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## **CENTERS FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING™ TO SPONSOR FIRST “AWAKENED WORLD FILM FESTIVAL”**

**SANTA BARBARA, May 27, 2014** – The Association for Global New Thought (AGNT) announced today that **Centers for Spiritual Living™, an international New Thought organization**, will serve as the lead sponsor for AGNT’s first ever “Awakened World Film Festival Retreat,” being held in Santa Barbara, CA from October 27-30, 2014.

**Centers for Spiritual Living™** is a global community comprised of 400 spiritual communities, teaching chapters, study groups and other ministries in 30 countries, teaching a New Thought philosophy through the study and practice of Science of Mind®, also known as Religious Science®.

“We are excited to have this chance to partner with AGNT on this event that will inspire and uplift our global consciousness,” said Rev. Dr. Kenn Gordon, Spiritual Leader for Centers for Spiritual Living™. “This festival will present empowering films, music and messages by talented and spiritual by filmmakers and story tellers from around the globe.”

The “Awakened World International Film Festival Retreat” will present both an exciting line-up of cutting edge films, as well as interactive workshops that will guide participants from inspiration to transformative action in three streams: SPIRIT \* SOCIETY \* SELF. Headlining the festival are films featuring several Hollywood notables, including the documentary “**A PLACE AT THE TABLE**” starring **Oscar-winning actor Jeff Bridges**, and “**THE HUNGRY GHOSTS**,” produced by **Michael Imperioli of *The Sopranos* fame**.

“Film, at its best, touches, moves and inspires us to be our best selves – and to make a difference in the world,” said Barbara Fields, Executive Director of AGNT. “We created this event to give a voice to those artists with a deep desire to inform, enlighten, and heal the wounds that prevent us from actively co-creating a better and more peaceful world.”

The film festival is being produced by The Association for Global New Thought (AGNT), a non-profit organization with international outreach, is inaugurating the festival as an annual destination for conscious film enthusiasts.

Over four nights and three days, attendees will enjoy evening concerts and plenary sessions in Santa Barbara's landmark Lobero Theater, and select from a daily menu of films and workshops taking place at three downtown viewing venues: the Lobero, Center Stage Theater, and Unity of Santa Barbara. Each session will begin with a brief contemplative practice guided by teachers from a diverse variety of spiritual traditions. After each film, a Q&A panel with filmmakers, actors, renowned teachers, directors or producers will take place followed by a facilitated workshop in which the audience, itself, will be invited into dialogue shaped by the film's core concepts that inspire and transform us. Together we will explore strategic ways in which the messages of the film can be actively expressed and animated in our everyday lives. The wide variety of films offered will include both feature films and documentaries from around the world.

**Early Bird Registration** rates are available until June 30, 2014, as well as **discounts** for ministers and youth. For more information and a complete list of the films, visit:

<http://www.agnt.org>

**The Association for Global New Thought (AGNT)** is a 501c3 organization founded in 1998 to represent the leading edge of the New Thought lineage. Its constituent member churches among Unity, Religious Science, and non-denominational New Thought spiritual communities are called forth by a deep commitment to facilitate the principles and practices of nonviolence, social justice, and concern for the earth family. **AGNT's** mission is to serve a worldwide network of spiritually-motivated activists committed to global healing through personal transformation, community-building, interfaith, intercultural, and interdisciplinary understanding, and compassionate action. All of our programs are designed to support concerned and informed citizens in their emerging role as ethically motivated community leaders.

**Based in Golden, CO, Centers for Spiritual Living™** is a global community comprised of 400 spiritual communities, teaching chapters, study groups and other ministries in 30 countries around the world. These communities teach a New Thought philosophy that brings religion and science together and offers spiritual tools to transform personal lives and help make the world a better place. This is done through the study and practice of Science of Mind®, also known as Religious Science®, which holds that all life is sacred—that each human being is an expression of God. We believe in Cause and Effect and teach that “It is done unto you as you believe.” In essence, an individual's thinking and expectations create their reality. Our teachings incorporate the ancient wisdom of spiritual traditions through the ages. People of all spiritual paths - Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, and others - are welcome in our communities. For more information, visit: [www.csl.org](http://www.csl.org).

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