

# Speakers added to Geneva Line-Up

British primatologist and UN Messenger of Peace Jane Goodall, known for her extensive work with chimpanzees in Tanzania's Gombe Stream National Park, will speak to Kiwanians and guests at the Opening Session of the 2011 Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland.

In 1977, Goodall established the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), which continues her Gombe research, and is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. Today, the institute is widely recognized for establishing innovative, community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and Roots & Shoots, JGI's global environmental and humanitarian youth network, which has groups in more than 120 countries.

Goodall has an aggressive schedule, traveling an average 300 days per year to speak about the threats facing chimpanzees, other environmental crises and her reasons for hope that humankind will solve the problems it has imposed on our planet. She continually urges her audiences to recognize their personal responsibility and ability to ef-

fect change. "Every individual counts," she says. "Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference."

American actress and activist Jamie Lee Curtis will serve as keynote speaker for the Closing Session.

Curtis, known for her roles in such acclaimed films as "Halloween", "True Lies", "A Fish Called Wanda", and "Freaky Friday", is also an AIDS activist and has a deep and active connection to many children's charities. She also is a best-selling children's author, including titles "Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born," and "Today I Feel Silly and Other Moods That Make My Day".

Dr. François Gasse, UNICEF's Senior Health Specialist for Maternal and Newborn Tetanus and widely considered one of the leading technical experts



on the disease, will deliver the keynote address during The Eliminate Project Luncheon at the 2011 Kiwanis International Convention in Geneva, Switzerland.

Gasse's dedication to fight against tetanus has its origins in an experience he had as a medical student. "Once you've seen tetanus, you never forget it," he says. The luncheon is a ticketed event.

Mummenschanz, a visual theater group whose name roughly translates to mean "masquerade," will entertain attendees of the International Convention. The Mummenschanz troupe was founded in 1972 to create a new form of theater that transcends the traditional barriers of nationality and culture.

Mummenschanz artists turn everyday objects and materials into abstract forms and use a sense of wonder and imagination to turn simple costumes and expressive masks into characters who engage in a wordless dialogue with the audience.

Stay current on convention events through the convention web site, [www.kiwanis.org/geneva](http://www.kiwanis.org/geneva).

## Human and Spiritual Values

Rev. Rosita George-Williams



More and more we hear people talking about what they don't have and what they can't do. They don't have enough money. They don't have enough clothes. They don't have enough education. They don't have enough time. They don't have enough love. They can't go

somewhere because they don't have transportation. They can't go shopping because they don't have anyone to help them carry the packages. They can't come to a club meeting because the time is inconvenient. They can't participate in a service project because it will take too long.

We spend so much time stressing the can't do's and don't have's that we forget to look at what we do have and what we can do. I would suggest that it's far better to look through the positive eye and ask the question, "What can I do?" I think the answer would be surprising.

Young or old, rich or poor, educated or uneducated, there are amazing things that we can accomplish-if we allow ourselves the chance to do so. Kiwanians can work miracles if they are just willing to try. It's all about attitude.

If you place limitations on yourselves and what you believe you can do, then your service will, indeed, be limited. But, if you believe that even the little that you have to give, or the small part you can play will make a difference in the life of someone, then you can be a part of the miracle that can and will happen.

Kiwanians change the world every day because they refuse to use negative four-letter words. The word "can't" is eliminated from the vocabulary list when you join the Kiwanis family. There is no doubt in the Kiwanis defining statement - "Kiwanis is a global or-

ganization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time." That statement says, "Yes, we can, because we are Kiwanians"!

There are mountains of need and hills of service still left to climb. The harvest is ripe but still our laborers are few. It's time for an increase in the workforce. Please answer the call for workers, not with excuses for what we don't have and what we can't do. Instead, answer the call saying, "Here I am. I may not have much, but such as I have, I am willing to give. What can I do?"

## 2010-11 Events

**May 12-14, 2011:**  
Kamp Kiwanis Work Days,  
Open House

**July 7-10, 2011:**  
International Convention,  
Geneva, Switzerland

**Aug. 10-14, 2011:**  
District Convention, Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown

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