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## **New Film on Rachel Carson Coming to Minneapolis A Sense of Wonder to Premiere on Earth Day**

Minneapolis – The University of Minnesota Bell Museum of Natural History and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) are sponsoring the Minneapolis premiere of the new film *A Sense of Wonder*, based on the life and writings of environmentalist Rachel Carson.

*A Sense of Wonder* will be shown on Earth Day, April 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bell Museum of Natural History in Minneapolis. The viewing is free and open to the public. It will be followed by a panel discussion led by Kathleen Schuler from IATP and the Healthy Legacy coalition, and Dr. William Toscano from the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health.

When pioneering environmentalist Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring* in 1962, the backlash from her critics thrust her into the center of a political maelstrom. In *A Sense of Wonder*, actress Kaiulani Lee embodies this extraordinary woman in a documentary-style film, which depicts Carson in the final year of her life. The film was shot in high definition by two-time Academy Award-winning cinematographer Haskell Wexler at Carson's cottage on the coast of Maine. Struggling with cancer, Carson recounts with both humor and anger the attacks by the chemical industry, the government and the press as she focuses her limited energy to get her message to Congress and the American people.

"Earth Day is an important time to honor one of the sparks of the modern environmental movement," said Jim Harkness, President of IATP. "We all have a lot to learn from the work and life of Rachel Carson."

"Rachel Carson was a dedicated scientist whose writings awakened our collective social consciousness on critical environmental issues," said Bell Museum of Natural History Director Susan Weller. "The museum is pleased to host this groundbreaking film about a visionary writer, scientist and ecologist."

For information or directions, contact the Bell Museum of Natural History at 612-626-7083 or visit: [www.bellmuseum.org](http://www.bellmuseum.org), or contact Anne Walters at 612-870-3408, [awalters@iatp.org](mailto:awalters@iatp.org).

*IATP works locally and globally at the intersection of policy and practice to ensure fair and sustainable food, farm and trade systems.*