

AMERICAN TEACHER MAKES ITS WORLD PREMIERE AT THE 2011 "EDUCATION" NATION" SUMMIT—SUNDAY, SEPT. 25TH

Narrated by Matt Damon, this feature-length documentary looks at America's educational crisis through the eyes of our nation's teachers

NEW YORK, NY—Sept. 19, 2011— On Sunday, Sept. 25th, the feature-length documentary *American Teacher* will make its world premiere at the 2011 "Education Nation" Summit in New York City. Following on the heels of the second-annual national Teacher Town Hall—where hundreds of teachers on Rockefeller Plaza and thousands more online will discuss the challenges and opportunities facing teachers today— this film premiere will continue the discussion by illustrating firsthand the day-to-day lives and careers of a unique set of teachers working in disparate urban and rural areas of the country. Their stories are told through a mixture of footage and interviews with students, families and colleagues, as well as the teachers themselves— revealing the deeper story of the teaching profession in America today.

American Teacher is produced by Nínive Calegari and Dave Eggers, produced and directed by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Vanessa Roth, and narrated by Matt Damon. The film is part of a larger project entitled, "The Teacher Salary Project" that also includes an interactive online resource and national outreach campaign. For more information, visit: theteachersalaryproject.org.

"American Teacher, tells the collective story by and about those closest to the issues in our educational system—the 3.2 million teachers who spend every day in classrooms across the country," said Vanessa Roth, the film's director.

"The 'Education Nation' Summit is the perfect venue to premiere this film, putting the urgent challenges of our teachers on a national stage," said Nínive Calegari, a former teacher and a producer of the film.

After the film, NBC News will host a panel discussion that includes the film's producers and directors, teachers and a parent from the film, as well as additional voices from the education field.

To read more about sessions previously announced, visit EducationNation.com/2011Summit. The "Education Nation" sessions will be available for live or delayed viewing on EducationNation.com.

The world premiere of *American Teacher* is made possible by: University of Phoenix, State Farm®, Microsoft, Scholastic, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Bezos Family Foundation, The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, America's Promise Alliance, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers.

"Education Nation" seeks to create a thoughtful, well-informed dialogue with policymakers, thought-leaders, educators, parents and the public, in pursuit of the shared goal of providing every American with an opportunity to achieve the best education in the world. These discussions cover the challenges, potential solutions and innovations spanning the education landscape. By providing quality information to the public, NBC News hopes to educate Americans so they can make decisions about how best to improve our education system both in the near and long terms, and to shine a spotlight on one of the most urgent national issues of our time, so that America can once again become the Education Nation of the world.

For more information about "Education Nation," visit <u>EducationNation.com</u>, check us out on Facebook: <u>facebook.com/EducationNation</u> or follow us on Twitter <u>@EducationNation</u>.