



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2017

Tim Close
Director of Development & Communications
(253) 383-3951, ext. 229
tclose@tacomacommunityhouse.org

Danielle Burch
Communications Associate
(253) 383-3951, ext. 234
dburch@tacomacommunityhouse.org

**Pulitzer prize-winning journalist, filmmaker, and undocumented activist
Jose Antonio Vargas speaking in Tacoma, April 6**



TACOMA, WA—Tacoma Community House, University of Puget Sound’s Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE), and Humanities Washington are excited to host “My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant,” a talk by journalist, filmmaker, and activist Jose Antonio Vargas on Monday, April 6, 2017 (7:30-9pm) at UPS’s Kilworth Memorial Chapel.

In 2011, Vargas stunned the nation with a [groundbreaking essay](#) in *The New York Times* revealing he is undocumented. He appeared on the cover of TIME magazine as part of a follow-up story one year later, and released *Documented* in 2013, a film chronicling his childhood journey to the U.S. from the Philippines.

Vargas has written for *Rolling Stone*, *Washington Post*, and *The New Yorker*, and has lent his talents to both television and film, including MTV’s Emmy-nominated *White People* and the documentary *The Other City*. Vargas is also the CEO of the non-profit organization [Define American](#), which aims to elevate national conversations around citizenship and identity through storytelling.

In his lecture “My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant,” Vargas will provide a deeper look into his experiences as a queer, undocumented Filipino immigrant in a national climate full of uncertainties. Moreover, we will hear how he defied tremendous odds to become one of contemporary America’s most prolific and well-known immigrant rights advocates.

Admission for this event is free. Those interested in attending should register at www.JoseVargasLecture.eventbrite.com.

This event is made possible through the support of our generous sponsors: Humanities Washington, University of Puget Sound’s Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE), UPS’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS), Immanuel Presbyterian, Temple Beth El, and Mason UMC.

About Tacoma Community House (TCH)

As one of the longest, continuously operating social service agencies in Washington State, TCH has improved the lives of generations of immigrants, refugees, and other (predominantly low-income) community members through the four cornerstones of *Education, Employment, Immigration and Advocacy*.

Founded by Methodist women in 1910 in the small room of a private home in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood, TCH originally served a couple dozen neighborhood children. Today, TCH is a nationally respected, community-based multiservice center providing 3,800 program services to 3,500 adults and youth from the U.S. and over 100 other countries.

TCH's service area of Pierce, South King, Kitsap, Thurston, and Mason counties represents a growing population of 1.6 million individuals, 10% of whom are immigrants. TCH is the only organization that provides a full range of services to immigrants and refugees between Portland and Seattle.

Learn more at www.TacomaCommunityHouse.org

Tacoma Community House

(253) 383-3951 | www.TacomaCommunityHouse.org

1314 S. L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405

“Tacoma Community House creates opportunities for immigrants and other community members in the Puget Sound region through comprehensive services focused on self-sufficiency, inclusion and advocacy.”