

Educating World Citizens for the 21st Century
The Dalai Lama, Educators, Scientists and Contemplatives
Dialogue on Cultivating a Healthy Mind, Brain and Heart
Education Conference: October 8 – 9, 2009
DAR Constitution Hall – Washington, D.C.

Educating World Citizens for the 21st Century, a two-day education dialogue bringing together His Holiness the **Dalai Lama** with leading educators, scientists and contemplatives, will take place at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., October 8 – 9, 2009. This gathering is convened by the **Mind and Life Institute** and is the 19th major conference in this series, which began over two decades ago.

The conference is co-sponsored by Harvard University School of Education, Stanford University School of Education, University of Virginia Curry School of Education, Pennsylvania State University College of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education, American Psychological Association, and the Collaboration for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL).

Major speakers will include His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Marian Wright Edelman (Children’s Defense Fund), Richard J. Davidson (University of Wisconsin – Madison), and Linda Lantieri (Inner Resilience Program). Moderators / Interpreters include Daniel Goleman, Joan Halifax, and Thupten Jinpa. The Dalai Lama will participate fully in all sessions.

The panelists scheduled to appear include Peter Benson, Martin Brokenleg, Ronald Dahl, Linda Darling-Hammond, Nancy Eisenberg, Mark Greenberg, Takao Hensch, Ann Carolyn Klein, Kathleen McCartney, Nel Noddings, Matthieu Ricard, Lee Shuman, and Margot Stern Strom.

The conference will explore the questions: How can our educational system evolve to meet the challenges of the 21st century? How will we educate people in an increasingly complex and interconnected world?

This interdisciplinary dialogue will pool new ideas in educational theory and practice, philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience with the wisdom of the world's great contemplative traditions. The intent of the conference is to create a synergy of these converging disciplines to inspire a new vision of education that focuses on the development of the whole child and adolescent within more caring and effective schools and communities. Presenters will address how to create an educational system that will nurture the heart as well as the mind and that will create compassionate, engaged, and ethical world citizens whose skills and abilities are used not only for personal growth and advancement, but also for the good of the world.

“In recent years we have seen evidence that contemplative practices can improve attention, emotional balance, kindness, compassion and confidence among adults who use them,” said Adam Engle, Chairman of the Mind and Life Institute. “This dialogue among the Dalai Lama, world-renowned

educators, scientists and policy makers will explore in a public setting whether it is possible to bring these benefits to children earlier in their lives, especially in the context of our educational systems.”

Event Website: www.educatingworldcitizens.org

Organization Website: www.mindandlife.org

About the Mind and Life Institute:

The Mind & Life Institute is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to fostering dialogue and research at the highest possible level between modern science and the great living contemplative traditions, especially Buddhism. It builds on a deep commitment to the power and value of both of these ways of advancing knowledge and their potential to alleviate suffering.

Interviews: Adam Engle, Chairman and co-founder of the Mind and Life Institute, is available for advance interviews to discuss the conference. The Dalai Lama is not available for advance interviews through the Mind and Life Institute. For inquiries regarding the Dalai Lama, please contact the Office of Tibet at 212-213-5010 or visit the website – www.dalailama.com

Media Attendance at the Conference: For media that would like to attend and cover the conference, please visit the web page for full details and criteria: www.educatingworldcitizens.org/press.html

Press Inquiries: press@mindandlife.org or main phone: 303-530-1940. Please first visit the website, then email us with any unanswered questions. Call only if necessary.