



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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MEDIA RELEASE

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U.S. Consulate General Perth brings one-woman show “I Am Domestic Violence” to Western Australia

“No matter our role in life, domestic violence affects us all. We must take action against domestic violence and let our voices be heard.” – Cynthia Griffin, U.S. Consul General

Ahead of White Ribbon Day and in support of the “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” (November 25-December 10), the U.S. Consulate in Perth welcomes Wambui Bahati, an award winning entertainer and survivor of domestic violence with over forty-five years’ experience in professional theatre and public speaking. Ms. Bahati, who is from North Carolina, will visit Perth from November 16 to 20, to perform her one-woman show, “I Am Domestic Violence,” and lead a series of panel discussions and workshops with community groups and local leaders in mental health and domestic violence prevention. She will also speak to students at several Perth area high schools.

Through the use of drama and comedy, Wambui shares her own personal experience and provides a platform to facilitate discussion about this sensitive issue, and builds capacity among women and students in culturally and ethnically diverse communities.

Wambui’s awards include a Woman of Achievement Award from the Greensboro Commission on the Status of Women, a Belle Ringer Image Award from Bennett College, the Lionel Aldridge Award (a national honor recognizing individuals who provide extraordinary service and courage on behalf of people with mental illnesses), the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, North Carolina’s President’s Award, and a proclamation from the mayor of the City of Toledo, Ohio. Her visit to Western Australia tour is supported by a grant from the U.S. Embassy in Canberra and is being hosted by Perth-based diversity consultant, Ms. Fadzi Whande, from The Whande Group.

In Swahili, Wambui means “singer of songs,” and Bahati means, “my fortune is good.”

Wambui’s website is: <http://www.wambui-bahati.com/>

Her Perth schedule will include:

- Community event, performance and panel discussion on domestic violence **with the City of Stirling**
- Performance and workshop with **PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)** diversity committee
- Discussion with Year 10 & 11 students **at Mirrabooka Senior High School, Dianella**
- Performance and workshop with the **Zonta Club of Bunbury**
- Talk with Years 9 and 10 students **at Newton Moor Senior High School**
- Play and Workshop with the **Curtin International Affairs Association** at Curtin University.
- Discussion at **“Headspace Armadale”** with Community leaders in mental health and domestic violence
- Presentation of the play, ‘I am Domestic Violence,’ and take part in a panel discussion with local experts in domestic violence and support services in the **City of Joondalup**
- Presentation at **WA Women’s Council for Domestic Family Violence Services**

POC: Wambui Bahati is available for interviews. Interested media may contact Lisa Marino, marinolm@state.gov; mobile: 0414 780 567

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