



# University for a Night 2013

Monday, May 20, 5:30–9:30pm at the TimesCenter in New York City

Honoring Michael R. Bloomberg • Featuring a performance by Peter Buffett



## University for a Night is about collaboration.

Collaboration to overcome poverty. To improve health and nutrition. To expand educational opportunities. To support sustainable local development and protect the environment. To improve agriculture. To strengthen human rights.

We gather together to share experience, ideas, and inspiration about how people and institutions from different places and parts of society can work together to solve poverty and other complex problems.

We will learn from each other and exchange perspectives on collaboration to create a better world.

We will also recognize entrepreneur, philanthropist, and 108th Mayor of New York City **Michael R. Bloomberg** with the **David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Award**.

In addition, **Peter Buffett** will share with us his perspectives on defining one's own path in life.



*“Working together with others – creating effective partnerships – has been at the center of my business career and all of my civic involvements. I believe it is the only realistic way to achieve positive and enduring change.”*

*— David Rockefeller at University for a Night 2003*

# Program

Monday, May 20 at the TimesCenter  
242 West 41st Street, New York City

5:30pm **Cocktail Reception**

6:15pm **Plenary**

**Welcome by Robert H. Dunn**  
of Synergos

**Presentation of David  
Rockefeller Bridging  
Leadership Award to the  
Honorable Michael R.  
Bloomberg by Peggy Dulany**  
of Synergos and **David  
Rockefeller**

**Remarks by Mayor  
Bloomberg**

**Performance on Defining  
One's Own Path by  
Peter Buffett of the NoVo  
Foundation**

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

Small groups gather  
over dinner with our  
Distinguished Faculty –  
experts from Synergos'  
networks around the world

*Right:* In Ethiopia, Synergos is helping  
transform agriculture, the foundation  
of the country's economy.



# David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Honoree: Michael R. Bloomberg

Michael R. Bloomberg has a distinct approach to philanthropy that comes from his rare experience of running both a major city government and a multi-billion dollar company, which he built from the ground up. His passion for philanthropy — as a way to improve lives and catalyze societal change — grew out of the values he learned from his parents and from his experience as an Eagle Scout.

The Mayor's first charitable donation was a \$5 check to his college's alumni association, given immediately after graduation. While it was all he could afford, he felt it was important to give back. The checks may be bigger today, but they come with that same spirit — you give what you can — that he has carried with him throughout his life.

## Entrepreneur

Michael Bloomberg began his career in 1966 at Salomon Brothers, after graduating from Harvard Business School and Johns Hopkins University. After being let go from the firm in 1981, he began Bloomberg L.P., an information technology start-up that is now a multi-billion dollar global data and media company that connects influential decision makers to a dynamic network of information, people, and ideas. Bloomberg L.P.'s great strength — quickly and accurately delivering data, news and analytics through innovative technology — is at the core of everything the company does. With more than 15,000 employees in nearly 200 offices, it delivers business and financial information, news and insight around the world.

## Philanthropist

The success of Bloomberg L.P. has provided the Mayor with the resources and experience to pursue philanthropy in a more meaningful way than he ever could have imagined when he wrote that first \$5 check. Michael Bloomberg has often said: "The thing about great wealth is that you can't take it with you." That's why he plans to give his away. He created Bloomberg Philanthropies to encompass all of his charitable giving activities, including his personal giving and the Bloomberg Family Foundation. Bloomberg Philanthropies' unique data-driven approach to global change grows out of his experience as an entrepreneur and a champion of innovation. In addition to Bloomberg Philanthropies' five areas of focus — public health, arts and culture, the environment, education and government innovation — Michael Bloomberg has continued to support projects of great importance to him, including his alma mater, Johns Hopkins University, where he served as the chairman of the board of

trustees from 1996-2001. To date, he has contributed more than \$1 billion to Johns Hopkins. The university's School of Hygiene and Public Health – the largest public health facility in the U.S. – is now the Bloomberg School of Public Health in recognition of Michael Bloomberg's commitment and support.

To date, Michael Bloomberg has donated more than \$2.4 billion to a wide variety of causes and organizations. In 2012, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$370 million.

## Public Servant

In 2001, Michael Bloomberg was elected the 108th Mayor of the City of New York, and he was re-elected in 2005 and 2009. While in office, he has cut crime by more than 30 percent and created jobs by attracting new investment and supporting small business growth. He has implemented ambitious public health strategies, including a ban on smoking in restaurants and bars. Through these efforts, the Mayor has helped increase the average life expectancy of residents in New York City by three years. His education reforms have driven graduation rates up more than 40 percent. The Mayor's economic policies have helped New York avoid the level of job losses that many other cities experienced during the national recession.

Michael Bloomberg also leads a number of national and international coalitions of cities that are taking action on some of the most pressing issues facing our world today. In 2010, Mayor Bloomberg was elected Chair of the C40 Climate Leadership Group, a network of the world's largest cities working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions locally in order to address climate change globally. Under his leadership, C40 has adopted a new emphasis on accountability by collecting and using data to set clear goals and drive real outcomes. Mayor Bloomberg also co-founded Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a national bi-partisan coalition that has grown to more than 800 mayors committed to advancing common-sense policies that keep guns out of the hands of criminals and other dangerous people.



## Performance

University for a Night will feature philanthropist and Emmy Award-winning musician **Peter Buffett**, co-founder of the NoVo Foundation. Buffett combines music with a thought-provoking discussion of defining one's own path in life.

The son of legendary investor Warren Buffett, he will talk about the rewards of self-respect and the value of pursuing individual passions and accomplishments, rather than society's concept of material wealth. He will also explore the notion that the journey to a vocation is rarely a straight path and often includes doubts, false starts, crises, and blunders along the way.

The performance is a live companion to Buffett's *New York Times* best-selling book, *Life Is What You Make It*. The book has sold over half a million copies worldwide and has been translated into more than fifteen languages.

With his wife Jennifer Buffett, Peter Buffett is a past recipient of the David Rockefeller Bridging Leadership Award.



## About Synergos

Synergos helps solve complex problems of poverty and inequality by promoting and supporting collaborations among business, government, civil society, and marginalized communities.

We help these partnerships to be successful by building trust, designing and implementing change processes, enhancing the effectiveness of bridging leaders and institutions, and sharing our knowledge and experience.

Partnerships we support are improving education in Brazil, agriculture in Ethiopia, maternal and child health in Namibia, the lives of children in Mozambique and South Africa, and child nutrition and girls' empowerment in India.

Synergos also works with networks of civil society leaders, philanthropists, and social innovators around the world to raise their capacity to address poverty and related social problems.

Our key networks are the Synergos Senior Fellows, the Global Philanthropists Circle, networks of social innovators in the Arab World, and of leaders working to improve the lives of children in South Africa.

Since 1986, Synergos has led or supported initiatives in more than 30 countries. We are headquartered in New York with staff in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America.



# Sponsors

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David Rockefeller, Sr.



Kim Samuel



## Partners

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Josh Mailman and Monica Winsor

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Michael Sonnenfeldt and Katja Goldman



**WALK FREE**  
THE MOVEMENT TO END MODERN SLAVERY

## Bloomberg

## Collaborators

Stanley, Marion, Paul, Sara, David, Eddie  
and Sharon Bergman

William Bohnett

Raymond Chambers, the MCJ Amelior  
Foundation

Petr Chitipakhovyan

Claudia Cisneros

Strive Masiyiwa

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# Save the Date

Please join us at **University for a Night in Europe on Tuesday, October 8** in Geneva, featuring **Güler Sabancı**, Chair of Sabancı Holdings and of the Sabancı Foundation.



**Synergos**

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*Cover photos, from left:* Learning event of Synergos' global networks; kids benefiting from work of a member of our LINC network in South Africa; child nutrition is the focus of our work in India; University for a Night 2009.