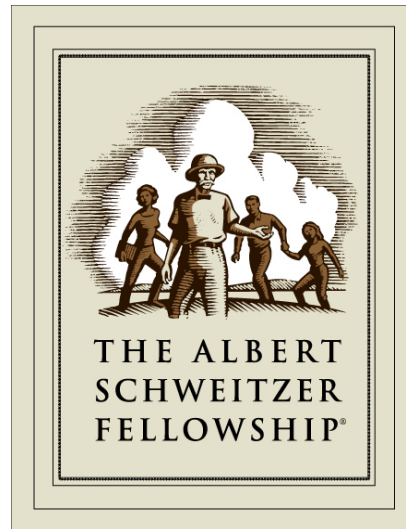


**MEDIA ADVISORY—For immediate release**

**CONTACT:**

Patrice Taddonio  
Communications Specialist  
617-667-5628  
ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu



## **IDEALISM INTO ACTION:**

### **Local Students Accepted to Prestigious Schweitzer Fellowship Program for 2009-2010 Take Aim at Los Angeles Area's Most Pressing Health-Related Issues**

Every year, more than 200 Albert Schweitzer Fellows across the U.S. follow in the footsteps of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning physician and humanitarian by developing and implementing direct service projects with a lasting impact on the health of underserved communities.

Founded in 2007, the Los Angeles Schweitzer Fellows Program supports area students in making just such an impact. The program, funded through a generous start-up grant from Kaiser Permanente of Southern California, serves the greater Los Angeles area and is a collaboration between Los Angeles Physicians for Social Responsibility; Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County; University of Southern California; University of California, Los Angeles; and University of California, Irvine.

This year, 19 new Fellows from health and human disciplines at the area's top schools have been selected to join the Los Angeles program's ranks, each partnering with a local agency and devoting more than 200 hours of service.

**The 2009-10 Los Angeles Fellows' projects directly and creatively address some of the area's most pressing health-related issues, including:**

- Launching a comprehensive education and mentoring program targeting young women in the East Los Angeles area who are at high risk for teen pregnancy (**Saskya Byerly, Kimberly DeQuattro, and Kristen Gregory, USC Med**);
- Implementing an outreach-based syringe exchange program for homeless injection drug users in Los Angeles, as well as improving delivery of health services and education to that population (**Lynne Chang, UCLA Med**);
- Developing a case management intervention to better deliver medical and mental health care for low-income and uninsured patients (**Carolina Rodriguez, USC Social Work and Nursing**);
- Establishing the Asian Pacific American Health Collaboration Access Resource and Education (APA Health CARE), which will provide health screenings for obesity, hypertension, diabetes, high

cholesterol and hepatitis B at health fairs throughout the year in the Los Angeles area (**Lucy Chow**, *UCLA Med*);

- Addressing pediatric obesity and cardiovascular disease through patient education classes (**Erin Grieb and Wonita Youm**, *UCI Med*)

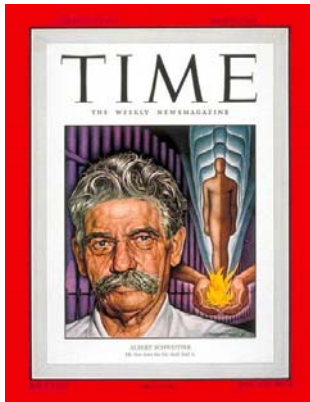
Descriptions of all of the 2009-2010 Los Angeles Fellows' newly announced projects are available on [www.schweitzerfellowship.org](http://www.schweitzerfellowship.org). For headshots of the Fellows, or to arrange interviews, please contact Patrice Taddonio at [ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu) or 617.667.5628.

## ABOUT THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP

Since its inception in 1991, the Schweitzer Fellowship has provided more than 400,000 hours of service to the communities it serves. Carrying on Schweitzer's legacy of translating idealism into action—and of restoring the moral compass of the health-related fields—Schweitzer Fellows are chosen through a competitive selection process from the nation's top health and human service schools. They serve for one year, working with local community agencies in Baltimore, Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, Greater Philadelphia, Houston/Galveston, Los Angeles, New Hampshire/Vermont, New Orleans, North Carolina, and Pittsburgh to implement sustainable projects that make a lasting, on-the-ground difference in the health of local communities.

Once Fellows have completed their year of service, they join a network of over 2,000 Schweitzer "Fellows for Life" across the United States and abroad. Virtually all continue their commitment to lives of service in cities and towns around the country and around the world. Because the work of the Fellows is donated without charge to the communities served, each city's program is supported entirely through charitable gifts. For more information or to receive a copy of our informational DVD featuring Dr. Timothy Johnson and Yo-Yo Ma, visit [www.schweitzerfellowship.org](http://www.schweitzerfellowship.org) or contact Patrice Taddonio at [ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:ptaddon@bidmc.harvard.edu) or 617.667.5628.

## ABOUT ALBERT SCHWEITZER



Albert Schweitzer was born on January 14, 1875 in a small village in Germany. As a young man, Schweitzer was a renowned philosopher, theologian, Bach scholar, organist, author, and pastor. At the age of 30, however, he decided to become a medical doctor, translating his idealism into action by dedicating his life to the direct service of people in Africa.

In 1913, Schweitzer and his wife founded the Schweitzer Hospital at Lambaréné, Gabon, then a province of French Equatorial Africa. It was there that he developed his credo of Reverence for Life, the idea that all life is as worthy of reverence as our own. In 1953, at the age of 78, Schweitzer was honored for his humanitarian work with the Nobel Peace Prize.

In September 1965, having powerfully advocated against nuclear proliferation, Schweitzer died at the age of 90 in Lambaréné. His legacy lives on through The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship.