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**11TH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SUMMIT/3RD SOCIAL ENTERPRISE WORLD FORUM
SCHEDULED FOR SAN FRANCISCO APRIL 28-30**

Washington, D.C. (February 15, 2010) – Twelve years ago, a small group of pioneers staged the 1st National Gathering for Social Entrepreneurs. One hundred eighty-two people attended.

Over the years, the gathering has morphed into the Social Enterprise Alliance, the largest membership organization for social entrepreneurs in North America. Its signature event, the 11th Social Enterprise Summit, will bring more than 600 people from across the globe to San Francisco April 28-30 and will be conducted jointly with the 3rd Social Enterprise World Forum. The international three-day event will highlight social enterprise models and strategies from around the world.

Among others, keynote speakers will include:

- **Peter Holbrook**, President and CEO of the Social Enterprise Coalition, the voice of social enterprise in the United Kingdom
- **Dan Pallotta**, author of the controversial best-seller *Uncharitable*, which challenges many of the prevailing assumptions about the nonprofit sector
- **Rosanne Haggerty**, President and Founder of Common Ground, an international leader in developing community strategies to end homelessness
- **Shari Berenbach**, Executive Director of the Calvert Foundation, which raises investment capital for nonprofits, microfinance institutions and social enterprises in all 50 states and more than 100 countries
- **Jay Harris**, former publisher of *Mother Jones* magazine
- **Alan Webber**, founding editor of *Fast Company*. magazine

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The theme of the Summit/World Forum is “New Approach, New Economy: Realizing the Potential of Social Enterprise.” More than 40 workshops will explore the keys to entrepreneurial success, and five tours will visit 18 social enterprises in the Bay Area. The workshops will be clustered into five tracks, each offering cross-cutting themes that emphasize local, national and global opportunities:

- Finance and investment
- Models and strategies
- Public policy
- Leadership development
- Communications and storytelling

Attendees will include social enterprises from both the nonprofit and private sectors, plus social investors, academics and others. A large contingent of young people will participate as observers to capitalize on the surging interest in social enterprise among high school, college and graduate students.

“The industry is coming of age,” said the Alliance’s interim President and CEO Jerr Boschee, one of the six co-founders of the organization in 1998.

As evidence, he pointed out that “the White House and statehouses across the country are promoting social enterprise. People are beginning to recognize that the private sector is a major player in the field. Social enterprise investment funds are springing up in numerous countries. Academic institutions are offering degree programs. Business and public policy students with advanced degrees are starting social enterprises instead of joining consulting firms. Secondary school students are launching businesses that have a social purpose.”

As the only member organization in North America to encompass both nonprofit and for-profit social enterprises, SEA brings together the best ideas and brightest minds across various sectors and industries around the globe who are working to build a more just, sustainable world through the power of business.

“Social enterprise is a common language that bridges cultural, language and geographic boundaries,” said Jim Fruchterman, SEA Board Chair. “The Summit and World Forum will provide a unique opportunity to share ideas, learn practical ideas and strategies, and accelerate the global velocity of the movement.”

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For more information

For complete details about the Summit/World Forum, please visit www.se-alliance.org/summit.cfm. Members of the media are welcome to attend, but space is limited. To register for press credentials, please contact Jerr Boschee, 214-866-0472 or jerrboschee@se-alliance.org, by March 31.

Definition of “social enterprise”

Social enterprises are for-profit or nonprofit businesses whose products and services address critical social and environmental needs. They use the power of the marketplace to achieve their primary social or environmental mission.

About the Social Enterprise Alliance

The Social Enterprise Alliance is the largest membership organization for social entrepreneurs in North America. It serves as advocate for the field, hub of information and education, and builder of a vibrant, growing community of social enterprises.
www.se-alliance.org

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