



## ***Teach Africa* Teacher's Workshop**

Saturday, November 8, 2008

8:00 am – 5:30 pm

*at*

Westminster Schools

1424 West Paces Ferry Rd., NW, Atlanta, GA 30327

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Teaching Africa in Atlanta**

The Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa and Discovery Channel Global Education Partnership, in collaboration with the Southern Center for International Studies, will implement a teacher-training workshop under the rubric of *Teach Africa*, a U.S. Agency for International Development funded program that promotes Africa-education in the classroom. The workshop on Saturday, November 8, 2008 is the second phase of the *Teach Africa* initiative.

The *Teach Africa* workshop for K-12 educators will take place on Saturday, November 8 from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm at Westminster School. This initiative is a three-phased program that educates and orients superintendents, principals, teachers, and students to the continent of Africa. In conjunction with the three partners, *Teach Africa* aims to initiate a movement towards incorporating African curriculum into secondary schools across the nation.

**The keynote presentation for this program will feature Her Excellency Faida Mitifu, Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Edith Grace Ssempala will address the importance of educating American youth about the continent of Africa. Opening remarks will be provided by Bernadette Paolo, President and CEO of The Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa; Dr. Cedric L. Suzman, Vice-President and Director of Programming of the Southern Center for International Studies; and Dr. Scoot Dimon, Assistant Headmaster of Westminster Schools.**

The teacher workshop will host over 200 teachers from the Atlanta metro region. Dignitaries will participate in the keynote panel and breakout sessions led by local experts from the academic, nonprofit, governmental, and business sectors. Teachers will also receive various multimedia educational resources during the curricular resource session.

*Teach Africa* is an innovative and essential program. It was designed to provide educators with the background and tools needed to raise student interest in Africa—through a highly engaging, multidisciplinary approach. The program provides teachers and students with access to institutions and individuals—from diplomats and Africanists to professors—who can share their experiences and views on Africa.

A segment of “Africa Today” which is a product of the *Teach Africa* program will be shown at this program. The piece follows six teachers and students from Los Angeles to Uganda to learn more about their culture and their perceptions on Americans and American education. **Melissa Krodman, Associate Producer of the Discovery Channel Global Education Partnership, will present this piece, as well as give it to each teacher in attendance.**

In spring 2009, SCIS will implement Phase III by engaging school students on these issues in a daylong forum. *Teach Africa* first launched in 2002 in San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

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The mission of **The Africa Society** is to be the premiere entity that engages and educates Americans about Africa and to create, through partnerships, a better understanding of its peoples, diverse cultures, histories and economies.

**Discovery Channel Global Education Partnership** is a nonprofit organization that is committed to using the positive power of video to provide information and support community development in under-resourced schools and communities around the world.

**USAID** is an independent federal government agency that receives overall foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. The Agency supports long-term and equitable economic growth and advances U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting economic growth, agriculture and trade; global health; and democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Near East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and Eurasia.

**The Southern Center for International Studies (SCIS)**, founded in 1962, is a non-profit educational institution based in Atlanta, Georgia. The primary mission of SCIS is to internationalize the thinking of the American public. In accomplishing this mission, SCIS seeks to inform. It does not take political positions or attempt to influence policy.