Ella Baker Center
for Human Rights

John Robbins
Author, *Diet for a New America*
and *The Food Revolution*

Justin Kitzes
National Accounts Program
Manager, Global Footprint
Network

Dr. Kevin Danaher
Co-Founder, Public Education
Director, Global Exchange

Lateefah Simon
Recent Executive Director, Center
for Young Women's Development
(CYWD)

Lawrence "Axil" Comras
Founder and Director,
Greenhome.com

Lynne Twist
Co-Founder,
The Pachamama Alliance

Martin Bourque
Executive Director,
The Ecology Center

Michel Gelobter
Executive Director, Redefining
Progress

Rachel Jackson
Recently Program Director at the
Ruckus Society

Randy Hayes
Co-Founder and President,
Rainforest Action Network;
Sustainability Director, City of
Oakland

Roni Krouzman
Founding Director, Next
Generation

Trathen Heckman
Co-Founder, Executive Director,
Daily Acts

Warren Karlenzig
Chief Strategy Officer,
SustainLane

... and others