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Americans United for Life

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—September 9, 2015

CONTACT—Benjamin May  
[bmay@policyimpact.com](mailto:bmay@policyimpact.com)  
(202) 737-5339  
[www.wcf9.org](http://www.wcf9.org)

### World Congress of Families IX Announces Latest Participants

*Thousands will gather this October to celebrate and encourage the natural family*

**SALT LAKE CITY**— Today the World Congress of Families (WCF) announced the newest round of participants for WCF IX this fall. For the first time in history, the global gathering will come to the United States, October 27-30, 2015, to be held at the Grand America Hotel in Salt Lake City.

“In the past, the WCF has been very successful in uniting scholars, leaders, and family advocates from all around the globe who believe in the natural family as the fundamental unit of society,” said Janice Shaw Crouse, executive director of WCF IX. “We are confident that the ninth World Congress of Families gathering will serve as another fruitful venue to inspire, entertain, and mobilize supporters of the natural family from around the world.”

The additional featured contributors announced this week include the following:

**American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic** was named the top Arts Organization in the state by Best of State Utah in 2013 and Best Orchestra for seven consecutive years. The Lyceum Orchestra Program has provided world-class musical instruction and performance opportunities through five ensembles to talented Utah students for over 25 years. The American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic released its second commercial album, "The Master," in April of 2014. In addition, this year the orchestra is releasing a Christmas album, "Holy Night."

**Dr. Monique Chireau** is an assistant Professor in the Division of Clinical and Epidemiological Research in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology at Duke University Hospital with privileges at various hospitals around Durham, N.C. Trained at Harvard with a residency at Yale, Dr. Chireau's specialties are racial disparities, genetic risk factors, adverse pregnancy outcomes and health services



research in women's health. She frequently gives expert testimony, most recently before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, July 15, 2014, on S. 1696, "The Women's Health Protection Act."

**Dr. Paige Patterson**, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, was president of the Southern Baptist Convention for two terms, during which time he provided leadership in the revision of the historic confession, Baptist Faith & Message, and its subsequent adoption. Dr. and Mrs. Patterson have traveled to and spoken in more than 125 countries of the world and shared the Christian message with dignitaries including Yasser Arafat and Menachem Begin. An avid scuba diver and hunter, he has authored numerous books, including most recently a commentary on Revelation for the New American Commentary Series.

**Dr. Jaroslaw Szymczak** is a Catholic priest with a Ph.D. in theology, focusing on marriage and the family. Dr. Szymczak is a lecturer at the Cardinal Stefan Wysznski University in Warsaw, Poland. His success in marriage counseling has earned him the reputation of "Rescuer of Married Couples." In addition to his academic accomplishments and priestly vocation, his vibrant personality and charm have endeared him to people around the world who call him, "Father J."

The previous lineup of speakers and participants can be viewed on WCF IX's website at [wcf9.org/news-releases/](http://wcf9.org/news-releases/). WCF will continue to announce four new participants every week.

WCF is the largest gathering of pro-family advocates in the world. WCF IX will seek to provide participants with sound scholarship and effective strategies, as well as mobilize intellectual and advocacy resources to affirm and defend the natural family.

For more information, please visit [wcf9.org](http://wcf9.org) or follow WCF on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).