

# THE SIXTH ANNUAL HOOVER-WALLACE DINNER

Recognizing Iowa's Humanitarian Leaders • Honoring Iowa's Humanitarian Heritage



Saturday, May 9, 2009 • 6:30 p.m. • Embassy Suites Hotel • Des Moines, Iowa

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Senators Grassley, Harkin to be honored in unique Iowa event**

Hoover-Wallace Dinner to raise funds for international internships for Iowa students

**DES MOINES, IA** – Iowa Senators **Chuck Grassley** and **Tom Harkin** will be jointly honored at the Sixth Annual Hoover-Wallace Dinner, to be held May 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines.

The event will recognize Senators Grassley and Harkin as advocates on behalf of agriculture and nutrition and for their service to Iowa, the United States, and the world. The dinner will also highlight Grassley and Harkin's bipartisan efforts in working together to serve the interests of Iowans since their elections to the U.S. Senate in 1980 and 1984, respectively.

Iowa's governmental officials past and present will join community leaders and businesses at the Hoover-Wallace Dinner, which is an annual event organized by the World Food Prize Foundation that honors Iowa's humanitarian heritage.

"In the strong tradition of Herbert Hoover and Henry A. Wallace who, despite being on opposite sides of the political aisle, both believed strongly in the power of agriculture and innovation—Senator Chuck Grassley and Senator Tom Harkin are among today's leaders in recognizing and supporting the humanitarian role that agriculture plays around the world," said Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, president of the World Food Prize Foundation.

All proceeds from the Hoover-Wallace Dinner support the World Food Prize's Borlaug-Ruan International Internship Program, which sends Iowa high school students on eight-week, all-expenses-paid research assignments at renowned international institutions in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. The nine Iowa high school students who have been selected for 2009 internships will be introduced at the dinner.

"The Borlaug-Ruan International Internship is one of the most unique programs in America to inspire the study of science and agriculture," said Quinn. "Students return from their assignments profoundly changed and ready to use their experiences to contribute significantly to the ongoing fight against global hunger."

Tickets for the Sixth Annual Hoover-Wallace Dinner are \$125 per person, or \$1,250 for a table of ten. Sponsorships of the dinner are also available. Tickets can be ordered online at [www.hooverwallace.org](http://www.hooverwallace.org), by phone at 1-800-682-8976 or by sending a check to *The Hoover Wallace Dinner, 666 Grand Ave, Suite 1700, Des Moines, IA, 50309*.

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## **About the Hoover-Wallace Dinner:**

The Hoover-Wallace Dinner was established by the World Food Prize Foundation in 2004. It was created to be an occasion each year for Republicans and Democrats to come together above partisan division to recognize Iowa's humanitarian heritage and to support unique educational opportunities for Iowa high school students.

The dinner recalls the great humanitarian achievements of Republican Herbert Hoover, who while working for Democratic President Woodrow Wilson during World War I, shipped food to Europe that fed and saved close to one billion people, and the agricultural innovations of Democrat Henry A. Wallace, whose leadership in spreading American agricultural technology to less fortunate countries helped to feed hundreds of millions.

The dinner seeks to bring attention to the achievements of other Iowa heroes such as Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Cresco native Dr. Norman Borlaug, George Washington Carver and 4-H founder Jessie Field Shambaugh.

The First Hoover-Wallace Dinner was held in Cedar Rapids in April 2004. The theme for that evening was celebrating Dr. Borlaug's 90th birthday. The 2005 dinner in Des Moines recognized former Vice President Walter Mondale and former Iowa Governor Robert Ray for their role in saving hundreds of thousands of refugees from Southeast Asia. The 2006 dinner, held in Cedar Falls, honored the role of John Deere, both the man and the company, in feeding the world. The legendary career of George Washington Carver, who found acceptance and the opportunity to flourish in Iowa, was the focus of the 2007 dinner in West Des Moines, and last year, three true champions of humanitarian and public service - former Senator John Culver, former Congressman Jim Leach and Iowa City physician Dr. Ignacio Ponseti - were feted in Coralville.