

Dalai Lama: Keynote Speaker on Compassion

Calling for a More Compassionate World in Wake of the Olympics

By Adrienne Papp

There was no better place to be than Aspen, CO when the Aspen Institute and the Consortium for Tibetan Art and Culture hosted His Holiness the Dalai Lama during a Keynote Symposium held from July 24-26. The Dalai Lama spoke about the relationship between Tibet and China, meditation's effects on the brain, science and faith, the legacy of the institution of the Dalai Lama, and what Tibetan Buddhism can both offer and learn from the world in a keynote conversation as a part of a symposium on Tibetan art and culture. The symposium was hosted by the Aspen Institute and co-chaired by Margot Pittblat and Richard Blum, in collaboration with the Consortium for Tibetan Art and Culture.



The impact of his Holiness among the listeners was long lasting and life changing. "The Dalai Lama is my spiritual leader, but he also is the spiritual leader of the world in opposition to religious leadership, which causes division, war, hatred and terrorism," said Dr. Eric Fugier who practices dentistry in Beverly Hills and has read all of the Dalai Lama's books. "Through him I have become a better person, and a better dentist. I became more compassionate toward my patients, my staff, friends and enemies. I also understood why you have to be compassionate towards the people who try to hurt you: they are ignorant, and you have to be sorry for them and try to help them understand better."