

## One million men. One million promises.

### **March 8, 2013 launch** **SPEAKER BIOS**

#### **Michael Bolton**

Michael Bolton is a multiple Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter and social activist who has sold more than 53 million albums and singles worldwide. Bolton remains committed to humanitarian causes, especially through Michael Bolton Charities, now in its 20th year of advocating on behalf of women and children at risk. For his dedication to social activism, Michael has been honored with several humanitarian awards including the Martin Luther King Award granted by the Congress of Racial Equality (C.O.R.E.), the Lewis Hine Award from The National Child Labor Committee, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, and the Frances Preston Lifetime Achievement Award.

#### **Peter Buffett**

Peter Buffett has an acclaimed career that spans more than 30 years as a professional musician, composer, philanthropist and author. Buffett has received critical acclaim for his Native American-inspired music, most notably composing the full score for 500 Nations – the Emmy Award-winning CBS miniseries produced by Kevin Costner, and the musical production *Spirit: The Seventh Fire* - a Native American inspired show incorporating live native dancing, powwow singing and Imax-scale visuals. From 1987 to present, Buffett has released 16 records, has been signed to such labels as Narada, Epic and Hollywood Records, and now owns two independent labels, BisonHead and BeSide Records. Buffett has collaborated with Grammy-nominated recording artist Akon as well as Grammy-winning artist Angelique Kidjo on human rights inspired songs, one of which debuted at a special event at the UN General Assembly. He is also the only man to have performed at Eve Ensler's 10th Anniversary V-Day celebration in New Orleans.

#### **Abigail E. Disney**

Abigail E. Disney is a filmmaker and philanthropist. Her longtime passion for women's issues and peace-building culminated in her first film, the acclaimed *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*. Abigail produced the groundbreaking PBS mini-series *Women, War & Peace*, the most comprehensive global media initiative ever mounted on the role of women in peace and conflict. She has played a role in many film projects and is currently at work on a film highlighting the key role of women in the Arab Awakening. She founded the Daphne Foundation, Peace is Loud and co-founded, along with 2011 Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee, the Gbowee Peace Foundation, USA.

**Don McPherson**

Don McPherson is an NFL veteran, College Football Hall of Famer, sports analyst, and social activist who for more than 20 years has used the power and appeal of sport to address complex social issues. Upon retiring from pro football in 1994, he joined Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society as national director of Athletes in Service to America, turning his focus to the issue of violence against women. Don has conducted workshops and lectures for more than 200 college campuses, community organizations, and national sports and violence prevention organizations, reaching more than one million people. He currently serves on an advisory committee for the National Football Foundation and sits on the board of directors of the Ms. Foundation for Women.

**Darnell L. Moore**

Darnell L. Moore is a writer/poet and activist who lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, NY and hails from Camden, NJ. He is a 2011-2012 Visiting Scholar in the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at NYU and a Fellow of the Global Justice Institute. His writings, which have been published in peer-reviewed and popular publications, focus on issues of race and sexuality.

**Dean Peacock**

Dean Peacock is co-founder and Executive Director of the Sonke Gender Justice Network, a South African NGO working across Africa to promote gender transformation, human rights, and social justice. He is also co-founder and co-chair of the Global MenEngage Alliance. Dean is a member of the United Nations Secretary General's Network of Men Leaders formed to advise Ban Ki-Moon on gender based violence prevention and of the Nobel Women's Advisory Committee on ending sexual violence in conflict settings.

**Robert Radtke**

Robert W. Radtke has served as president of Episcopal Relief & Development since 2005, leading and overseeing extensive Church Engagement programs, fundraising, board development, and international and domestic program evaluation and monitoring. Rob oversaw the initiation of *NetsforLife*®, Episcopal Relief & Development's flagship malaria prevention program, which to date has reached over 37 million people in 17 African countries, and the US Disaster Preparedness and Response Program, which helps Episcopal dioceses, congregations and other church institutions to both prepare for and respond to disasters in their local communities. He serves on the board of InterAction, the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty and the Steering Committee of the Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief & Advocacy.

**Mike Rawlings**

Mike Rawlings has served as mayor of Dallas since 2011, bringing with him three decades of high-level business and civic leadership. In addition to a successful career in marketing, advertising, and business management, Mayor Rawlings has also served as a volunteer leader with a proven record of tackling some of Dallas's toughest challenges. As the city's "Homeless Czar," he oversaw the construction and opening of The Bridge, a homeless advocacy non-profit program that raised more than \$12 million to provide daily assistance for more than 1,000 homeless men and women, effectively reducing the number of chronically homeless by nearly 57% over five years. Most recently, Mayor Rawlings delivered a widely publicized plea for men in his city and beyond to combat violence against women by challenging and changing "the culture of male violence."

**Michael Skolnik**

Michael Skolnik is Political Director to hip-hop pioneer Russell Simmons and the Editor-In-Chief of GlobalGrind.com, an online destination founded by Mr. Simmons. In his role as political director, Michael oversees Mr. Simmons' entire social justice and political activities. He has appeared regularly on CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, NPR, HLN, Al-Jazeera, Current TV, Sirius/XM and the BBC, where he has discussed a wide range of topics, including the Trayvon Martin case, efforts to reduce gun violence, and youth participation in the 2012 election.

**Sir Patrick Stewart**

An acclaimed actor who has made his mark internationally on both stage and screen, Sir Patrick Stewart is also a tireless activist and supporter of numerous human rights causes. In the UK, Stewart is a Patron of Refuge, an organization which provides a range of high quality services for abused women and children and advocates for improvements to domestic violence policy and practice, and the implementation of new legislation. Refuge helps to prevent domestic violence through campaigning, education, training and research. He is a Patron for Dignity in Dying, which campaigns for greater choice, control, and access to services at the end of life, advocating providing dying adults with the choice of an assisted death, within upfront legal safeguards, and for universal access to end-of-life care. Sir Patrick is also a Patron of Combat Stress, an Ambassador for the United Nations Association – UK and a longtime supporter of Amnesty International, particularly in promoting their Violence Against Women campaign.

**Vince Warren**

Vincent Warren is Executive Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR), a national legal and educational organization dedicated to advancing and defending the rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Vince oversees CCR's groundbreaking litigation and advocacy work, which includes using international and domestic law to hold corporations and government officials accountable for human rights abuses; challenging racial, gender and LGBT injustice; and combating the illegal expansion of U.S. presidential power and policies such as illegal detention at Guantanamo, rendition and torture. Prior to his tenure at CCR, Vince was a national senior staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), where he litigated civil rights cases, focusing on affirmative action, racial profiling, and criminal justice reform.