

**Press Conference Speech
Jena Daggett**

Date, Time: November 30, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

Location: Dinner through Dialogue Headquarters, Syracuse, New York

Scenario: You will be opening and conducting a press conference for the Dinner through Dialogue reception. Present in the audience will be journalists from local and national news outlets.

Format: You will speak at a podium, it will be filmed, and you will introduce each speaker.

Objective: To outline the importance of Dinner through Dialogue and to explain why the reception is important to the city of Syracuse.

J. Daggett, Publicist, Speech- Opening of the Press Release

Good morning, everyone. I am incredibly excited to be standing in front of you to close out the amazing year we have had at Dinner through Dialogue. Today, we will have the opportunity to hear from several people, each of whom will speak about the personal significance of our event series and our upcoming gala.

Before each of them take the podium, though, I wanted to remind everyone of the idea behind these events; namely, the transformative power of food as one way to celebrate our city and its people. We each can name some of the problems Syracuse faces as a city. Notably, we have been criticized as a place where residents don't know the people living only a few blocks from them and a place where the education system is floundering.

Partnering with Nestle and Gastromotiva, Dinner through Dialogue created an environment where people from across the city could learn more about each other and each other's history and future. Food allows these perspectives because our preparation of it

represents our families, our traditions, and our own unique views. As the residents met weekly, they begin to envision Syracuse, the city they love, as an even better place and so decided to effect change. During that meal, the idea for our upcoming meal was born: a gala to celebrate all the diversity our city has to offer, while benefitting the future of it. In one week, we will enjoy a beautifully prepared meal that blends the diversity of Syracuse residents' backgrounds and cultures with local ingredients. All proceeds will benefit after-school programs for Syracuse students. These programs will range from language acquisition to robotic programming and design to debate.

Now, I am pleased to introduce the CEO of Nestle, Ulf Mark Schneider, whose company has generously sponsored and publicized these events.

Next, we will hear from David Hertz, the founder of Gastromotiva, a company seeking to use food to dramatically change people's lives around the world and whose inspiration began our own even series.

Finally, I am happy to introduce Donna Miller, a lifelong resident of Syracuse and participant in the Dinner through Dialogue series. She will also be cooking for us in one week!