

WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, DC



Where Learning Happens

Magic Johnson raises \$300,000 for World Affairs Council – Washington, DC

WASHINGTON, DC, June 10, 2015: Earvin “Magic” Johnson made a surprise donation to the [World Affairs Council – Washington, DC](#) at the organization’s 35th anniversary gala held June 9 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on 22nd St. Johnson announced a personal donation of \$200,000 before conducting an impromptu silent auction for 7 seven Lakers tickets and dinner with Johnson, and 3 autographed jerseys including a rare, white, custom made jersey. The auction raised an additional \$100,000 to benefit the Council’s global education programs.

For 35 years the Council has been working to education the American public about international issues through targeted classroom programs in the DC metro area. The annual Global Education Gala recognizes organizations who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to global education, international affairs, and global communications.

Being honored this year were:

Educator of the Year Award

University of Maryland University College, accepted by Javier Miyares, President

Global Education Award

The MasterCard Foundation, accepted by Reeta Roy, President and CEO

Distinguished Diplomatic Service Award

The Federal Republic of Germany, accepted by H.E. Dr. Peter Wittig, Ambassador to the U.S.

Global Communications Award

VICE Media, accepted by BJ Levin, Executive Produce VICE on HBO

Keynote Address and International Public Service Award

Dr. Rajiv Shah, former administrator USAID

During his acceptance remarks, Dr. Wittig announced that the U.S. and Germany had signed a Joint Declaration on Cooperation in Career and Technical Education and Training, saying “This declaration will serve as the basis for spreading best practices in workforce skills development – an issue that so far has not been in the focus of the international education community, but which is of major importance to economic growth and investment. And above all: it will benefit young people! Vocational training and technical education create the skills and opportunities that we need both as individuals and as a society. It is an area where Germany and the United States can and should learn from each other. In this spirit, I would like to encourage you all to continue your good work in promoting international education and exchange.”

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