



## C-100 Leadership Delegation Program

November 27-December 6, 2011

### Bios



**Eugene Robinson**

**Columnist and Associate Editor, *The Washington Post***

Eugene Robinson is a columnist and associate editor of *The Washington Post* and a commentator for MSNBC. His twice-weekly column on *The Post's* Op-Ed page was launched in February 2005, and within a year it was being syndicated to more than 130 newspapers – making it, by far, the fastest-growing column in the history of *the Washington Post* Writers Group. Robinson's essays on politics, culture and events have helped shape the debate on issues such as the war in Iraq, the limits of presidential power and the rebuilding of the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast. He is a regular commentator on NBC's award-winning "Meet the Press" and also appears frequently on MSNBC, CNN and other media outlets. In 2009, he received the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary for "his eloquent columns on the 2008 presidential campaign that focus on the election of the first African-American president, showcasing graceful writing and grasp of the larger historic picture." In a three-decade career at *The Post*, Robinson has been city hall reporter, city editor, foreign correspondent in Buenos Aires and London, foreign editor, and assistant managing editor in charge of the paper's Style section. Robinson is the author of "Disintegration: The Splintering of Black America" (2010), "Last Dance in Havana" (2004), and "Coal to Cream: A Black Man's Journey Beyond Color to an Affirmation of Race" (1999).



**Nicholas Goldberg,**

**Editor of the Editorial Pages, *The Los Angeles Times***

Nicholas Goldberg joined *The Los Angeles Times* in 2002 as editor of the op-ed page and the Sunday Opinion section. He became deputy editor of the editorial pages in 2008 and a year later was named editor of the editorial pages, a position that gives him overall responsibility for *The Times'* daily report. He is a former reporter and editor at *Newsday* in New York, where he worked as Middle East bureau chief from 1995 to 1998. In that job, he covered the Israeli-Palestinian peace process; presidential elections in Iran; arms monitoring in Iraq; famine in Sudan; civil war in Algeria; war in Lebanon and the rise of Islamic fundamentalism in Saudi Arabia. Goldberg also covered the 1992 presidential campaign of Bill Clinton, and as statehouse bureau chief in New York, the administrations of Governors Mario Cuomo and George Pataki. He also served as Sunday business editor for *Newsday*, which he joined in 1983. Between 1999 and 2002, Goldberg worked conducting polls, focus groups and other strategic research for foundations, corporations and political candidates. During those years, he served

as senior vice president of Benenson Strategy Group and as a director of Penn, Schoen and Berland Associates. Goldberg's writing has been widely published including in *The Los Angeles Times*, *New Republic*, *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Nation*, *Sunday Times* of London, *Washington Monthly*, *American Lawyer* and *Conde Nast Traveler*, among others. He is a graduate of Harvard University, with a bachelor's degree in government.



**Rekha Basu**

**Columnist, *The Des Moines Register***

Rekha Basu has been a columnist for *The Des Moines Register* since 1991 commenting on local, national and international issues with a focus on human rights, racial justice and gender equality. She has worked as a reporter, editorial writer and columnist at newspapers in Iowa, New York State and Florida. Her byline has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *USA Today*, *India Today* and *The International Herald Tribune*, among other publications. She has made guest appearances on The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, National Public Radio and C-SPAN, and is a frequent keynote speaker on global affairs and race and gender issues. Her Register columns are published nationally in Gannett newspapers. Key honors include: Honorary doctorate of humane letters from Grinnell College, Woman of Influence Award from Des Moines Business Publications, Iowa Interfaith Alliance Award, Iowa Farmers Union Award, Master Columnist award from the Iowa Newspaper Association; Associated Press Managing Editors Award; United Nations Association Award, South Asian Journalists Association Award, Des Moines YWCA's Mary Louise Smith Award for Racial Justice; Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice; Vivian Castleberry Award for journalism on women.