

MARK BURNETT AND ROMA DOWNEY TO JOINTLY RECEIVE ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADER AWARD & DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERS CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 14, 2013 IN VANCOUVER, CANADA

NEWS RELEASE

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Mark Burnett, creator of *Survivor* and named by *Time Magazine* in 2004 as one of the "100 Most Influential People in the World," and his wife, Roma Downey (best known for her starring role in "Touched by an Angel") will be joint recipients of this year's WEA-ELO Entrepreneurial Leader Award at the Entrepreneurial Leaders Conference in Vancouver, BC on November 14, 2013.

Geoff Tunnicliffe, Secretary-General, World Evangelical Alliance, described Mark Burnett and Roma Downey as very worthy joint recipients of the award. He cited their work with charities, and their initiation of the production of *The Bible* documentary for The History Channel. As recipients of the Entrepreneurial Leader Award, Mark Burnett and Roma Downey will provide the keynote address at the Entrepreneurial Leaders Conference.

Mark Burnett is best known for producing the hit reality show, *Survivor*, which premiered in the summer of 2000 and was the most watched summer series since *Sonny and Cher*. *Survivor* was named the Number 1 reality series of all time by *Entertainment Weekly* in 2009. Burnett has produced several other television franchises in addition to *Survivor*, including *The Apprentice*. He serves as the executive producer of *The Voice*. Other series produced by Burnett include *Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?* and *Shark Tank*.

Mark Burnett has a one-of-a-kind entrepreneurial journey. He grew up east of London near the Ford Motor factory where his parents worked. Coming from a working-class background in England, he felt discriminated against. Having the wrong kind of accent and lacking proper schooling and family background meant many doors were closed to him. He joined the army. He is a Falklands War veteran.

He married Roma Downey in 2007, the Emmy-winning star of the former *Touched by an Angel* series. They are both deeply committed to their Christian faith. They have recently produced *The Bible*, an upcoming television series, based on the key biblical stories. It will air on The History Channel beginning March 3, 2013. Burnett considers the scripted 10-hour series to be the "most important" project he has undertaken.

The WEA and ELO collaborate on a joint initiative to connect Christian entrepreneurial leaders around the globe for greater impact in the marketplace and beyond.

ELO is a network that aims to equip & inspire Christian entrepreneurial leaders through publications, conferences, and seminars & courses. The vision of ELO is to become the world's leading organization in this realm. For more info e-mail us at info@eleaders.org or go to Eleaders.org

The WEA is the largest global evangelical body with a network of churches in 129 nations and an alliance of 100 international organizations representing over 600 million Christians worldwide. It representatively speaks as a trusted voice on behalf of global evangelicalism, connects diverse Evangelical church networks and ministries for effective collaborative action, and actively equips their needs with valuable resources to optimize their impact. For more info e-mail at wea@worldevangelicals.org or go to Worlddea.org