



COLORADO  
COLLEGE

# THE DIFFERENCE

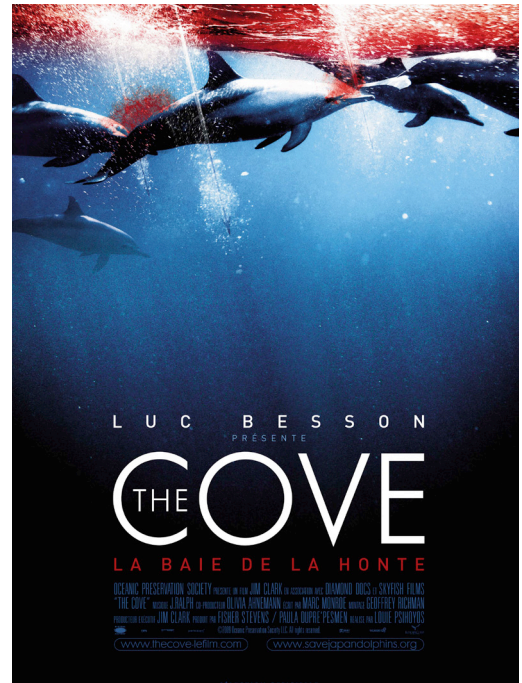
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## PeaceJam Screens *The Cove*



Louie Psihoyos, director of *The Cove* spoke at CC during 8th Block

by Laurel Hecker '13

### Service Quote of the Block:

Service is what life is all about.  
—Marian Wright Edelman

On April 25th, the student organization PeaceJam hosted a screening of the documentary *The Cove*, followed by a short lecture and discussion with the film's director, Louie Psihoyos. The event was the result of several months of planning and preparation by PeaceJam's members.

PeaceJam is an international organization, based in Denver, that focuses on educating youth about non-violent routes to change in various areas of human rights issues. It has been active for over a decade, but The Colorado College chapter has only been present on campus for a few years. PeaceJam member McKenna Asakawa '16 explains, "A lot of our work so far has just been trying to get our name out there... Screening *The Cove* really was our first large-scale public

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event.”

At the end of last semester, Asakawa suggested to the rest of the group that *The Cove*—a film she had seen several years ago—could make for an impactful event that was also relevant to the environmental issues that are part of PeaceJam’s mission. After some discussion, Asakawa says, “we thought that maybe we could bring the director of *The Cove*, Louie Psihoyos, to campus to speak and show the movie at the same time.” That idea was the beginning of several months of planning and fundraising.

“There’s only about five or six regular members [of PeaceJam],” Asakawa says, “so planning such a large-scale event with such a small amount of resources, both monetary and human, was a bit of a challenge.” PeaceJam was not swayed by this challenge, however. Over winter break, they contacted Psihoyos’ agent to begin the process. As soon as they returned to CC for second semester, they began seeking funding from various departments to cover Psihoyos’ speaking fee. “Each department has a different way that you apply for funding,” explains Asakawa. “Through Sociology, you have to show how it’s pertinent to the subject, so I talked about how the film makes us question our social responsibilities to other people, but also to non-human species.” PeaceJam received funding for the event from CCSGA, as well as the Psychology, Philosophy, Sociology, and Religion departments.

After the speaker and the funds had been secured, PeaceJam members spent considerable effort advertising the event to ensure its success and impact. They publicized it to the CC campus and the greater community, even going as far as to send the information to newspapers in Colorado Springs and Denver.

All their hard work paid off. “When Louie Psihoyos showed up to Armstrong Theatre for the first time, that’s when it really came together,” says Asakawa. “Actually seeing him on campus, ready to be part of our event, was such a big moment—the epitome of what we’d been working for.”

Several hundred people gathered to watch the film, and most stayed for Psihoyos’ lecture as well. He discussed the process of making the film, and the

impact that it has had after its release. According to Psihoyos, the demand for dolphin meat has been reduced by two-thirds since the film premiered in 2009. “I measure success in terms of creating real change,” he said. Psihoyos also talked about his future plans and showed the preview for his next documentary, *The Singing Planet*, about mass extinctions. After he lectured, audience members were able to ask direct questions, and many took advantage of the opportunity.

Overall, the event met and exceeded PeaceJam’s expectations, according to Asakawa: “I was so pleased that people not only stayed for the documentary but also stayed for the lecture, and the fact that people reacted and engaged with the movie.”

*“PeaceJam is a very welcoming community of people who are passionate about changing the world and striving for a peaceful solution to things.”*

*—McKenna Asakawa*

*for more information on PeaceJam’s international mission, go to*  
*[www.peacejam.org](http://www.peacejam.org)*

# Immigration Reform

by Laurel Hecker '13

On April 15, The Business and Community Alliance (B&CA) hosted a discussion luncheon around the topic of immigration reform. The B&CA is an organization hosted by [offices] in an effort to strengthen ties between the college and the community. The discussion came at an opportune moment, as the day of the lunch coincided with the introduction of comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level.

Eric Popkin, CC's Associate Dean of Global, Community, and Summer Programs, and the discussion's moderator, opened the panel by demonstrating the need for reform, especially in Colorado and Colorado Springs, through a myriad of statistics. He detailed the rising percentage of foreign-born people in the United States' population, with a large portion of those people being of Latin American origin.

Popkin then turned the microphone over to the three panel speakers, the first of whom was Annie Oatman-Gardner, the Regional Director for US Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO). She discussed the need for reform in three parts: economics; family ties; and law enforcement. She also mentioned the need to work with the 11 million undocumented immigrants already living and working in the

United States. Senator Bennet, Oatman-Gardner explained, has been working tirelessly to effect change on this important and controversial topic in Washington. As a representative of the political process, she noted that compromise will be a necessary part of the job. She also read key points of the proposed legislation that call for a "tough but fair" approach to undocumented immigrants, a path to citizenship, and reform of the visa system.

The second panelist to speak was Tom Hurley, a local attorney who brought the business perspective to the table. Like Oatman-Gardner, he opened with a description of the three "competing interests" that affect immigration policy: family unity; economic benefits; and (the current heavyweight)

national security. From a business and economic point of view, he said, reform is necessary to respond to the demand in the workforce. According to Hurley, the annual demand for foreign-born students and professionals reaches as high as 200,000. Currently, only 65,000 H1B visas are given out per year. "We need to give people a chance to contribute," he said, lamenting what he called "outdated policies." He finished by summarizing, "We need to enact legislation that recognizes that America is a nation of immigrants."

The third and final panelist was Oscar Chacón, the Executive Director of the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities (NALACC). He explained the special importance of reform to



Oscar Chacón speaks at the B&CA panel

his constituents— 55% of the foreign-born population in the US is Latino, as are 85% of undocumented immigrants. After summarizing the history of immigration policy in the US, he discussed the complications and struggles of the last 25 years. Most undocumented workers do not want to be here illegally, he stressed, but it is increasingly difficult to get visas. Chacón also focused on the difficulties created by the politicization of immigration as an issue. Over the past few decades, immigration has become a wedge issue during elections, and the long-held view of immigrants as “bad” makes it challenging to

enact change. “The narrative was and to some extent still is that immigrants, especially Mexicans, are criminals and a burden on society,” he explained. As US demographics change, however, politicians are beginning to see Latinos as a desirable group. Political and legal treatment of Latinos and all recent immigrants is expected to change, but it looks to be a long, slow process ahead. Although he is in favor of reform, Chacón also criticized the bill about to be put forth in the Senate, saying, “the bill is not actually that comprehensive.”

After each speaker presented their views on the issue, time was allowed for questions

from the audience, which ranged from “Is it realistic to get people to pay back taxes?” to “What can immigrants do to help bring about reform?” The engaged and curious audience proved that this is truly an issue of great importance in our community. The call for reform came from all sides of the conversation as represented by the panelists— politics, business, and affected communities. Although many people have seen a deep need for immigration reform for considerable time, the conversation is only just beginning in a serious way in Washington. Immigration reform bills are beginning to be introduced in Congress, but it is sure to be a long and painstaking process.



# GlobeMed Dinner

by Erika Berglund '15

GlobeMed is an organization of 50 universities across the country with the mission of strengthening and improving the movement for global health equity. Each university is partnered with a grassroots health organization, joining forces to improve health and justice around the world. GlobeMed at Colorado College is partnered with Western Organization of People Living with HIV/AIDS (WOPLAH) in western Kenya. Throughout their first year at CC, they put on several fundraising events including a 5k race, a 3v3 basketball tournament, a goat cheese making workshop, and, most recently, a benefit dinner.



Members of GlobeMed at Colorado College

For its final event of the year, GlobeMed hosted a benefit dinner that took place on Tuesday, May 7th. 100 students enjoyed an elegant evening of drinks, food, and entertainment in their dress-to-impress attire. The dinner was held at the prestigious Stewart House on Wood Avenue. Bon Appetit catered a delicious pasta buffet, and those 21 and up enjoyed drinks generously donated by Weber St. Liquor and Coaltrain Wine & Spirits. For entertainment, Wesley Brandt '14 kicked off the evening by gracing guests with a beautiful repertoire of piano music. Following Brandt, Room 46 blew everyone away with their performance of part of their spring a cappella concert. DJ Rain then put everyone in a groovy mood with a selection of chill jams. The dinner also

included a silent auction filled with wonderful items such as prints made by Lila Pickus '13 and Hollis Moore '13, earrings made by Chloe Banning '14 and Annie Ireland '13, photos on canvas taken by Ann Fenley '15, and ceramic bowls made by Maia Murphy-Williams '14.

The dinner raised about \$1,700, which will be sent directly to WOPLAH. Over the school year, GlobeMed at CC raised over \$13,000 for WOPLAH. The money has funded WOPLAH's shoe campaign to end jiggers, goat-rearing project, community gardens, and community health dialogues. These projects serve to improve the lives of those living positively with HIV/AIDS and their families through sustainable, education-based means.



Room 46 performs

# CCE Barbecue

*On Thursday May 2, the Collaborative for Community Engagement held their end-of-year barbecue. Students, faculty, staff, and community partners gathered at Hamlin House to celebrate the conclusion of the CCE's first year of community service and engagement. Jessica Copeland, Director of the CCE, presented several awards to recognize the efforts of some extraordinary members of the Collaborative and its community.*



## CCE Awards 2013

**The McHugh Director's Award**  
Since 1996, The Anabel & Jerry McHugh Director's Award has been presented to a graduating senior who has made a significant contribution to the enhancement of the Collaborative for Community Engagement.

**Ellen Scully**

**Class of 1981 Award for Outstanding Community Service**  
This award is presented to a graduating senior who best exemplifies the ideals of a liberal arts & sciences education. This student has been consistently dedicated to promoting an ethic of community engagement and involving others in understanding the civic and social challenges of our world.

**Katharine Teter**

**Exceptional Promise in Social Justice**  
This award honors a lower-division student who shows exemplary promise as a champion of social justice, integrating scholarship with rigorous community-based work. This student shows a deep commitment to societal change at the grassroots level, and is a model of activism and compassion.

**Helen Feldman**

**Outstanding Community Partner**  
This award honors community partners who, through their collaborative efforts, advance CC's capacity for rigorous community-based work, enabling students, faculty, and staff to extend the reach of the liberal arts towards the common good.

**Brian Kates**

**Exemplary Achievement in Community-Engaged Teaching**  
This award honors a faculty member who has artfully woven academic scholarship with community-based work in transformative and innovative ways, and encourages students to make powerful connections between theory and practice.

**CJ Pascoe**

## Editor's Note

*Well, 8th Block has come to an end, and despite my best efforts to the contrary, I will be graduating from Colorado College in less than a week. I have thoroughly enjoyed my four years here, and serving as editor of *The Difference* since my junior year has been an integral part of my education. It was a privilege to work in both the Center for Service and Learning and the Collaborative for Community Engagement. With the CSL, I was introduced to the many students and organizations who devote so much time and energy to serving others. This year, as part of the CCE staff, I watched students and office staff work to become truly intentional about their work, and was able to learn a bit more about the communities that surround and interact with CC. In both cases, it has been a pleasure and an honor to share the challenges and triumphs of CC students with an audience that might not have otherwise known about these incredible things happening on campus and around the world.*

*I would like to thank Gay Victoria, Tonita López, Jessica Copeland, and Fransiska Dannemann, along with the rest of the CSL and CCE staff members for their dedication and support. It is because of all of you that CC and its students can make such a difference in the world.*

—Laurel Hecker '13

*Have a great summer!*

## COLORADO COLLEGE

### **THE COLLABORATIVE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

WORNER CAMPUS CENTER 205

PHONE: (719) 389-6846 FAX: (719) 389-6137

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: LAUREL HECKER

WEBSITE: <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/cce/>

### **Our Mission Statement:**

*The Collaborative for Community Engagement challenges students and faculty to integrate rigorous liberal arts scholarship with collaborative community-based work in ways that strengthen and transform both in the process. In the tradition of liberal education and its emphasis on active citizenship, we provide a continuum of opportunities for the Colorado College community to deepen and contextualize classroom learning by engaging in reciprocal and sustainable collaborations with local, regional, national, and global partners. By fostering skills for planning, implementing and examining civic action, the Collaborative facilitates leadership development and promotes a social responsibility that is reflective, imaginative, and self-aware.*