



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2007

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CNN Special Correspondent To Speak At the University of Florida

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — CNN Special Correspondent Soledad O’Brien will speak Sept. 11 in the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Florida. The event begins at 8 p.m. and doors open at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

O’Brien is the former co-anchor of “American Morning” with Miles O’Brien. Based in New York, O’Brien anchored CNN’s flagship morning program from 2003 to 2007. O’Brien is now an anchor and special correspondent for CNN: Special Investigations Unit. O’Brien reports in-depth on the most significant stories across the country and around the world, and anchors Special Investigations Unit specials throughout the year. O’Brien is the anchor for CNN’s Special Report “Black in America”. O’Brien comes from an Afro-Cuban-Irish lineage and is a member of both the National Association of Black Journalists and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

O’Brien is a graduate of Harvard University. She began her journalism career as an associate producer and news writer at the then-NBC affiliate, WBZ-TV in Boston. In 1991, O’Brien joined the National Broadcasting Company as a field producer for “Nightly News” and “Today.” O’Brien moved from NBC to CNN in July 2003.

O’Brien’s speech is co-sponsored by ACCENT Speakers Bureau and Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month at the University of Florida is one of the largest student run Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations in the Nation. Hispanic Heritage Month at UF runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 19 to honor the many milestones that have shaped the Hispanic culture’s identity within the United States. Sept. 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five countries.

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 speakers 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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