



United World College–USA

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Dead Man Walking – The Journey Continues Sister Helen Prejean Comes to United World College-USA

MONTEZUMA, NM –United World College-USA announces a presentation by noted death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean on October 3 at 7pm in the UWC-USA's Kluge Auditorium.

As a nun serving the poor population of New Orleans, Sister Helen Prejean began her prison ministry in 1981. She became pen pals with a man convicted of murdering two teenagers and served as his spiritual advisor. She turned her experiences into an award-winning book, *Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the United States*. *Dead Man Walking* was adapted into an Oscar-nominated movie in 1995 by director Tim Robbins. An opera version of the book opened at the San Francisco Opera in October 2000.

Fifteen years after beginning her crusade, the Roman Catholic sister has witnessed five executions in Louisiana and today educates the public about the death penalty by lecturing, organizing and writing. As the founder of "Survive," a victim's advocacy group in New Orleans, she continues to counsel not only inmates on death row, but also the families of murder victims.

Sister Helen and *Dead Man Walking* have been the subject of numerous media stories and reviews, including features in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Vogue*, *Good Housekeeping*, and the *Chicago Tribune* and appearances on *60 Minutes*, the *Today Show*, *ABC World News Tonight*; *Larry King Live* (radio), BBC World Service Radio, NPR's *Weekend Edition* and *Fresh Air*, and *Frontline*. Prejean has received numerous awards for her work and is a three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee.

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United World College-USA is located in the northern New Mexico town of Montezuma, six miles from Las Vegas, NM. UWC-USA is one of 12 United World Colleges located on five continents dedicated to making education a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future. Founded in 1982, UWC-USA offers a unique program of academic and experiential education for 200 students from over 80 countries.