



HAWAII COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



For Immediate Release

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Pillars of Peace Hawai'i Welcomes Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi

**The public is invited to watch a live stream of
Aung San Suu Kyi's talk with O'ahu students, Jan. 26**

HONOLULU – Jan. 15, 2013 – Pillars of Peace Hawai'i – a program of the Hawai'i Community Foundation – announced today plans to co-host peace leader Aung San Suu Kyi on her visit to O'ahu this month. The trip, which will be Aung San Suu Kyi's first visit to the islands, will allow her to share her message of peace and compassion while gaining an understanding of Hawai'i's unique culture, history and aloha spirit. Other organizations co-hosting her visit include Rotary International, East West Center and the Myanmar Association of Hawai'i.

While in Hawai'i, Aung San Suu Kyi will participate in several private events hosted by Pillars of Peace Hawai'i, including a speech titled "Peace Takes Courage and Compassion," followed by a question and answer session with public and private high school students. Tickets are being distributed to students through their respective schools.

The general public is invited to view the student event online by tuning in to a live stream on the Pillars of Peace website at www.pillarsofpeacehawaii.org. For those unable to watch the live stream starting at 10:25 a.m., the talk will be available for playback after the event concludes.

"We can learn a great deal from Aung San Suu Kyi and her nonviolent struggle for democracy and human rights," said Kelvin Taketa, president and CEO of the Hawai'i Community Foundation. "At the same time, the Pillars of Peace program creates an opportunity to share with global peace leaders Hawai'i's unique example of multiculturalism to carry with them wherever they go around the world."

Those wishing to hear Aung San Suu Kyi speak in person can purchase a ticket to the Rotary International's Rotary Global Peace Forum dinner where Aung San Suu Kyi will deliver the keynote speech on Saturday, Jan. 26. More information on the Rotary Global Peace Forum is available at <http://peaceforumhawaii.org/>.

Aung San Suu Kyi's visit is part of the ongoing Hawai'i Community Foundation initiative, "Pillars of Peace Hawai'i: Building Peace on a Foundation of Aloha," which launched in April 2012 with the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. One of the program's goals is to bring global peace leaders to Hawai'i to exchange ideas about the many forms of peace that exist here in the islands and around the world.

Through these visits, the program hopes to spark dialogue about the roles of compassion, diversity and culture as key components for practicing peace.

In addition to hosting His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Pillars of Peace Hawaii has sponsored peace leaders Archbishop Desmond Tutu and John Hunter, founder of the World Peace Game for students. Pillars of Peace Hawai'i is a program funded primarily by the Omidyar 'Ohana Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation, a \$50 million charitable fund established in 2009 by Hawai'i residents Pierre and Pam Omidyar.

For more information about Pillars of Peace Hawai'i, please visit www.pillarsofpeacehawaii.org. For up-to-date information on Aung San Suu Kyi's January visit, follow Pillars of Peace Hawai'i on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pillarsofpeace and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PillarsofPeace.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Due to limited space at this event, media must RSVP their attendance no later than Friday, Jan. 18 at http://pillarsofpeacehawaii.org/press_credentials/.

About Aung San Suu Kyi

Aung San Suu Kyi is a Member of Parliament of the Union of Burma and is a founding member of the National League for Democracy. Early in her career, she worked in the office of the United Nations Secretariat in New York and was a Visiting Scholar at the Centre for South East Asian Studies at Kyoto University and the Indian Institute for Advanced Studies in Simla. Following her return to Burma in 1988 and winning an election by popular vote, she was placed under house arrest until 1995, and again during 2000 to 2002 and 2003 to 2010. Aung San Suu Kyi has received more than 120 awards and honors internationally, including: Nobel Peace Prize (Oslo, Norway, 1991); Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding (India, 1995); Congressional Gold Medal (USA, 2008); Honorary Canadian Citizenship Parliament Hill (Ottawa, Canada, 2008); and Legion of Honor [*Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur*] (France, 2012).

About the Hawai'i Community Foundation

With 96 years of community service, the Hawai'i Community Foundation is the leading philanthropic institution in the state. The Foundation is a steward of more than 600 funds, including over 170 scholarship funds created by donors who desire to transform lives and improve communities. In 2011, more than \$44 million in grants and contracts were distributed statewide. The Foundation also serves as a resource on community issues and trends in the nonprofit sector. For more information, please visit: www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org.

About Pierre and Pam Omidyar

EBay founder Pierre Omidyar, and his wife Pam, are active philanthropists guided by a common set of values – a deeply rooted belief in humanity, and a conviction that the world thrives when we prioritize treating others with compassion, dignity, and a respect for diversity. Working across many sectors and geographies, the Omidyars have contributed more than \$1 billion to causes ranging from economic advancement for the underserved and human rights to technology for improving kids' health and sustainable solutions for their home state of Hawaii. To fulfill their mission Pierre and Pam created four organizations: HopeLab, Humanity United, Omidyar Network, and Ulupono Initiative. While each organization across The Omidyar Group has a specific focus, they are united in that they all aim to create opportunities for people to improve their quality of life. For more information about the Omidyars' philanthropy, please visit: www.omidyargroup.com

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