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### **Archbishop Desmond Tutu to Address The National Service-Learning Conference Minneapolis Convention Center, April 9-12, 2008**

The National Youth Leadership Council is thrilled that Archbishop Desmond Tutu will be speaking at The 19th Annual National Service-Learning Conference: Youth for a Change on Friday, April 11, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The recent controversy over the University of St. Thomas' decision not to sponsor his visit has in no way affected his participation in the conference.

"Archbishop Tutu's message of peace and reconciliation, even under the most difficult of circumstances, is as relevant today as it was in the time of South African apartheid," says NYLC President and CEO Jim Kielsmeier. "Young people need to be at the center of the discussion as we address the most difficult barriers to peace in the Middle East and around the globe."

Archbishop Tutu's keynote address, "Youth for a Change," will explore youth-led social-justice work, highlighting ideas with local and global implications. Following his address, the archbishop will also take part in a smaller, more intimate "featured forum" session. These opportunities to hear Archbishop Tutu speak are open only to conference participants.

Held April 9-12, the conference features more than 200 workshops; countless networking opportunities; and additional keynote addresses from urban educator Pedro Noguera, author of "Unfinished Business: Closing the Achievement Gap in Our Nation's Schools," and Peace Corps Director Ronald Tschetter.

On Saturday, April 12, following the closing session, conference attendees are also invited to join Archbishop Tutu and make a difference in the North Minneapolis neighborhood with the 2008 Upper Midwest PeaceJam service-learning project. NYLC is proud to partner with PeaceJam, YOUTHRIVE and Metropolitan State University in hosting Archbishop Tutu.

For more information and online registration, visit [www.nylc.org/conference](http://www.nylc.org/conference).

#### **About The National Service-Learning Conference**

The 19th Annual National Service Learning-Conference® is the largest gathering of youths and practitioners from the service-learning movement, convening approximately 3,000 young people and adult service-learning practitioners from around the country and the globe. Over the past four years, participants from 41 countries have attended. The conference is a program of NYLC, sponsored by the State Farm Companies Foundation in partnership with Youth Service America.

#### **About NYLC**

For 25 years, NYLC has been at the center of service-learning program and policy development. It annually convenes The National Service-Learning Conference, offers adult and youth trainings and develops service-learning resources. For more information, please visit [www.nylc.org](http://www.nylc.org).