

## FACT SHEET

### INDIVISIBLE: STORIES OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY

#### CONTRIBUTORS

The twelve photographers chosen to participate in *Indivisible* have made considerable contributions to social history and the art of photography, and bring their own artistic viewpoint to each community. They are Dawoud Bey, Bill Burke, Lucy Capehart, Lynn Davis, Terry Evans, Debbie Fleming Caffery, Lauren Greenfield, Joan Liftin, Reagan Louie, Danny Lyon, Sylvia Plachy, and Eli Reed. The photographers' works range in format, size, and process, from black-and-white images to vibrant color prints to photo montages.

The audio component of *Indivisible* is composed of excerpts from interviews with community members. Ten noted journalists, oral historians, radio producers, and folklorists conducted extensive interviews in each of the twelve communities. They are Merle Augustin, Dan Collison, Barry Dornfeld, George King, Jack Loeffler, Jens Lund, Karen Michel, Daniel Rothenberg, Jeff Whetstone, and Joe Wood. Their interviews capture the stories of American community life that accompany the photographs in the exhibitions, in the book, and on the Web site.

#### THE COMMUNITIES

**Alaskan Fishing Communities**, North Pacific Coast, AK: A conservation coalition dedicated to marine resource management in a region whose traditions and livelihood is largely dependent on fishing.

*Photographer: Lynn Davis*

*Interviewer: Jens Lund*

**Alternatives Federal Credit Union**, Ithaca, NY: A member-run credit union, working to empower its members by fostering local investment, low-income bank services and programs, and economic literacy.

*Photographer: Bill Burke*

*Interviewer: Joe Wood*

**CHALK** (Communities in Harmony Advocating for Learning and Kids), San Francisco, CA: A youth-run peer-to-peer conversation and crisis intervention phone service called Youthline.

*Photographer: Lauren Greenfield*

*Interviewer: George King*

**Haitian Citizens Police Academy and Roving Patrol and MAD DADS Street Patrol**, Delray Beach, FL: Citizen groups that work in conjunction with local police to reduce crime, gang

violence, and illegal drug use by organizing street patrols, community activities for youth, and violence reduction efforts.

*Photographer: Joan Liftin*

*Interviewer: Merle Augustin*

**Diné bí' íina', Inc.** (Navajo Lifeways), Navajo Nation (AZ, UT, NM): A collaborative program to restore interest in and understanding about traditional Navajo-Churro sheep herding, raising, and weaving processes.

*Photographer: Lucy Capehart*

*Interviewer: Jack Loeffler*

**Eau Claire Community Council and Eau Claire Community of Shalom**, Eau Claire-North Columbia, SC: An interracial, cross-denominational network that attempts to revitalize its historic neighborhoods while addressing community problems and local needs.

*Photographer: Eli Reed*

*Interviewer: George King*

**HandMade in America Small Town Revitalization Project**, Western North Carolina: A project dedicated to enhancing the quality of regional mountain life and culture through economic and community development strategies.

*Photographer: Debbie Fleming Caffery*

*Interviewer: Jeff Whetstone*

**Midwifery Practice and Doula Service at University Hospital and Medical Center**, SUNY, Stony Brook, NY: An organization of community volunteers and health professionals who give support to women during labor, delivery, and in early postpartum stages.

*Photographer: Sylvia Plachy*

*Interviewer: Karen Michel*

**Proyecto Azteca**, San Juan, Hidalgo County, TX: A grassroots housing initiative in which migrant farmworkers and other low-income residents learn skills to build and finance their own homes.

*Photographer: Danny Lyon*

*Interviewer: Daniel Rothenberg*

**Southwest Youth Collaborative**, Chicago, IL: An organization building youth and community leadership and enrichment across a constellation of ethnically diverse neighborhoods.

*Photographer: Dawoud Bey*

*Interviewer: Dan Collison*

**The Village of Arts and Humanities**, Philadelphia, PA: An and cultural organization working to rebuild community through creativity and education.

*Photographer: Reagan Louie*

*Interviewer: Barry Dornfeld*

**Yaak Valley Forest Community**, Yaak Valley, MT: A remote forest settlement that is working to foster dialogue and consensus to address forest protection and use.

*Photographer: Terry Evans*

*Interviewer: Jens Lund*

## **MUSEUM EXHIBITION TOUR**

The museum exhibition, ***Indivisible: Stories of American Community***, is composed of nearly two hundred original photographs accompanied by extensive excerpts from recorded interviews. Audio guides, free to museum visitors, allow people to hear a montage of voices from citizens on the front

lines of grassroots democracy, who share their stories of the relationships, motivations, struggles, ingenuity, commitment, and accomplishments that drive community problem-solving. Prior to its showing in Philadelphia, the exhibition was seen at Terra Museum of American Art, Chicago; Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH; Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ; North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, La Jolla, CA. The exhibition will also travel to the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, Anchorage, AK (October 28–December 31, 2002) and the Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma, WA (January 24–April 27, 2003).

## BOOK

As part of the project, Lyndhurst Books, imprint of the Center for Documentary Studies, published a major book of photography and interview excerpts, titled *Local Heroes Changing America: Indivisible*. A foreword by journalist Ray Suarez challenges readers to consider a new perspective on communities, especially those we so often dismiss as disadvantaged or powerless. Suarez, senior correspondent for *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, is former host of National Public Radio's call-in news program *Talk of the Nation*. *Local Heroes Changing America* provides a permanent record of Americans engaged in public life at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, powerfully represented in distinctive images and observations. Also included is an audio CD of community voices and vignettes. *Local Heroes Changing America*, edited by Tom Rankin, is available through bookstores nationally and online at [www.indivisible.org](http://www.indivisible.org).

## POSTCARD EXHIBITS

*Indivisible's* nationally touring museum exhibition is complemented by a postcard version shown in public spaces and crossroads such as train stations, libraries, university student unions, and airports nationwide. Opening in Chicago and traveling to numerous cities, including Albany, Dallas, Denver, Ithaca, Philadelphia, Salt Lake City, Stony Brook, and Washington D.C., among others, the postcard exhibit was designed to take the words and images of *Indivisible* to an even broader audience. These installations feature racks of free postcards—three million will be distributed—and an interactive computer station that allows visitors to record their own stories of community. **The exhibit will make two stops in Philadelphia:** the Independence Visitor Center, August 10–24, 2002, and the Fleisher Art Memorial, September 16–October 5, 2002, where it will be installed in

the Suzanne Fleisher and Ralph Joel Roberts Gallery, Fleisher Memorial Center for Works on Paper, 705 Catharine Street.

## **WEB SITE**

The project Web site, **[www.indivisible.org](http://www.indivisible.org)**, offers people all over the world an opportunity to experience *Indivisible* and to explore additional resources for participating in civic life. The Web site includes photographs, audio interviews, short video clips, a space for online dialogue, resource guides and links, educators' material, a bibliography for further reading, and suggestions for how visitors can document their own community efforts. It also provides a forum for engaging in dialogue and exchanging ideas on building community. The Web site creates the opportunity for new audiences to connect with the ideas and themes of the project.

The Philadelphia Museum of Art is among the largest art museums in the United States, showcasing more than 2,000 years of exceptional human creativity in over 200 galleries installed with masterpieces of painting, sculpture, works on paper, decorative arts and architectural settings from Europe, Asia and the Americas. The striking neoclassical building stands on a nine-acre site above the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and offers many enriching activities-including programs for children and families, lectures, concerts and films.

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For additional information, contact the Marketing and Public Relations Department of the Philadelphia Museum of Art at (215) 684-7860. The Philadelphia Museum of Art is located on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 26<sup>th</sup> Street. For general information, call (215) 763-8100, or visit the Museum's website at [www.philamuseum.org](http://www.philamuseum.org). 06/27//02