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Sudanese Hip-Hop Artist and Former Child Soldier Emmanuel Jal to Speak at UF

GAINESVILLE, Fla. –Emmanuel Jal, hailed as the “rising star of African hip-hop”, will be speaking on Monday October 6th, in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom at the University of Florida. This event is free and open to the public, and doors will open at 7:00 p.m. The even will begin at 7:30 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by the Dean of Students Office.

In some circles, Jal has been called a young Bob Marley. Jal is well known as the central figure of the internationally acclaimed War Child documentary. He has produced three albums, most recently *WARchild*. *WARchild* is his first international hip-hop album. Through his lyrics, Jal speaks about social injustice and upholding human rights, and because of this he has become one of the leading activists in the world. Jal has performed alongside Moby and on soundtracks for both *Blood Diamond* and *ER*. He has also been featured in *Rolling Stone*, *Vibe*, *USA Today*, *CNN* and on *NPR*. He offers insightful and uplifting stories of his transformation from a six-year-old soldier into the strong willed individual he is today. Jal has recently spoken at the United Nations and performed at Nelson Mandela’s 90th birthday celebration.

ACCENT Speakers Bureau, the largest student-run speakers bureau in the nation, has been bringing prominent speakers to the University of Florida since 1967. ACCENT strives to bring controversial and influential speakers to the university, with the intent of further educating the student body. ACCENT speeches are not paid with tax or state dollars. ACCENT’s funding comes from activity fees, which students pay specifically to fund out-of-the-classroom experiences. Past ACCENT speakers include presidents, prime ministers, and entertainment, media, business and sports legends.

For more information, call ACCENT at (352) 392-1665 ext. 306 or the information line at ext. 411. Visit our website at www.accentSpeakers.com or e-mail ACCENT at accent@sg.ufl.edu.

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