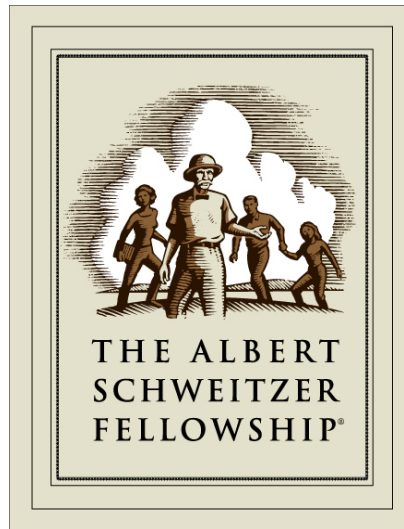


MEDIA ADVISORY—For immediate release

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IDEALISM INTO ACTION:

Local Students Accepted to Prestigious Schweitzer Fellowship Program for 2009-2010 Take Aim at New Orleans' 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 in collaboration with Louisiana Public Health Institute, Louisiana State University, and Tulane University, the New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows Program supports area students in making just such an impact. This year, 11 new Fellows from health and human disciplines at area schools have been selected to join the New Orleans program's ranks, each partnering with a local agency and devoting more than 200 hours of service.

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

- Helping to organize, design, and establish funding for the Gulf Coast Center for Autism, which will integrate academics; speech, behavioral and occupational therapy; psychiatry; and genetics testing (**Megan Hodges, Tulane School of Medicine**);
- Implementing a culturally-sensitive health education outreach program for Latino individuals in the Greater New Orleans area who have been diagnosed with type-II diabetes (**Jon Pennycuff, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine**);
- Developing an exercise program at assisted living facilities and senior centers in the Greater New Orleans area (**Emily Rogers and Shannon Speeg, LSUHSC School of Public Health**);
- Educating adolescents about contraception in an effort to decrease unintended pregnancy and the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases (**Mithu Tharayil, Tulane School of Medicine**);
- Instituting an after-school program for local public schools that aims to improve the oral health of elementary school-aged children (**Amy Thierry and Lauren Cole, LSUSHC School of Public Health**)

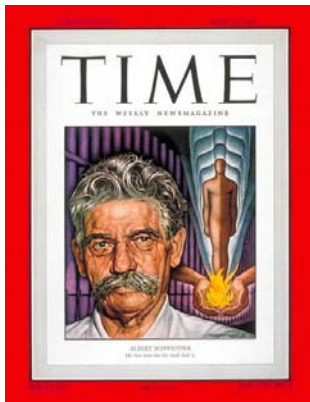
Descriptions of all of the 2009-2010 New Orleans Fellows' newly announced projects are available on www.schweitzerfellowship.org. For headshots of the Fellows, or to arrange interviews, please contact Patrice Taddonio at ptaddonio@bidmc.harvard.edu or 617.667.5628.

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 or contact Patrice Taddonio at ptaddonio@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.