

MEDIA RELEASE

Ai-Media CEO to contribute to World Economic Forum as Young Global Leader

13 March 2013

Ai-Media CEO and Co-Founder, Tony Abrahams, said he would use his recognition by the World Economic Forum yesterday as a Young Global Leader to build his knowledge and involvement in helping people with a disability.

The World Economic Forum named Mr Abrahams as one of seven Young Global Leaders (YGL's) from Australia in its Class of 2013 who were recognised "for their professional achievements and commitment to society". The 199 YGL's (aged under 40) were chosen from 70 countries and work across arts and culture, academia, business, civil society, media, politics and social entrepreneurship.

Ai-Media has attracted global attention for its unique "Ai-Live" internet-based, real-time captioning and transcription service that has delivered breakthrough educational outcomes for students with deafness and other disabilities. Ai-Live commenced by captioning lessons and conversations in classrooms and meetings. Using a microphone on the original speaker, the spoken words are sent live to a trained "re-speaker" who uses software that converts speech into text that is sent back over the internet to screens read by the client in the originating classroom or meeting room. After winning two competitive Commercialisation Australia Grants, Ai-Live is being launched internationally in 2013 following successful pilots across Australia since 2010.

Ai-Media has been a long time advocate for disability reform and supporter of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), and Gonski education proposals.

Mr Abrahams, said: "I am excited about joining the other YGL's at a summit in June in Yangon, Myanmar. We all have to rise to the challenge of better integrating those with the most diverse needs into society. Ai-Media's global vision is 'The End of Disability'. Enabled by technology fused with human ingenuity, personalised and affordable solutions can overcome barriers of impairment that historically excluded many from economic and social life. Joining the YGL Community provides an immense opportunity to hasten, deepen and strengthen a global transformation that promises to support every person's connectedness and contribution, regardless of impairment."

Further information: Tony Abrahams +612 8870 7700

About Ai-Media

Ai-Media is a disability and education technology innovator founded in 2003 and dedicated to ending the social, educational and vocational exclusion that people with disability face. Ai-Media provides television captioning and web accessibility services, as well as its flagship Ai-Live service (supported by Commercialisation Australia) that provides live accurate captioning and transcripts to iPads, tablets and laptops – beneficial for students with hearing impairment, autism, cerebral palsy, and those developing literacy. Ai-Media is an approved provider of ICT Accessibility and Audiovisual & Theatre services to the Australian Government to ensure compliance with WCAG 2.0 "A" and "AA" standards.

More information: www.ai-media.tv and www.ai-live.com

News Release

The World Economic Forum Announces Young Global Leaders Class of 2013

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- 199 young leaders from 70 countries have been honoured by the World Economic Forum for their professional accomplishments and commitment to society.
- The Young Global Leaders (YGL) Class of 2013 is composed of honourees from all sectors of society, with 50% from business and 50% from arts and culture, academia, civil society, government, media and non-profits; 42% are women.
- The YGLs will join and co-create a community of insight and action that is committed to improving the state of the world.
- More information at www.younggloballeaders.org, watch the YGL video, read YGL blogs at forumblog.org.

Geneva, Switzerland, 12 March 2013 – The World Economic Forum announced today the Young Global Leaders (YGL) Class of 2013. These individuals have been recognized for their professional achievements and commitment to society.

The 199 YGLs come from 70 countries and all sectors of society (arts and culture, academia, business, civil society, media, politics and social entrepreneurship). The honourees come from East Asia (45), Europe (49), Latin America (16), the Middle East and North Africa (12), North America (40), South Asia (18), and sub-Saharan Africa (19).

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This year's class includes:

- **Martin Aspillaga** (Peru), whose private equity firm Salkantay Partners focuses on economic development by small-scale operators and investors
- **William James Adams** (aka will.i.am), the US singer and recording artist, whose i.am.angel Foundation transforms lives through education, inspiration and opportunity
- **Miranda A. Ballentine** (USA), who is leading Wal-Mart's efforts to be supplied 100% by renewable energy, to create zero waste and to sell products that sustain the world's resources and environment
- **Rachel Botsman** (Australia), whose theory on collaborative consumption was one of *Time* magazine's "10 Ideas That Will Change The World"
- **Chelsea Clinton** (USA), Board Member, Clinton Foundation and special correspondent for NBC News
- **Tara Fela-Durotoye** (Nigeria), an entrepreneur who is building a globally respected make-up and skincare company of African origin
- **Dorcus Gachari** (Kenya), an open-source e-government software entrepreneur who also mentors women engineers across Africa
- **Gian Tu Trung** (Vietnam), an education activist
- **Tawakkol Karman** (Yemen), the journalist and Nobel Peace Prize winner
- **Kim Dong Kwan** (Korea), the Chief Strategy Officer of solar energy group Hanwha Solar
- **Winston Ma Wenyan** (China), Managing Director and Deputy Chief Representative of the China Investment Corporation
- **Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy** (Pakistan-Canada), the Emmy and Oscar award-winning Pakistani-Canadian journalist and documentary film-maker (video)
- **Mark Pollock** (Ireland), the athlete and adventurer who became the first blind man to reach the South Pole
- **Nate Silver** (USA), the statistician who calculated Barack Obama had a 90.9% chance of winning the 2012 presidential election and crunched polling data to successfully predict the result in 50 out of 50 states
- **Shivinder Mohan Singh** (India), Managing Director of Fortis Healthcare, one of Asia's largest hospital and healthcare organizations
- **Florence Verzelen** (France), who became the first woman to head GDF Suez's Qatar operations, overseeing all oil exploration and production
- **Akhilesh Singh Yadav** (India), the youngest person to hold the office of Chief Minister of the state of Uttar Pradesh

Drawn from a pool of several thousand candidates, the 2013 YGLs were chosen by a committee, chaired by H.M. Queen Rania Al Abdullah of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The [selection](#) was based on the proven track record of the individual, his or her leadership experience, ability to overcome adversity and commitment to society.

Becoming part of the YGL community is described by its members as a transformational experience. YGLs join as individuals, who are successful in their own field of expertise, but become part of a broader collective community that works to tackle [a range of world issues](#).

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"The Forum of Young Global Leaders provides a unique effort to engage the younger generation into the management of global affairs, working together and being integrated into the larger Forum community. The Young Global Leaders have an exceptional opportunity to improve the state of the world," Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum.

The 2013 honourees will become part of the broader Forum of Young Global Leaders community that is currently composed of 756 outstanding individuals. The YGLs convene at an annual summit, which will be held this year in Yangon, Myanmar, on 2-5 June. The programme will include meetings with Myanmar government representatives, the business community and civil society, first-hand experience of working with, and learning from, local organizations and communities, along with workshops and cross-mentorship initiatives.

Notes to Editors

More information about the Forum of Young Global Leaders at <http://www.younggloballeaders.org/>

List of 2013 YGL [Honourees](#)

Meet the new YGLs on the [Forum:Blog](#)

List of [active YGLs](#)

List of [YGL initiatives](#)

Visit our YGL YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/yglvoices> and [watch our video](#)

Follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/YGLvoices>

Nominate a potential Young Global Leader through our [website](#)

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