

## **Dream Big Speakers**

Avery Bang trained as a geo-technical engineer at the University of Colorado Boulder before joining Bridges to Prosperity where she now serves as Executive

Director. Bridges to Prosperity is a non-profit organization that builds cable-stayed pedestrian bridges throughout the developing world. With design, program development and construction experience in nearly a dozen countries, she has more than doubled the size of the operation. When describing what



she does, Avery asks people to imagine what it would have been like for them to get to their elementary school if the infrastructure they had—bridges, roads, etc-didn't exist. She explains that she helps people in the developing world build projects that many people often take for granted. www.bridgestoprosperity.org.

**Steve Burrows** is one of the world's leading structural engineers and is the engineer behind several world-class buildings projects such as the Birds Nest Stadium in

Beijing. Burrows uses high-tech Lidar technology to scan through building materials and unlock mysteries inside the Great Wall of China and other modern wonders. Born in the UK, but now a U.S. citizen, he has designed projects in Asia, Europe, the U.S. and the UK for which he was decorated as



a Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty the Queen. Steve's passion for exploring the possibilities to create unique and sustainable buildings stems from his mentors and collaborators. He often says 'it takes a village to raise a child but it takes several

villages to raise a building', emphasizing the value of teamwork in great projects. He lives in San Francisco.

Angelica Hernandez is a 2014 graduate of Stanford University, having earned a master's of science in atmosphere and energy. She immigrated to the United



States 15 years ago with her mother and sister, and now lives in Phoenix. Hernandez graduated as a distinguished student of the mechanical engineering class of 2011 from Arizona State University. In high school, she led the robotics team to a victory over MIT during an underwater robotics contest.

Hernandez now works as an engineer in the clean tech industry at Nexant, Inc.

**Menzer Pehlivan** is a geotechnical engineer specializing in earthquake engineering. Named one of the "2016



New Faces of Engineering" by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Menzer was inspired to build more resilient communities and reduce the risk associated with earthquakes following the 1999 Kocaeli Earthquake in Turkey, which she experienced as a young girl. She received her Ph.D.

degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 2013 and has worked on geotechnical and earthquake projects in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. She currently works as a geotechnical engineer on critical infrastructure projects at CH2M in Seattle.

To inquire about these speakers' availability, please contact Lori Rick, Irick@macfreefilms.com.





