

## **THE BORGEN PROJECT**



**RE: IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **BORGENFEST: A Festival. A Celebration. A Call to Action**

**TACOMA, Washington** — The Borgen Project is excited to announce our first virtual summer event: BORGENFEST. This festival, benefiting the organization's poverty reduction efforts, will occur on Saturday, July 31, 2021, via a virtual platform.

BORGENFEST will feature musical performances by 99 Neighbors and Kitty Coen and include guest appearances by Congressman Adam Smith, representative of Washington's 9th congressional district; Natalie Gill-Mensah, an infectious disease expert and member on The Borgen Project's Board of Directors; and Clint Borgen, President and Founder of The Borgen Project.

In 2020 and 2021, the international community saw a rise in humanitarian issues worldwide, from the COVID-19 pandemic to increased education limitations for children. However, we have also seen the potential for unity, support and giving. For these unprecedented times, the organization hopes to build more awareness about poverty reduction legislation and aid programs that can turn the tide while also celebrating the many obstacles that the international community has overcome during this tumultuous time.

"We're so appreciative of the musical guests and guest speakers who took the time to be a part of this event," said Amy Pettigrew, Senior Program Manager at The Borgen Project and BORGENFEST Committee Chair. "The negative impacts of COVID-19 have caused a significant setback in hunger and poverty reduction efforts. Now is the time to ramp up our efforts and amplify voices who continue to struggle with the effects of the pandemic, in tandem with the fight to end global poverty. That's what this event is for."

Join us for BORGENFEST to celebrate our successes and ensure that alleviating global poverty is at the forefront of the U.S. foreign policy agenda.

To attend BORGINFEST, please visit <https://borgenproject.org/borgenfest-summer-benefit/> for further information.

For any media questions regarding the event, please contact Kim Thelwell at [press@borgenproject.org](mailto:press@borgenproject.org). For any event or ticket queries, please contact Amy Pettigrew at [amy@borgenproject.org](mailto:amy@borgenproject.org).

### **About The Borgen Project**

The Borgen Project is a nonprofit working at the political level to advance international development policies and programs to alleviate global poverty. Founded in 2003 by Clint Borgen, The Borgen Project has mobilized people around the world to make anti-poverty efforts a political priority, building awareness of global poverty and its effects on the international community to U.S. Congressional leaders and citizens alike. The Borgen Project currently has campaigns and volunteers in more than 1,952 cities and continues to expand its reach.

### **Media Contact**

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