

**A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM
THE MEDIA CONSORTIUM
PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER 29, 2005**

We, the makers and providers of progressive, independent journalism, declare our intent to form among ourselves a new nonprofit association, the Media Consortium. Its purpose will be to amplify our voices; increase our collective clout; leverage our current audiences and reach out to new ones; attract financial resources; strengthen and transform our individual businesses and our sector's position in a rapidly changing media and political environment; and redefine ourselves and progressivism for a new century. We will pursue these goals through such concrete and practical efforts as are more effective when undertaken jointly. We believe it is possible and necessary to seize the current moment and change the debate in this country on our terms. Therefore, the mission of the Media Consortium is of vital importance--not just for the furtherance of our individual enterprises, but for the health of American democracy.

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