9TH ANNUAL GREAT DECISIONS CONFERENCE:

International Migration and the Changing Face of America

The greatest mobility of people in human history is happening across the globe. The number of international migrants has more than tripled from 78 million in 1960 to more than 232 million, and refugee populations are at an all-time high of 19.5 million. A “migration gap” between government policies to welcome migrants and public opinion favoring more restrictions is contributing to political unrest and growing anti-immigrant sentiment in many countries, including the U.S. Lost in this discussion are the many ways immigrants contribute to the cultural, educational, economic, and civic vitality of our communities.

FEATURED SPEAKER: National Public Radio correspondent and author, Tom Gjelten, will take the podium at our ninth annual Great Decisions conference for an in-depth look at the forces causing people to leave their homes and seek new beginnings in new countries as well as obstacles posed to host communities absorbing the influx of people coming across their borders. Tom will discuss how immigrant stories and experiences from his new book, “A Nation of Nations: A Great American Immigration Story,” are playing out across the world and right here in Minnesota, such as economic competition and entrepreneurship, and racial and cultural stereotyping.

Join us to hear from Tom Gjelten, former U.S. Foreign Service Officer Tom Hanson, and other local experts on this critical issue.

*Presented in partnership with

NEW MEMBER SPECIAL*

Become a new Global Minnesota member at the $75 level and attend the conference for FREE! Or, join at the $150 level and receive one free conference admission AND a free 2016 Great Decisions briefing book, featuring a 12-page article on international migration. Learn more at globalminnesota.org/membership or call 612.625.1662.

*New membership tax deductibility will be impacted by benefits received through this special. Please see the event webpage for details.

REGISTRATION AT globalminnesota.org or call 612.625.1662
Developing Global Citizens

The start of fall is synonymous with “back-to-school” and that means Global Minnesota is heading to the classroom. For more than 20 years, we have been committed to building the next generation of global thinkers by supporting educators and students in their efforts to learn more about the world and develop global perspectives.

This school year marks the fourth anniversary of our redesigned elementary program, Classroom Connection, and brings a renewed partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools to integrate the program into more than 60 classrooms across the city. In addition, we are in the midst of expanding our K-12 Education program to build cultural competencies at the high-school level through global discussions that analyze the top foreign policy issues facing the U.S. And this November, the ninth annual Great Decisions conference on international migration will offer students – of all ages – the opportunity to learn more about global migration and the challenges and opportunities it presents.

While we look forward to another successful academic year, we know that global learning doesn’t end in the classroom. Through our Professional Exchanges program, we welcome impressive groups of individuals to Minnesota all year long to share ideas and best practices on a variety of topics. This fall, Edward R. Murrow journalists from Africa will be here to examine the upcoming U.S. presidential election and its global impact. Timely and relevant, the group’s visit rounds out our fall schedule of programs, all designed to keep audiences – and voters – informed on critical issues facing our country.

So, sharpen your pencils and join us as we head back to school and the polls.

Carol Engebretson Byrne

For more than 20 years, we have been committed to building the next generation of global thinkers...

International visitors from Colombia examining community sports program management and sustainability show off their moves at St. Paul Urban Tennis.
GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS: The United Nations Post-2015
This year marks the 70th anniversary of the United Nations and the halfway point in its global effort to eradicate poverty, hunger, and discrimination. But as the UN’s 193 member states look back at the success of the millennium development goals, they also must assess their needs for its sustainable development goals—a new series of benchmarks, which are set to expire in 2030. With the appointment of the ninth Secretary-General in the near future as well, the UN is bound to have quite a lot on its plate.

FEATURING: Michael Eaton, Executive Director of NCCA-NMUN (National Collegiate Conference Association – National Model United Nations) and Truman scholar, will lead a discussion on how the new sustainable development goals will shape the future of the UN and its member states.

Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central • 2nd floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
Free and open to the public; Advance registration requested

THE GROUNDTRUTH PROJECT: International Reporting in a Dangerous World
Today more than ever, truthful, in-depth reporting from international conflict zones that only on-the-ground journalists can provide is needed. This is exactly what The GroundTruth Project is doing. At the core of their work is the idea of “ground truth,” which simply means being on the ground to tell the story of social justice issues that matter in an increasingly interconnected world. FEATURING: Charlie Sennott, Founder and Executive Director of The GroundTruth Project and award-winning foreign correspondent, will discuss how his organization is preparing the next generation of international journalists for the digital age, and will share his own experiences as a reporter on the front lines of wars and insurgencies in 15 countries, including the 2011 revolution in Cairo, Egypt, and the Arab Spring.

Produced in partnership with the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota • 301 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis
Free and open to the public; Advance registration requested

REGISTER AT globalminnesota.org or call 612.625.1662
CULTURE THROUGH CUISINE: Lebanon
Situated in the heart of Northeast Minneapolis, Emily's Lebanese Deli has been serving up authentic Middle Eastern cuisine for more than 40 years. What started as a small bread-making business, Emily's is now one of the oldest Lebanese restaurants in Minneapolis. In fact, Emily's is so popular it was voted to Food Network’s “Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives” and wowed chef Guy Fieri with its signature lamb shish kebab and traditional kibbi — or as Guy described it, “the Lebanese version of steak tartare.” No matter where you live across the cities, join us at Emily’s for delicious food and the chance to hear from community members on what makes Lebanese food, culture, and strong Midwest presence so unique.

Emily's Lebanese Deli • 641 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis • $28 Members; $38 Nonmembers; Includes dinner, nonalcoholic beverages, tax, and gratuity; Advance registration required

A KENNAN CONVERSATION: Vladimir Putin's Vision of a Resurgent Russia
The increasing centralization and mobilization of Russia’s information resources in the hands of the state is providing the Kremlin the means to galvanize public opinion within the country, ignite passions in countries of the former Soviet Union with large populations of Russian-speakers, and forcefully assert Russia’s policies, views, and values internationally. Featuring: Jill Dougherty, former Moscow bureau chief and correspondent for CNN and former public policy scholar at the Kennan Institute, will discuss Vladimir Putin’s efforts to harness the Russian media and employ his “national idea” of Russia’s rightful place in the world to achieve its foreign policy objectives.

Produced in partnership with the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, The Museum of Russian Art, and the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota • 301 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis $5 Members; $15 Nonmembers; Advance registration required
Global thinking starts with global learning. Every year, Global Minnesota brings international perspectives to thousands of Minnesota students through Classroom Connection. Interactive and hands-on, the program pairs elementary students and teachers with international speakers for a series of cross-cultural lessons and the opportunity to experience the world. A valuable resource for any subject, Classroom Connection is simple and versatile and supports the important work educators do every day.

From Azerbaijan to Zambia, the world’s cultures travel to Minnesota classrooms. International speakers from 24 countries, across 25 disciplines volunteered with Classroom Connection for 5,000 contact hours.

Classroom Connection builds on the students’ abilities to be open-minded and empathetic, and show curiosity, appreciation, and respect.”
— Shana Dickson, First Grade Teacher, Elizabeth Hall International

MEMBER SUPPORT — your support — makes Classroom Connection possible. Become a Global Minnesota member or make a gift today and help bring the world to Minnesota students — one classroom at a time. Visit globalminnesota.org/membership or call 612.625.1662.

Bring the world to Minnesota – One Month at a Time

Become a sustaining member! When you give monthly, you make a BIG impact because your gift provides reliable, ongoing support. And, it allows us to focus on reaching more Minnesotans — including our young students — with opportunities to learn about and celebrate the world’s cultures.

Enjoy uninterrupted member benefits and change your gift amount or cancel at any time. You can become a sustaining member even if you’re already a member, due to renew, or just joining. You’ll even receive a free Global Minnesota mug as a thank you!* Sustainers are special members dedicated to building peaceful communities through international understanding and engagement. Sign up at globalminnesota.org/membership or call 612.625.1662.

Thank you to ALL our members for your participation and financial support.

*Free mug offer applies to gifts of $8 or more per month. Memberships are tax deductible.
WorldQuest International Trivia Competition

Mark your calendar for Global Minnesota's annual battle of international wits, WorldQuest, on Friday, December 9, at the McNamara Alumni Center at the University of Minnesota. Pull a team together and brush up on your knowledge of flags, capitals, geography, people in the news, current events, 2016 Great Decisions topics, and Global Minnesota's focus country — Colombia.

Paying attention? What is the only South American country to have coastlines on both the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea? Join us in December to find out the answer to this question and put your team one point ahead of the competition. Online registration and event information coming soon!