



2008 Echoing Green Fellowships Spotlight Trends in Social Change

-- Embracing Market-based Solutions and Youthful Idealism --

New York City, June 25, 2008 – More of the world's most promising leaders than ever before are harnessing market forces to solve the most pressing global problems, according to Echoing Green, the world's flagship angel investor in outstanding emerging social entrepreneurs.

Today, Echoing Green demonstrated its enduring role as a pioneer in social change as it announced one of its largest-ever classes of fellows: twenty-seven bold entrepreneurs representing nineteen start-up organizations, who were rigorously selected from a record pool of more than 1,450 applicants from eighty-three countries around the world.

Each of the 2008 Echoing Green Fellows will receive seed funding of up to \$90,000 over two years, health insurance and other benefits, strategic planning and personal leadership support, and legal and financial modeling assistance, as well as mentoring from Echoing Green's network of alumni and other leading social change professionals. This represents a total investment in the 2008 fellows of more than \$1.5 million.

Named for the William Blake poem, Echoing Green is a global nonprofit that supports entrepreneurs who pursue social change through empowerment rather than charity. This year, for the first time in Echoing Green's twenty-one-year history, more than half of its fellows have developed models for creating lasting change that harness market forces, including several who plan to launch socially focused for-profits. Market-based enterprises represented in Echoing Green's 2008 class include an online platform enabling low-income entrepreneurs in India to grow their businesses, and a sustainable development corporation building environmentally sound and affordable structures in the Gulf Coast.

The 2008 class is also distinctive because of its relative youth, reflecting Echoing Green's core belief that young people are key actors in sparking meaningful social change. Their average age is 28.5 years old, and one third of the fellows are under 26 years-old. Continuing a trend of the past few years, more than half (eleven) of the nineteen organizations are working internationally; six programs are based outside the United States, working with communities in India, Mexico, China and Israel.

These young leaders are tackling an array of social ills in the areas of community and economic development, health, education, and the environment. Examples of the social ventures initiated by the 2008 Echoing Green Fellows include:

- **Muboso Zamchiya, School Invest**
Improving access to capital for schools serving the poor in Africa through an online marketplace that connects schools to social investors who can support their work.
- **Jane Chen and Rahul Panicker, Embrace**
Developing and comprehensively distributing a low-cost infant incubator for use in developing countries.

- **Josh Sommer, Chordoma Foundation**
Pioneering a system to rapidly translate advances in biomedical research into meaningful knowledge and effective treatments for patients with overlooked cancers.
- **Jessamyn Waldman, Hot Bread Kitchen**
Introducing a social enterprise model that creates well-paid careers for immigrant women and preserves their traditional baking traditions.

“The world’s most persistent problems demand our most innovative solutions,” said Dr. Cheryl L. Dorsey, President of Echoing Green. “The 2008 Echoing Green Fellows answered our call to ‘be bold’ by breaking through the boundaries that separate the private from the nonprofit sector. Their message is clear: we will use every and any possible tool to fix the world around us. Echoing Green is proud to support these promising social entrepreneurs and invest in their visions for change.”

“As my research has shown, social entrepreneurs are willing to blur the lines between the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. This new class of Echoing Green Fellows includes exciting examples of this kind of creativity, confirming that this trend is likely to grow,” said J. Gregory Dees, professor at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business and pioneer in studying social entrepreneurship.

“Echoing Green’s commitment to the entrepreneurial spirit has never been stronger, and as a result the opportunities for social entrepreneurs and the people they empower have never been greater,” said David C. Hodgson, Managing Director of General Atlantic, LLC and Chairman of the Echoing Green Board of Directors. “Our model has attracted broad support from across the private equity industry, with twenty-four firms represented on our Board of Directors and Social Investment Council. By applying the principles of private investing to the social change sector, Echoing Green can realize the ultimate return on investment: deep and lasting positive social change.”

A full description of the 2008 Echoing Green Fellows can be viewed at <http://www.echoinggreen.org/fellows/year/2008> and a list is attached below.

2008 Echoing Green Fellows: More Facts and Figures

Increase in applications vs. 2007: 60 percent

Number of Echoing Green Fellows since 1987: 457

Echoing Green’s investment in its fellows since 1987: Over \$27 million

Nationally-recognized organizations funded at early stages by Echoing Green: Teach For America, Working Today, Genocide Intervention Network, Citizen Schools, JumpStart for Children, Peace Games, the Global Fund for Children, and City Year

Number of 2008 fellowship organizations with “green” in their names: 2

About Echoing Green

To drive transformative social change, Echoing Green identifies and assists some of the world’s best emerging social entrepreneurs launching new high-impact organizations. Through our fellowship program, we support this community of visionaries as they develop new solutions to society’s toughest problems. Founded by the leadership of the private equity firm General Atlantic in 1987, Echoing Green has supported 450 leaders sparking change in forty countries and forty-one states. For more information on the Echoing Green Fellowship program, the 2008 fellows and their organizations, please visit www.echoinggreen.org.



2008 Echoing Green Fellows

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT



Disaster Accountability Project

Ben Smilowitz

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: West Hartford, CT

The Bold Idea: Improving the nation's disaster management systems through public accountability, citizen oversight and empowerment, whistle-blower engagement, and policy research.



The Op-Ed Project

Katie Orenstein

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: New York, NY

The Bold Idea: Projecting new diverse voices into national conversation by providing channels for women experts into the op-ed pages of top newspapers, online sites, and other key forums of public debate.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



CREA

Gabriela Enrigue & Leticia Jáuregui

Scope: Domestic – Mexico

Location: Berkeley, California and Zacatecas, Mexico

The Bold Idea: Developing an integrated method for channeling remittances to income-generating projects for impoverished women entrepreneurs in Mexico.



GreenMango

Yasmina McCarty & Nandini Pandhi Narula

Scope: International

Location: Hyderabad, India and New York, New York

The Bold Idea: Bringing low-income entrepreneurs in developing countries the power of online marketing technologies, which enable them to grow their businesses and increase their income.



GTECH Strategies

Andrew Butcher & Chris Koch

Scope: Local – Pittsburgh, PA

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

The Bold Idea: Reclaiming vacant land through the growth of alternative energy crops in order to remediate soil, produce biofuel feedstock, and serve as a platform for green job training.



Hot Bread Kitchen

Jessamyn Waldman

Scope: Local – Brooklyn, NY

Location: Brooklyn, NY

The Bold Idea: Introducing a social enterprise model that creates well-paid careers for immigrant women and preserves their traditional baking practices.



Livelihoods Equity Connect (LEC)

Adarsh Kumar

Scope: International

Location: New Delhi, India

The Bold Idea: Building a venture capital fund to serve businesses that are owned by or employ poor producers, thereby serving their unmet financial and other business needs and enabling them to scale up to become commercially successful companies.



Sustainable Health Enterprises (SHE)

Elizabeth Sharp

Scope: International

Location: Brooklyn, NY

The Bold Idea: Amplifying girls' and women's economic potential by launching female-run franchises that manufacture and distribute low priced, high-quality, environmentally-friendly sanitary towels.



Ventures in Development

Carol Chyau & Marie So

Scope: Domestic – China

Location: Hong Kong and Shanghai, China

The Bold Idea: Catalyzing the growth of social enterprises in Greater China by building successful examples that will generate economic development along the Tibetan plateau.

EDUCATION



Indian School of Education

Aditya Natraj

Scope: Domestic – India

Location: Ahmedabad, India

The Bold Idea: Training principals to turn around failing rural public schools in India.



School Invest

Mubuso Zamchiya

Scope: Regional – Sub-Saharan Africa

Location: Alexandria, VA

The Bold Idea: Improving access to capital for schools serving the poor in Africa through an online marketplace that connects schools to social investors who can support their work.

ENVIRONMENT



Asociación Nacional de Derecho Ambiental (National Environmental Law Association)

Rafa Cancel-Vazquez

Scope: Local – Puerto Rico

Location: San Juan, Puerto Rico

The Bold Idea: Building the first environmental law center in Puerto Rico that will bridge the environmental justice gap, triggering community participation for a healthy environment and sustainable development.



Green Coast Enterprises

Will Bradshaw & Reuben Teague

Scope: Regional – Gulf Coast

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana

The Bold Idea: Creating a sustainable development corporation that builds environmentally sound and affordable structures in the Gulf Coast.

HEALTH



Chordoma Foundation

Josh Sommer

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: Greensboro, North Carolina

The Bold Idea: Pioneering a system to rapidly translate advances in biomedical research into meaningful knowledge and effective treatments for patients with overlooked cancers.



Embrace

Jane Chen & Rahul Panicker

Scope: International

Location: Stanford, CA

The Bold Idea: Developing and comprehensively distributing a low-cost infant incubator for use in developing countries.



Initiative for Medicines, Access & Knowledge (I-MAK)

Priti Radhakrishnan & Tahir Amin

Scope: International

Location: New York, New York

The Bold Idea: Creating a public interest team of attorneys and scientists who ensure that patents do not obstruct access to affordable medicines for poor patients in developing countries.



PharmaSecure

Nathan Sigworth & Taylor Thompson

Scope: International

Location: Hamden, Connecticut and Greensboro, North Carolina

The Bold Idea: Reducing the sale of counterfeit drugs in developing countries.

HUMAN RIGHTS



Advocates for Informed Choice

Anne Tamar-Mattis

Scope: Domestic – United States

Location: Cotati, California

The Bold Idea: Protecting the civil rights of children born with variations of sex anatomy.



The Seven Women Center

Samah Salaime-Egbariya

Scope: Domestic - Israel

Location: Neve Shalom-Wahat el Salam, Israel

The Bold Idea: Establishing a center for helping women fight the phenomenon of honor killings in the Arab community in Israel.

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