WNE D-AM 970 and Leadership Buffalo present

Buffalo City Forum

“The Art of Leadership”

with

Bill Strickland

President & CEO, Manchester Bidwell Corporation

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

WNED Studios, 140 Lower Terrace, in downtown Buffalo, 14202

12:15 pm—Lunch (guests must be seated by 12:45 pm)
1:00 pm—Presentation/Audience Q&A—Broadcast live on WNED-AM 970/HD2 94.5 and wned.org/AM

Moderator: WNED News Director Jim Ranney

RSVP (by May 15): shiller@leadershipbuffalo.org or (716) 849-2626, ext. 17

A compelling and powerful storyteller, Bill Strickland inspires audiences to harness the power of believing in people.

His message is as simple as it is profound: “Give people the tools they need, treat them with respect and they will perform miraculous deeds.” From a sleeping bag on the second floor of a dilapidated building, he built one of the most extraordinary organizations in America, employing and training thousands. His work has earned him a MacArthur Genius grant, a Grammy award, an invitation to lecture at Harvard University and a seat on the board of the National Endowment for the Arts.

At Manchester Bidwell, he has grown a nearly bankrupt community training center into an innovative and successful organization, creating a model for education, training, arts and, most importantly, hope. In the process, he has reshaped the business of social change in America, exemplifying ethical, accountable and visionary leadership.

“A successful life is not something you simply pursue, it is something that you create, moment by moment,” he says. Building on this philosophy, Strickland has opened new centers in Cincinnati, San Francisco and Grand Rapids, Michigan, and many more are planned across the country. In his latest book, Make the Impossible Possible, Strickland tells the story of these centers and of his own eventful life.

His accomplishments as a leader and humanitarian are reflected in the thousands of people who have bettered themselves through his organizations. Fast Company magazine’s founding editor, William Taylor, wrote, “Bill Strickland is quite simply one of the most inspiring human beings and one of the most mesmerizing speakers I have ever met. [H]e uses his authentic personality to communicate a powerful message of change, hope and making a difference. His voice is the right voice for these confusing and difficult times.”

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