

# THE PROGRESSIVE FORUM

Great Minds, Great Answers

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## Rachel Maddow at The Progressive Forum March 10, 2013



Television host and author Rachel Maddow will speak at The Progressive Forum on Sunday, March 10, 2013, at the Wortham Center, Cullen Theater at 7:30. She will be discussing her best selling book, *Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power*. Each ticket holder will receive a complimentary copy of the paperback book at the event.

Tickets range from \$19 to \$79. Tickets are available at [ProgressiveForumHouston.org](http://ProgressiveForumHouston.org) or by calling 832-251-0706. There is no physical box office except at the theater on event night.

Rachel Maddow is host of MSNBC's critically acclaimed *The Rachel Maddow Show*. Her book, *Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power*, debuted at number one on *The New York Times* bestseller list in March 2012. In *Drift*, Maddow lends her distinctive voice to the examination of America's bloated military and slide toward perpetual war. Called "thought-provoking" by critics, *The New York Times* review says, "Thank Ms. Maddow for picking this and every other fight that *Drift* provokes. It will be a smarter public debate than the kinds we're used to."

The most successful show launch in MSNBC history, *The Rachel Maddow Show* debuted in September of 2008. The show has garnered several awards, including an Emmy and a GLAAD Media Award, and was named one of the top shows of the decade by the *Washington Post* in 2009. Maddow's awards include the Walter Cronkite Faith & Freedom Award and two Gracie Allen Awards, among many others.

Before *The Rachel Maddow Show*, Maddow appeared regularly as a political analyst on MSNBC and as a host on Air America Radio. She joined Air America at its inception in 2004, cohosting *Unfiltered*. After the cancellation of *Unfiltered*, Maddow began her two-hour weekday radio program, also called *The Rachel Maddow Show*, which aired until January of 2010.

Rachel Maddow grew up in Castro Valley, California and attended Stanford University. She attended Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship where she earned her doctorate in political science. She lives in New York City and western Massachusetts with her partner, artist Susan Mikula.

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The Progressive Forum is the only civic speaker organization in America dedicated expressly to progressive values. It's a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to enrich our democracy and culture by striving to present the greatest minds from all the fields of human endeavor, the sciences and the humanities as well as politics and public affairs, great minds it believes are advancing the success of the individual, our species, and life on earth.

The Progressive Forum originated a new model for civic speaker organizations in Houston by presenting speakers in the city's finest theater, unlike the hotel luncheons of traditional organizations. It was designed to present the world's intellectual stars to large audiences in a high quality, theatrical experience. The Progressive Forum markets region-wide to sell tickets to the public in open events.

The Progressive Forum also originated a unique innovation in public media, reaching a worldwide audience by presenting the great minds online. The Progressive Forum is America's only civic speaker group providing website pages with event video on its past speakers. These pages are in-depth and comprehensive and include video, biographical sketches, news updates, related links, and reading lists. Most of the videos are longer than common internet fare; however they're broken down into segments and short clips on interesting topics. The website is intended to serve as a source of inspiration for scholars and seekers, a source of perpetual enrichment long after the curtains have closed on the theatrical event.

Speakers have included Michelle Alexander, Karen Armstrong, Lester Brown, Ken Burns, Gail Collins, Richard Dawkins, Jared Diamond, Sylvia Earle, Elizabeth Edwards, Tim Flannery, Jane Goodall, Al Gore, Brian Greene, James Hansen, Seymour Hersh, Arianna Huffington, Molly Ivins, Garrison Keillor, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Joe Klein, George Lakoff, Richard Leakey, William McDonough, Bill McKibben, Bill Moyers, Nancy Pelosi, T. Boone Pickens, Michael Pollan, Robert Redford, Frank Rich, Sir Ken Robinson, Eric Schlosser, Anna Deavere Smith, George Soros, Sonia Sotomayor, Gloria Steinem, John Paul Stevens, Alice Waters, Larry Wilmore, and Edward O. Wilson.

Founder and president, Randall R. Morton, owned Randall Morton International, Inc. for 36 years, an advertising and public relations agency whose clients included the leading oil equipment companies in the U.S., Japan, Mexico, and Europe. Morton co-created and co-hosted the Oilfield Breakfast Forum from 1994 to 2003, another speaker series which is still the largest in the oil industry. He earned a B.A. degree in government from Georgetown University, and attained a national ranking of three as a pass receiver in nonscholarship football. While at Georgetown, he served as an issue writer for the Democratic National Committee. Later, he earned a second B.A. in communications from Tulsa University, serving the following year as adjunct professor teaching advertising design and copy. He is married to Suzanne Longley, formerly prima ballerina of the Houston Ballet and now owner of Suzanne Longley Landscapes. They have two children who are in college.

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