Star Trek's George Takei Shares How He Thinks We Can Save The World through Social Justice

George Takei shared what life was like living in an internment camp during World War II and asked people to take lessons from what's happened in the past to save our future as he spoke to a sold out crowd at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS (PRWEB) August 27, 2019 -- Star Trek legendary actor and lifelong social justice activist George Takei wants America to learn from its past. During a speaking engagement at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis (the world's largest children's museum), Takei described what it was like to be imprisoned as a child.

“People today, still when I meet them and share something of my childhood imprisonment, they’re astounded. They’re shocked. They can’t believe that something like that happened in the United States,” said Takei. “And so this book They Called Us Enemy is my book of hope for the future of America. A hope for a better, truer democratic America.”

Takei went on to encourage families to learn from the past to prevent similar things from happening in the future.

Known around the world for his founding role in the acclaimed television series Star Trek (playing Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the starship Enterprise), Takei has taken advantage of his celebrity to promote social justice, tolerance and understanding of others.

After speaking to families and children at The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, Takei took questions from the audience and later signed copies of his new book, They Called Us Enemy. When asked why he chose to tell his story in a graphic novel, Takei said he was intrigued by comic books growing up and read them all the time. He went on to say how they helped him retain information and that it is his hope to reach today's youth in the same way.

Imprisoned as a child, actor George Takei has dedicated his life to fighting for social justice and protecting future generations by sharing stories of his own family’s internment. The Star Trek actor is on a mission to make sure America doesn’t forget that thousands of Japanese Americans were forced into American internment camps during WWII.

In 1942, after President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, George Takei’s family (including father Takekuma, mother Fumiko, brother Henry and sister Nancy) was placed in U.S. military custody. They were sent to Santa Anita “Assembly Center” for several months before they were relocated to Rohwer “Relocation Center” in Arkansas for 1.5 years. They then were sent to Tule Lake “Relocation Center” in Northern California for two years. They then re-settled in Los Angeles in 1946 to rebuild their lives. Mr. Takei’s book revisits the actor’s education, acting career and lifetime of activism.

During the actor’s visit to The Children's Museum, staff members took Takei on a tour of its Schaefer Planetarium and Space Object Theater within the Beyond Spaceship Earth exhibit so he could see the new space object theater show, The Future Is Now, in which he played a starring role. The film explores how science and science fiction have influenced each other over time.
For interviews on tape with George Takei from the event, please visit the following (PASSWORD: tcmpress):
SOT 01 https://vimeo.com/355849781
SOT 02 https://vimeo.com/355849756
SOT 03 https://vimeo.com/355849776

The Children's Museum is also home to an exhibit called The Power of Children, which features three extraordinary youth who helped change the world after they faced atrocities of their own. They are Anne Frank (child of the 40s and Holocaust victim), Ruby Bridges (child of the 60s who was one of the first to integrate schools in the American South) and Ryan White (child of the 80s who acquired HIV/AIDS through a blood transfusion and fought to attend school).

The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis Board of Trustees would like to thank our official partners—Riley Children’s at Indiana University Health, Old National Bank and Ice Miller LLP.

About The Children's Museum of Indianapolis
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis is a nonprofit institution committed to creating extraordinary learning experiences across the arts, sciences, and humanities that have the power to transform the lives of children and families. For more information about The Children's Museum, visit www.childrensmuseum.org, follow us on Twitter @TCMIndy, Instagram@childrensmuseum, YouTube.com/IndyTCM, and Facebook.
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