



University for a Night 2011

Tuesday, April 5 in New York City



University for a Night is about partnership.

For more than ten years, Synergos has convened this special event to bring together leaders from around the world and from different sectors of society to share knowledge and inspiration about solving the root causes of complex global problems.

At University for a Night 2011 we will learn from one another, share perspectives, and exchange ideas, starting with a plenary discussion on

Changing the world by changing the lives of women and girls.

At dinner we will broaden the discussion to addressing poverty, malnutrition, human rights, education, health, environment, conflict, and other critical global issues.

Our hope is that we each use what we learn and connections we make in our work, institutions, and lives.

University for a Night participants honor persons or organizations that exemplify what the evening stands for – working together for the common good. The first such honoree was **David Rockefeller**, whose many accomplishments as a business and civic leader demonstrate the importance of bringing people together. The award is now named for him.

This year, the **David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Honorees** are:

- **H.E. Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi** of the African Women's Development Fund
- **Jennifer and Peter Buffett** of the NoVo Foundation.

*"Working together with others and creating effective partnerships has been an activity central to my business career, and indeed to all of the civic involvements during my life. I believe that the only realistic way to achieve positive, enduring change is through partnerships."
— David Rockefeller*



Program

Tuesday, April 5 at the TimesCenter
242 West 41st Street in New York City

5:30pm **Cocktail Reception**

6:30pm **Welcome & Opening**

By **Robert H. Dunn**, President of Synergos; with slideshow *Created Equal* by **Lekha Singh**, photographer and Founder of Aidmatrix

Presentation of David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Awards

To **Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi**, President of the African Women's Development Fund, and **Jennifer and Peter Buffett**, Co-Chairs of the NoVo Foundation, by **David Rockefeller**, **Eve Ensler**, playwright, performer and activist, and **Helen LaKelly Hunt**, Co-Chair of Women Moving Millions.

Plenary Discussion with Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi and Jennifer Buffett

Moderated by Synergos' Chair **Peggy Dulany**; with Q&A from the audience

7:45pm **Table Discussions & Dinner**

Small groups gather over dinner with plenary speakers and other members of our Distinguished Faculty – experts from around the world

Right: Participants in the Girls Gaining Ground empowerment program of the Bhavishya Alliance, a multi-sectoral partnership that Synergos helped establish in India.



Bridging Leadership Award Honoree

Her Excellency Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi



A leading voice in the African and global women's movements, and in philanthropy, particularly in the global South

Her Excellency Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, First Lady of Ekiti State, Nigeria, is a social change philanthropist, social entrepreneur, journalist, and organizational development specialist. She is the President and Co-Founder of the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF), a grantmaking foundation which supports local, national and regional organizations working towards women's empowerment. Since it began grantmaking in 2001, AWDF has provided over 800 women's organizations in 42 African countries with over \$16 million in support. AWDF plays a key role in the promotion and protection of women's rights in Africa through its support of grassroots initiatives, policy engagements, and movement building for social justice.

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi was Director of Akina Mama wa Afrika, an international development organization for African women, from 1991-2001. She also established the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), a training and networking forum for young women. AWLI has trained over 5,000 women; today most hold senior decision-making positions as government ministers, MPs, academics, civil society leaders, and at international organizations.

She has worked in the Department of Health and Social Services of the United Kingdom and served as a resource person for agencies such as UNIFEM, UNDP, and the Economic Commission for Africa. She is also Honorary President of the Association for Women's Rights in Development and a Synergos Senior Fellow.

In the fields of philanthropy and social investment, Bisi serves on the boards of the Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf Market Women's Fund, the Resource Alliance, and of the Women's Funding Network in the United States, from which she received the 2007 Changing the Face of Philanthropy Award. She is Co-Chair of the newly established African Grantmakers Network and an Adviser to the Global Fund for Women. She has been Co-Chair of the International Network of Women's Funds, an Advisory Board member of Realizing Rights – The Ethical Globalization Initiative, and a Trustee of Comic Relief UK.

An accomplished writer, Bisi is a Contributing Editor for *The News* magazine, Nigeria, received an Achievers Award from the 2006 African International Media Summit for promoting a positive image of Africa, and serves on the Editorial Board of *Alliance Magazine*.

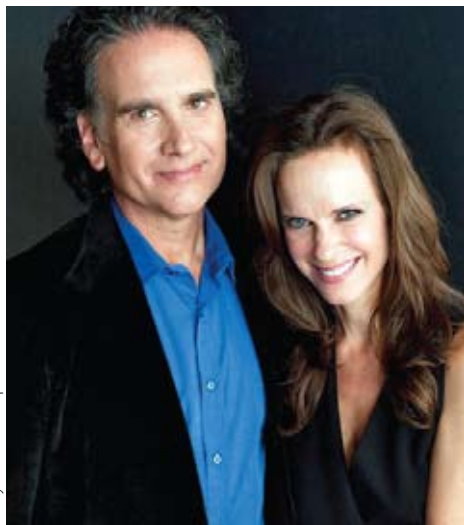
Bisi holds graduate degrees from the University of Ife (Nigeria) and Middlesex University (United Kingdom). She held the Dame Nita Barrow Distinguished Visitorship at the University of Toronto from 2000-2001, and received the honorary chieftaincy title of Ochiorah ("People's Leader") of Imezi Owa, Ezeagwu Local Government, Enugu State, Nigeria, in recognition of her support for women in that community.

In 2009, *New Africa Magazine* named Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi one of the 20 most influential African women, and this year Women Deliver listed her as one of the top 100 people advancing the cause of women and girls globally.

Bridging Leadership Award Honorees

Jennifer and Peter Buffett

C. Taylor Crothers photo



Jennifer and Peter Buffett co-founded and co-chair the NoVo Foundation, which works to create a more just and balanced world based on cooperation and partnership, primarily through the empowerment of girls and women.

NoVo – whose name comes from the Latin word for change, alter, or invent – works to achieve its vision by transforming social attitudes, relationships and institutions that perpetuate injustice. Its aim is to unlock the potential of girls and women to be powerful agents of change and help children grow into caring adults skilled at working cooperatively. The Foundation invests in long-term strategic initiatives that lead to systemic change, specifically ending violence against girls and women, unlocking the potential of adolescent girls, and advancing whole child education and social and emotional learning.

**Visionary philanthropists,
helping empower girls and
women around the world**

NoVo is a major philanthropic partner with the Nike Foundation, fueling “The Girl Effect” – the social and economic change brought about when every girl has the power to participate equally in her community.

Jennifer Buffett’s work in philanthropy began in 1997 when her husband Peter’s parents, Susan and Warren Buffett, bequeathed Jennifer and Peter a small charitable fund. Today she is the NoVo Foundation’s President, overseeing its strategic direction. In addition, she provides leadership and serves on the boards of the Nike Foundation, V-Day, CASEL (Collaborative for Academic and Social and Emotional Learning), BRAC USA, the International Center for Research on Women, Apne Aap Women Worldwide and Women Moving Millions.

Peter Buffett is an Emmy Award-winning musician, composer and producer as well as Co-Chair of the NoVo Foundation helping guide the strategic mission and serving on the Foundation’s Grants Committee. Peter also serves on the boards of the Nike Foundation, Apne Aap Women Worldwide, Susan T. Buffett Foundation, Radio for Milwaukee and the Kent Bellows Foundation.

Highlights of his composition work for film and television include the Fire Dance scene in the Oscar-winning film *Dances with Wolves* and the score for *500 Nations*, a CBS miniseries produced by Kevin Costner. Mr. Buffett’s recently released book, *Life Is What You Make It*, debuted at #4 on the *New York Times* Best Seller Hardcover Advice list and is a companion to his live “Concert & Conversation” performances.

Jennifer and Peter are recipients of the Clinton Global Citizen Award for their “visionary leadership and sustainable, scalable work in solving pressing global challenges.” In 2010, Jennifer was selected by President Clinton to be a founding member of the Clinton Global Initiative’s young global leaders cohort, CGI LEAD.

The Ms. Foundation for Women honored the Buffetts’ philanthropic boldness and commitment with a 2010 Gloria Steinem Award, and *Barron’s* ranks them in the top 25 list of most effective philanthropists.

Other Speakers



Peggy Dulany is Chair of Synergos, which she founded in 1986 to facilitate relationships across sectors of society to develop long-term relationships and forge new paths in overcoming poverty. Her career has included heading a Boston-area public high school, consulting on health care and family planning, and leading youth employment and education programs at the New York City Partnership.



Robert H. Dunn, is President and CEO of Synergos. He previously served as Chairman and CEO of Business for Social Responsibility, Vice President for Corporate Affairs of Levi Strauss & Co., and in the Carter White House, the US Embassy in Mexico City, the Cabinet of the Governor of Wisconsin, and on the faculty of the Stanford Graduate School of Business and Wesleyan University.



Scott Gries' photo

Eve Ensler is a playwright, performer, activist, and author of *The Vagina Monologues*, which is translated into over 48 languages and performed in over 140 countries. In 1998, she created V-Day, a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls. V-Day supports anti-violence organizations throughout the world – raising over \$80 million – while mobilizing public awareness and action. Over 300 million people to date have attended a V-Day benefit event. Ensler has won a Guggenheim Fellowship in Playwriting and an Obie, and in 2009 was named one of *US News & World Report's* “Best Leaders.” In 2011 she was named one of *Newsweek's* “150 Women who Changed the World” and the *Guardian's* “100 Most Influential Women”



Helen LaKelly Hunt, founder of The Sister Fund, has been active in the women's funding movement since its inception and has helped to create and support a number of women's funding institutions. With her sister, Swanee Hunt, she is a founding lead donor of Women Moving Millions, a partnership of visionary donors and Women's Funding Network, a global movement of 160 women's and girls' funds that invest in women-led solutions to critical social issues like poverty and global security. Women Moving Millions aims to inspire gifts of a million dollars and above.



Lekha Singh is the visionary behind Aidmatrix, which uses innovative technology to change the way aid is delivered – both in disaster relief and to meet day-to-day needs. More than 40,000 business, nonprofit and government partners use Aidmatrix technology to improve the lives of over 65 million people. Singh's photography has been featured in *National Geographic* and *The New York Times*, and exhibited in museums throughout the United States, including in the permanent collection of the Rubin Museum of Art.

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As of March 30

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Peggy Dulany
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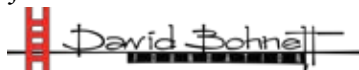
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About Synergos

The name “Synergos” comes from the Greek root meaning “working together.” We address global poverty and social injustice by working collaboratively to change the systems that keep people in poverty. Bringing together influential people and institutions in government, business and civil society with poor and marginalized communities, we help every part of society work together to create sustainable systems change.

Since its founding in 1986, Synergos has supported innovative global partnerships in more than 30 countries. Your contribution to University for a Night helps support Synergos’ programs around the world.

For more information, visit www.synergos.org.



Synergos

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Above, clockwise from top left: Education program in Rio de Janeiro supported by Instituto Desiderata, an organization led by Synergos Senior Fellow Beatriz Azeredo; in Namibia, Synergos’ work focuses on improving maternal and child health; discussion at annual meeting of Synergos’ Global Philanthropists Circle; man in Jordan who benefits from the work of Rabee’ Zureikat, a Synergos Social Innovator in that country.

Cover: Woman at an ante-natal care clinic in Namibia, where Synergos is helping the government and other partners improve health system performance.