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Area students to attend Gorbachev speech at invitation of event sponsors

Approximately 200 area high school and college students will see former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Peoria on March 27 at the invitation of the area businesses and individuals who are sponsoring the event. Sponsors who donated at least \$5,000 received tickets to Gorbachev's speech to provide to schools and students of their choosing.

Gorbachev will speak at 8:30 p.m. in the Peoria Civic Center ballroom as part of Eureka College's Ronald Reagan Day Dinner and Peoria Creve Coeur Club's George Washington Banquet. He also will speak to the Eureka College community earlier that day.

Besides hearing Gorbachev, students will attend a "Witness to History" seminar preceding his speech. The session organized by the Peoria Area World Affairs Council will provide background information about the Reagan-Gorbachev relationship. The students also will be treated to a pizza dinner.

One sponsor, CA, Inc., the world's leading independent IT management software company, provided tickets to members of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria and students at Metamora Township High School. CA, Inc. account director James Brace, who is a Eureka College alumnus and trustee, said, "I am pleased that CA, Inc. chose to support this historic event and that these students, who were not even born during the Reagan-Gorbachev era, will learn about these important leaders and their contributions to world history, literally seeing history come alive."

Students will come from University High School, Normal; Normal Community High School; Normal Community West High School; Bloomington High School; Central Catholic High School, Bloomington; Morton High School; Woodruff High School, Peoria; Peoria Christian School; Peoria Notre Dame High School; Washington Gifted School, Peoria; Richwoods High School, Peoria; Peoria Academy; Pontiac Township High School; Deer Creek-

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Mackinaw High School; Eureka High School; Quincy Notre Dame High School; Knox College, Galesburg; Illinois Central College; Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington; Bradley University, Peoria; and Eureka College.

Sponsors who provided tickets to students include Caterpillar Foundation, CEFCU, Oak River Foundation, Illinois Mutual, Martin Engineering, Dust Boss, RLI, Jonathan and Sharon Michael, Glen and Polly Barton, David and Lynn Burritt, Petersen Health Care, William D. Mayo Charitable Trust, Wayne Baum, Kenny and Jody Baum, Jim and Lou Baldwin, National City, Peoria Deluxe Limousine, Garden Gate Floral, G&D Integrated, Carl and Crystal Soderstrom, Bradley Smith, Sid and Flo Banwart and Richard and Fran Owen.

For more information about the event that will benefit the Ronald Reagan Society at Eureka College, contact director of development for Reagan-related programs John Morris at (309) 467-6477.

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