

Other editions: [Mobile](#) | [RSS](#) | [E-News](#) | [Subscribe Now](#)

Find it: [Jobs](#) | [Cars](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Apartments](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Coupons](#) | [Contact Us](#)



SEARCH ALL [go](#)

[All](#) [Local News](#) [News Archive](#) [Calendar](#) [More »](#)



HOME NEWS OBITUARIES OPINION NATION/WORLD SPORTS OUTDOORS LIVING ENTERTAINMENT VISITORS LIVING WELL CLASSIFIEDS CUSTOMER SERVICE

[Grocery Coupons](#) [Video](#) [Blogs](#) [My Cozi Calendar](#) [Submit Letter to the Editor](#) [Wedding, Engagement & announcement forms](#) [Weather](#) [Lottery](#)

Comment, blog & share photos
[Log in](#) | [Become a member](#) | [Search people](#)

POWERED BY YOU AND VOICE OF THE MOUNTAINS • CITIZEN-TIMES.COM

Forum urges climate action

TEDx speakers plead for unity

BY JOSH BOATWRIGHT • AUGUST 31, 2009 11:01 AM

[Read Comments\(16\)](#) [Recommend\(2\)](#) [Print this page](#) [E-mail this article](#) [Share](#)

ASHEVILLE — The progression of global climate change can be turned around, but it will require an immediate, worldwide transformation personally and politically.



ADVERTISEMENT

[Muscle building miracle discovered](#)



[Kick your snoring habit or sleep apnea for good](#)



[Doctors say they've found why snoring can kill](#)



[No money for school? Use Obama's stimulus bill](#)



[The Asian secret to strong, lush hair](#)



[The secret to getting highly discounted cruise tickets](#)

That was the message of several speakers Sunday night at TEDxAsheville, a locally organized, independent version of the popular Technology, Entertainment, Design conferences held across the world.

Asheville's TEDx met at The Orange Peel and featured local activists, scientists, academics and spiritual leaders.

A national voice in the environmental movement made a brief appearance before the audience of more than 400, though not in person. Popular author Bill McKibben made an urgent plea by video for Asheville residents to join in rallies across the world on Oct. 24 being organized to persuade world leaders to take major political action in curbing carbon emissions.

"Global warming is not a future threat, it is a present crisis," McKibben said, referencing glaciers melting across the world. "Politically, we have to take action much more quickly and much more dramatically than we had hoped even a few years ago."

McKibben and local climate expert Drew Jones said it will be critical for world leaders to reach an agreement on capping emissions at an upcoming climate change conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

But Jones, who is program director for the Sustainability Institute, encouraged his listeners to take a more optimistic approach to tackling the world's environmental problems.

"Is anyone else tired of hearing the story that we're going to destroy ourselves?" he said.

Jones displayed graphs showing the dramatic drop in emissions possible over the next decade if the nations change their environmental policies and individuals adjust their habits.

PLAY VIDEO ▶

00:00

Featured local activists, scientists, academics and spiritual leaders.



TEDx Asheville at The Orange Peel featured local activists, scientists, academics and spiritual leaders, many of whom addressed the pressing need for a deeper consciousness of the environment. (Josh Boatwright/jboatwright@citizen-times.com)

PHOTO GALLERIES

- [Rain, rain, rain](#)
- [More Rain Pictures](#)
- [Weather photos](#)
- [Sunny weather](#)
- [Caught in the rain 8/5/2009](#)
- [Asheville/Parkway Rain](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

He said he would be attending a TEDx conference later this week in Beijing, where Chinese leaders have recently signaled a willingness to radically reduce their emissions.

Likening the current generation to those who fought the advance of fascism during World War II, Jones told the audience to cling to a story of hope for the world's future.

"I think we can do this. Does anyone else think we can do this?" he said, eliciting applause and cheers.

Between speakers, the evening featured local musical acts like guitar/accordion duo Shane Perlowin and August Hoerr, and even juggling.

Other speakers at the event included media artist David McConville, UNC Asheville professor Dee Eggers, Web designer Robert Zimmerman and Zen Buddhist minister Caroline Yongue.

Tickets for the event were free, though seating in The Orange Peel was limited and organizers said more than 300 people had to be turned away at the door.

TEDx Asheville was also broadcast via live streaming video on the Web.

ONE OF THE 20 BOOKS THAT CHANGED AMERICA
—Book Magazine July/August, 2003

To order your FREE BOOK OF MORMON
Click Here

THE BOOK OF MORMON
ANOTHER TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

In Your Voice | READ REACTIONS TO THIS STORY

Hide Comments ▲

Newest first



Altamontlocal wrote:

Replying to mister_bliiser:

Yona, try to back up some of your facts with links of scientific proof... I imagine they will come from places advocating "intelligent design." You are only proving the sorry state of education in this country.

Your not helping either prove the sorry state of the education in this country either. Religion has nothing to with the article, your the one bringing religion into your argument, its a cheap and petty fight. If you don't believe then why you talk about something you don't believe in so much? Trying to convince yourself?
8/31/2009 6:08:07 PM

Recommend(2) New post Reply to this Post Report Abuse



Altamontlocal wrote:

Replying to mister_bliiser:

"Snake Oil"?? This is proven science, sorry folks... not that I would imagine that you all believe in such things as "facts". It has only been "disproven" by people who think man walked alongside dinosaurs and who believe in talking snakes.

Its proven every day more and more scientists are switching sides, and yes it is Snake Oil. I have read the facts and I do research on my own, I don't wait for NPR, Local AM Radio, Fox News or MSNBC tell me whats important. Im a grown up and research that myself. I think with my mind not my feelings, i know the difference. Global Warming is Snake Oil, buy before its gone.

Oh and everything has a voice even snakes, so quick to judge someone based on what YOU believe. My people know every thing has a voice, Snakes, tree's and stupid hipster.
8/31/2009 6:05:33 PM

Recommend(2) New post Reply to this Post Report Abuse



yona101 wrote:

TEXT ALERTS

Breaking News Alerts

Get the latest breaking news sent directly to your cell phone.

Enter your phone number:

Continue

[T & C](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Cancel Alerts](#) Powered by 4INFO.
Standard Messaging Rates apply. To Opt-out text STOP to 4INFO (44636). For more information text HELP to 4INFO.

[Click here to sign up for more alerts!](#)

AD5 BY PULSE 360 [Get Listed Here](#)

Cary Refinance at 4.37% FIXED!
\$160,000 mortgage for \$633/mo. Free. No Obligation. Get 4 Quotes!
www.LendGo.com

The Truth About Penny Stocks
Sign up and find out how our subscribers are making massive profits
www.PennyPic.com

Online Six Sigma Training
Earn Six Sigma Master Certificate From Villanova U
www.VillanovaU.com

"THE CHIEF REASON for skepticism at the official position on "global warming" is the overwhelming weight of evidence that the UN's climate panel, the IPCC, prodigiously exaggerates both the supposed causes and the imagined consequences of anthropogenic "global warming"; that too many of the exaggerations can be demonstrated to have been deliberate; and that the IPCC and other official sources have continued to rely even upon those exaggerations that have been definitively demonstrated in the literature to have been deliberate.

In short, science is being artfully manipulated to fabricate what are in essence political and not scientific conclusions – a conclusion that is congenial to powerful factions whose ambition is not to identify scientific truth but rather to advance the special vested interests with which they identify themselves."

http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/monckton/temperature_and_co2_change_briefing.html

8/31/2009 12:48:56 PM

[Recommend](#) [New post](#) [Reply to this Post](#) [Report Abuse](#)



Yona101 wrote:

Replying to mister_blister:

Yona, try to back up some of your facts with links of scientific proof... I imagine they will come from places advocating "intelligent design." You are only proving the sorry state of education in this country.

The difference between you and me, I have facts and you have insults and rhetoric.

<http://www.heartland.org/publications/NIPCC%20report/PDFs/NIPCC%20Final.pdf>

<http://uddebatt.wordpress.com/2009/04/05/fatal-errors-in-ipccs-global-climate-models/>

<http://co2didit.blogspot.com/2009/04/ipcc-kyotos-multi-trillion-dollar.html>

<http://uddebatt.wordpress.com/2008/04/08/has-the-ipcc-inflated-the-feedback-factor/>

<http://ilovecarbondioxide.com/2009/07/great-global-warming-swindle-part-1.html>

http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/monckton/temperature_and_co2_change_briefing.html

"IPCC, prodigiously exaggerates "

The last link is the best and the one with the most data. Read, enjoy, I know it won't change your over zealous mind.

8/31/2009 12:47:43 PM

[Recommend](#) [New post](#) [Reply to this Post](#) [Report Abuse](#)



mister_blister wrote:

Yona, try to back up some of your facts with links of scientific proof... I imagine they will come from places advocating "intelligent design." You are only proving the sorry state of education in this country.

8/31/2009 12:02:06 PM

[Recommend](#) [New post](#) [Reply to this Post](#) [Report Abuse](#)

1 2 3 4 >> Last

[FULL PAGE VIEW](#) See more comments per page and quote other replies

You must be logged in to leave a comment. [Login](#) | [Register](#)

1000 characters left

Interested in more News conversation?

post in our [News](#) forum



Partners: [Jobs: CareerBuilder.com](#) [Cars: Cars.com](#) [Apartments: Apartments.com](#) [Shopping: ShopLocal.com](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Obituaries](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Nation/World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Outdoors](#) | [Living](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Visitors](#) | [Living Well](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Customer Service](#) | [Site Map](#)

[Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Work for Us](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Advertise with Us](#)

Copyright © 2009 CITIZEN-TIMES.com

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#) , updated March 2009.