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NICHOLAS KRISTOF AND DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN TO HEADLINE HUMANITIES WASHINGTON FALL SERIES

STATEWIDE SERIES TO EXPLORE JOURNALISM AND DEMOCRACY IN THE AGE OF MISINFORMATION

SEATTLE— Humanities Washington, the state’s nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, announced today that journalist Nicholas Kristof and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will headline their statewide fall event series, “Moment of Truth: Journalism and Democracy in the Age of Misinformation.”

Goodwin will kick off the series on October 1 in Seattle with a lecture at Benaroya Hall, presented in partnership with Seattle Arts & Lectures. Kristof will appear on November 5 in Spokane at the John J. Hemmingson Center, offered in partnership with Gonzaga University’s Center for Public Humanities.

The two large events will bookend a more extensive statewide series of Humanities Washington’s popular Think & Drink events that will explore the importance of journalism, truth, and democracy. Think & Drinks are currently offered in Bellingham, Seattle, Spokane, Richland, Tacoma, and Yakima. While challenges related to modern journalism have been well documented, this is the first statewide events series to explore issues of journalism ethics, digital citizenship, and democracy in an age of fragmented information.

“A healthy democracy relies on well-informed citizens and honest, respectful communication,” said Julie Ziegler, Humanities Washington’s executive director. “The American press has played an important watchdog role in government since the nation’s founding. Unfortunately, as the power and influence of traditional media shrinks, the

spread of misinformation is growing. Through this series, audiences can learn more about the history and evolution of the free press, the qualities that make the media an important check and balance to government, and how journalistic principles help maintain a government that is 'of the people and for the people.' "

Journalists and presenters participating in Think & Drink event will all hail from Washington State, including large newspapers such as *The Seattle Times* and *Spokesman-Review*, as well as smaller papers in mid-size cities and rural towns. They will present the view of journalism as it exists in Washington State, while Kristof and Goodwin will bring a national perspective. Together, these events will throw open the doors of the newsroom to reveal the process of how journalists—and us—can know what's true.

TICKETING AND ADMISSION INFORMATION

Single tickets for the Doris Kearns Goodwin event will go on sale [through Seattle Arts & Lectures](#) beginning July 16 at 10:00 a.m. Tickets for the Nicholas Kristof event will go on sale in September. All other events will be offered free of charge, and venues, dates, and times will be available summer of 2018.

ABOUT DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

Doris Kearns Goodwin is a world-renowned presidential historian, public speaker, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of numerous books including *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*; *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, and the forthcoming *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, which will explore presidential leadership throughout history.

ABOUT NICHOLAS KRISTOF

Nicholas Kristof has been a columnist for *The New York Times* since 2001. With his wife, Sheryl WuDunn, he has written several books, most recently *A Path Appears* about how to make a difference. Their last book, *Half the Sky*, was a No. 1 bestseller. He has won two Pulitzer Prizes for his coverage of Tiananmen Square and the genocide in Darfur, along with many humanitarian awards such as the Anne Frank Award and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

ABOUT HUMANITIES WASHINGTON

Humanities Washington partners with more than 300 organizations statewide each year to create opportunities for people to come together to explore and consider what it means to be human, and to reflect on our shared past, present, and future. The nonprofit organizes events and programs led by cultural experts, scholars, and storytellers, who discuss everything from Washington State history to philosophy to current social issues. Partner organizations include libraries, community halls, retirement homes, and cultural centers. All Humanities Washington programs are open to the public, and nearly all are free of charge.

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