

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE AT WINDSOR: AN OCEANS SYMPOSIUM

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice President of Policy and Public Programs, International Partners, The Aspen Institute

Elliot is responsible for the Aspen Institute's Policy Programs, its Public Programs and its relations with its international partners. The Institute's Policy Programs focus on many of the most important issues in domestic and international affairs, as well as in topics in art, culture and science. They seek to improve decision-making by providing neutral venues, nonpartisan analysis and candid dialogue among leaders. The Institute's Public Programs open the

Institute's doors to a broader audience of influential citizens, and include the Aspen Ideas Festival and several more specialized forums. These occur primarily on the Institute's Aspen and Chesapeake Bay campuses, in Washington, at the Roosevelt House in New York City, and occasionally in other cities and overseas. Aspen has international partners in the Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Romania and Spain.

Elliot is a graduate of Harvard, Oxford and Yale Law School. He was a U.S. Supreme Court clerk and has had a career including the practice of law, executive positions in state and federal government and a presidential campaign, was president of two leading insurance and healthcare companies, has executive experience in two internet and technology start-ups, and has served on many non-profit boards, especially in the arts and humanities. Also, as American Secretary of the Rhodes Trust, he manages the U.S. Rhodes Scholarships.



Dr. Caroline Hermans, Head of Environmental Stewardship, Clinton Global Initiative

Caroline Hermans heads the Environmental Stewardship group at the Clinton Global Initiative. Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) convenes global leaders to create and implement innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. To date CGI members have made more than 2,100 commitments, which are already improving the lives of nearly 400 million people in more than 180 countries. When fully funded and implemented, these commitments will be valued at \$69.2 billion. Dr. Hermans works with CGI members to develop commitments in the area of sustainable systems, with a focus on ocean health and resiliency, supply chain sustainability, natural capital and ecosystem services, responsible tourism, environmental education, waste reduction and recycling, and food security. Prior to joining CGI, Caroline worked at the U.S. Geological Survey as an ecological economist conducting research on human-nature interactions and has worked extensively on multi-stakeholder collaboration and environmental conflict resolution.

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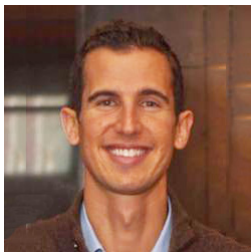
Sven-Olof Lindblad, President and Founder of Linblad Expeditions

Sven-Olof Lindblad, Founder of Lindblad Expeditions, born in Switzerland, traveled extensively with his father, renowned adventure-travel pioneer Lars-Eric Lindblad, who led the first non-scientific groups of travelers to Antarctica (1966). In 1979 he launched Special Expeditions, the adventure travel company that became Lindblad Expeditions. In 2004, Lindblad formed a strategic alliance with National Geographic that combines the strengths of two pioneers in global exploration, with the goal of inspiring people to explore and

care about the planet.

Lindblad's personal experience led to a commitment to environmentally responsible travel, which has resulted in numerous travel and environmental awards, including the 2009 Climate Champion Award from Clean-Air, Cool Planet, the 2008 National Wildlife Federation's Conservation Award for Corporate Achievement and the 2007 Global Tourism Business Award from the World Travel and Tourism Council. The company has also received the *Condé Nast Traveler* 2002 Ecotourism Award. The United Nations Environment Programme named him to their Global 500 roll of honor.

Lindblad is a member of the General Assembly of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands. In May 2006 he received international recognition for his innovative and successful model of tourism, receiving the "Commandeur de Notre Ordre de Merite Civil et Militaire d'Adolphe de Nassau" from Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg at the Grand-Ducal Place. He also had a newly discovered endemic species of moth in the Galapagos Islands, *Undulambia lindbladi*, named in honor of his conservation work. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Blue Ocean Institute and the National Geographic Society's Council of Advisors, and is a founding Ocean Elder of the non-profit organization, Ocean Elders, which brings together global leaders to pursue the protection of the ocean's habitat and wildlife.



Kristofor Lofgren, CEO & Founder, Bamboo Sushi

Kristofor Lofgren is the founder and CEO of Bamboo Sushi. Kristofor is a consummate creator and likes thinking of new ways to disrupt what he views as old and outdated business models. His goal with Bamboo Sushi is to create the most innovative and creative restaurant group in America. Bamboo Sushi is the living embodiment of this mission, whereby the environment, people, community, and profits are all accounted for to the highest level, in unison, in a way not seen before in this industry. When Kristofor is not working to foster

and grow the culture and people of Team Bamboo, you can probably find him traveling to meet with suppliers, environmental scientists, and policy makers. Kristofor enjoys spending his time outside of work with his wife, family, friends and participating in adventure and adrenaline sports.

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Her Majesty Queen Noor

Queen Noor is a global public servant and outspoken advocate for cross cultural understanding, Arab, Muslim and Western relations, and conflict prevention and recovery issues such as refugees, missing persons, climate change and disarmament. Queen Noor founded and chairs the Noor Al Hussein and King Hussein Foundations, is President of the United World Colleges, (UWC), and is a founding leader of Global Zero working for the worldwide elimination of nuclear weapons. She has published two books, *Hussein of Jordan* (KHF Publishing, 2000) and *Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life* (Miramax Books, 2003), a New York Times #1 best seller published in 17 languages.

Queen Noor has made environmental priorities an essential component of her work to promote human security and conflict resolution as patron of Jordan's Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), the Middle East's first environmental NGO, as chair of Jordan's National Commission which developed the region's first National Environment Strategy, as Patron of IUCN, Founding and Emeritus President of BirdLife International, trustee emeritus of Conservation International, and member of the Ocean Elders. She has received the United Nations Environment Programme Global 500 Award for her activism. Queen Noor has been honored with the Healing the Planet Award from Physicians for Social Responsibility and the Global Environmental Citizen Award from Harvard Medical School's Center for Health and the Global Environment.



David de Rothschild, Adventurer, Environmentalist and Founder of myoo.com

David de Rothschild is an adventurer, environmentalist and the Founder of myoo.com, a group that primarily uses exploration and storytelling as a way to give nature a voice. David's passion and commitment to action has led him to ski, dogsled and kite to both the North and South poles as well as visiting some of the world's most remote and fragile regions in order to bring widespread media attention and, moreover, solutions to urgent global environmental issues. From March to July 2010, David and his crew of five undertook an expedition aboard the *Plastiki*, sailing across the Pacific Ocean on a catamaran made buoyant by 12,500 reclaimed plastic bottles. David is recognized as a National Geographic Emerging Explorer, a Clean up the World Ambassador, a UNEP Climate Hero and a Young Global Leader.



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Dr. M. Sanjayan, Lead Scientist, The Nature Conservancy, CBS News Science and Environment Contributor @msanjayan

M. Sanjayan is the Lead Scientist for the world's largest environmental organization, The Nature Conservancy, and holds a faculty research position at the University of Montana. His research interests focus on exploring the nexus between saving nature and the wellbeing of people, wildlife ecology, and digital environmental education. He regularly writes for the Huffington Post and for

Orion magazine and has published scholarly articles in numerous journals including Science, Nature, Conservation Biology, and Marine Policy.

In 2012 he was named CBS News' Science and Environment Contributor. He is currently filming a multi-part series for PBS and National Geographic Television. This fall, he will star in "Years of Living Dangerously", a Showtime series that will address the impact of human-induced climate change through first-person narratives and explore solutions for the future. He is a Catto Fellow at the Aspen Institute and a senior advisor to the Clinton Global Initiative.



Thayer Walker, Correspondent, *Outside Magazine*

Thayer is partner and chief reconnaissance officer at The Summit Group. Founded in 2008, Summit host an annual event called Summit Series, designed to catalyze community and cooperation among entrepreneurs and other change makers. Summit Series events have raised tens of millions of dollars for business and nonprofit ventures, which, in 2011, included a partnership with Bamboo Sushi and The Nature Conservancy to help create a 71 square mile MPA in the Bahamas. Currently, Summit is in the process of

purchasing Powder Mountain, the largest ski resort in the U.S., with a vision of creating an epicenter of innovation and culture in Utah's Wasatch Mountains. Thayer is also a Correspondent for *Outside* magazine, frequently covering ocean issues, and is the co-founder of Ink Dwell, a studio which inspires people to love, protect, and appreciate the Earth one work of art at a time.