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For Immediate Release
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## PHILADELPHIA LOCAL RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS ANTI-GENOCIDE FELLOWSHIP

## Rebecca Davis one of eighteen nationwide picked to lead organizing against world's worst crimes

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Genocide Intervention Network today announced that Philadelphia local Rebecca Davis has been named a Carl Wilkens Fellow. This unique fellowship recognizes community leaders who possess the commitment to fight genocide and the potential to make a difference in the lives of people in Darfur, Burma and other areas around the world. Launched last year, the fellowship will provide Davis with advocacy training, access to experts and an organizing grant.

Rebecca Davis is the founder and Artistic Director of the not-for-profit organization The Rebecca Davis Dance Company in Philadelphia. The Company presents original, narrative ballets based on history, literature and social issues. Their repertoire includes "Darfur" and "Greed: The Tale of Enron" (www.rebeccadavisdance.com). Davis has implemented youth programs focused on dance as a tool for reconciliation in Rwanda and Bosnia-Herzegovina. She holds a Bachelors of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship from Temple University and completed a Fulbright scholarship in Saint Petersburg, Russia, for ballet and choreography studies. She is currently pursuing her Masters of International Relations with a concentration in Peacekeeping through American Public University System. Davis is excited to be selected as 2010 Carl Wilkens Fellow and plans to use this experience to expand her knowledge of opportunities in which she can use dance as a tool of awareness and prevention in the global anti-genocide movement.

The Carl Wilkens Fellowship was named in honor of Carl Wilkens. Carl Wilkens was the only American to stay in Rwanda through the entirety of the Rwandan genocide. Despite warnings from the American embassy, Carl risked his life and stayed in Rwanda to try to help the people he had come to know and love there.

Carl Wilkens said, "Change begins with one. So few people in America were aware of the Rwanda genocide at the time it was happening, and even fewer were equipped to do something to end it. That's why I'm so excited that Rebecca Davis has been selected to join this year's class of Carl Wilkens Fellows. I know she will be a lifelong leader in the movement to end genocide."

**About Genocide Intervention Network** – <u>Genocide Intervention Network</u> empowers individuals and communities with the tools to prevent and stop genocide. Currently focused on conflicts in Sudan, Burma and Democratic Republic of Congo, among other areas of concern, Genocide Intervention Network envisions a world in which the global community is willing and able to protect civilians from genocide and

mass atrocities. The organization is building a permanent anti-genocide constituency, mobilizing the political will to prevent and stop genocide. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.genocideintervention.net">www.genocideintervention.net</a> .