

MEDIA ADVISORY
For November 5, 2008

Search Institute's Center for Spiritual Development to Present First Public Release on How Youth View Spiritual Development

WHAT: Search Institute's Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence will release the results of a three-year global research project – revealing how today's youth understand and experience spiritual development in their everyday lives.

Scholars, youth workers and other leaders will participate in a day-long summit to explore how young people understand and experience spiritual development both outside of and within religious traditions. The research project is one of the first international studies in this area to survey and interview young people from a wide range of cultural and religious backgrounds – spanning 17 countries and six continents.

The results will be released during the Spiritual Development Summit, a pre-conference event leading into the 12th Annual Healthy Communities, Healthy Youth Conference.

WHEN: **Wednesday, November 5, 2008**
9AM CST

WHERE: **Hyatt Regency Hotel**
Minneapolis, MN

PHOTO/INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- Hear what Minneapolis youth are saying about their own spiritual development
- Peter L. Benson, Ph.D., president of Search Institute, co-director of the Center and author of more than a dozen books on child and adolescent development and social change
- Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, vice president of Search Institute and co-director of The Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence
- Other researchers who have conducted specific studies, including Lisa Kimball, Ph.D.; Peter C. Scales, Ph.D.; and Pamela Ebstyn King, Ph.D.
- Scholars and practitioners from several countries and contexts who can talk about the dynamics of spiritual development in a variety of traditions and cultures

About The Center for Spiritual Development

The Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence is a global initiative to advance the research and practice of this important and understudied domain of human development. With major support from the John Templeton Foundation, the Center engages scholars, practitioners, and other leaders in exploring the dimensions of spiritual development and how they are nurtured as part of a holistic understanding of youth development. More information and resources are available at www.spiritualdevelopmentcenter.org.

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