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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Mount Mary College Event Encourages Women to Change the World**

*President of Women for Women International in Milwaukee to  
underscore one woman, one action can make a difference*

**MILWAUKEE** (September 17, 2012) – Mount Mary College is hosting a signature event to inspire women to help change the world – one woman at a time. Andrée Simon, President and COO of [Women for Women International](#) (WfWI), will be the featured speaker at Mount Mary’s fall forum on Friday, Sept. 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Pfister Hotel.

Women for Women International provides women survivors of war in eight countries with vocational and business skills training, rights awareness, health education, and emotional support so they can rebuild their lives. Before joining WfWI, Simon was deputy director of FINCA, a network of 21 microfinance affiliates serving 700,000 clients across four continents. She’s also an Adjunct Professor of Microfinance at Georgetown University and regularly speaks on the topic. In 2010, Simon was recognized as a “40 Under 40 International Development Leader,” a list that featured leaders in Washington, DC.

“Simon’s message that anyone can make a difference should resonate with the women of Milwaukee,” stated Mount Mary College President, Dr. Eileen Schwalbach. “It’s important for us to hear how a single woman, taking one action, can have a positive impact and can inspire others to bring about change not only in these countries, but in our own communities.”

Since its creation in 1993, Women for Women International has given hope to more than 351,000 women survivors of war and conflict and mobilized 300,000 women and men to reach out and provide support. During her talk, Simon will share success stories of some of the women WfWI reaches. Women for Women International works with women in Afghanistan, Bosnia & Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Kosovo, Nigeria, Rwanda, and South Sudan.

Prior to the public event, Simon will meet with a group of students from Mount Mary College's "Leadership for Social Justice" class. The college's developing leaders will have an opportunity to ask questions and hear first-hand how Simon began her work, the challenges she faces and how she overcomes them.

Tickets for the "Changing the World, One Woman at a Time" event are \$50 per person and \$750 per table of eight. Major sponsors for the event include Baird and Marcus Hotels and Resorts.

For more information or to secure a ticket, call 414-256-1210, email [Robby@mtmary.edu](mailto:Robby@mtmary.edu) or visit [www.mtmary.edu/fallforum.html](http://www.mtmary.edu/fallforum.html).

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin's first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 60 undergraduate areas of study for women and seven graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its more than 1,900 students enjoy small class sizes (average 13) and 95 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary College at [www.mtmary.edu](http://www.mtmary.edu).

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