



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Amy Greenberg  
1-212-473-5402

Diane DeMaio  
1-212-420-8309

**Whoopi Goldberg Will Kick Off Global Gaming Expo (G2E)**  
*Hollywood Icon to Deliver Keynote Address at G2E*

Norwalk, CT—Global Gaming Expo (G2E), the first industry-hosted international trade show and conference for the gaming-entertainment industry, announced that Whoopi Goldberg will deliver the opening keynote address for G2E on Monday, October 1, 2001.

"It is our privilege to have such a great actress as Whoopi Goldberg be part of G2E," said AGA President and CEO Frank J. Fahrenkopf, Jr. "Her participation in this first international gaming event sponsored by the industry and for the industry is further evidence of the growing and productive partnership between the gaming and entertainment industries."

G2E, organized by the American Gaming Association (AGA) in conjunction with Reed Exhibition Companies, will debut Oct. 1-3, 2001, at the Las Vegas Convention Center, its host venue through 2020. G2E currently has more than 385 exhibitors showcasing hundreds of new products in the exhibit hall. The event will also feature 100 dynamic conference sessions focusing on a wide range of issues that impact the gaming industry.

Whoopi Goldberg, executive producer and center square of the syndicated *Hollywood Squares*, has won numerous awards and acclaim for her work in film and television. In addition to an Oscar, Grammy and two Golden Globe Awards, Whoopi has been honored with multiple NAACP Image Awards, numerous People's Choice Awards and an unprecedented five Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards as "Favorite Movie Actress." She has been honored with multiple NAACP Image Awards and is also well known for her tireless humanitarian efforts on behalf of children, the homeless, human rights, education, substance abuse and the battle against AIDS.

Following are some of the other major G2E announcements from over the summer:

**G2E Supported By The Top Worldwide Gaming Organizations:** Official G2E sponsors include the Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers (AGEM); the Gaming Standards Association (GSA); the Asociación Latinoamericana de Juegos de Azar (ALAJA), which represents Latin American operators and suppliers; European Gaming Organization (EGO), Europe's only official gaming association, and the Australian Casino Association (ACA).

**Key Gaming Industry Leaders and Experts to Deliver Keynote Addresses and Lead Panel Discussions at G2E:** They include J. Terrence Lanni, chairman and CEO of MGM MIRAGE; Philip Satre, chairman and CEO of Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.; Ernie Stevens, chairman of the

National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA); Paul Herzfeld, chief executive of Casinos Austria International; and Charles Mathewson, chairman of International Game Technology (IGT). Mr. Yemenidjam, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. (MGM), will also deliver a keynote address on the convergence of the gaming and entertainment industries.

**Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. and Goldman, Sachs & Co. to Conduct Financial Updates at G2E:**

Two of the biggest names on Wall Street will be hosting *40 Financial Updates* offering an inside look at the financial future of the gaming industry.

**G2E Forms Strategic Partnerships:** G2E has formed a strategic partnership with the Interactive Gaming Council (IGC), the leading international trade association committed to the advancement of the interactive gaming industry. G2E also has partnerships with *Casino World* and *Casino International*, two of the leading international gaming trade publications.

**Native American Gaming Interests To Be Central At G2E:** Ernest L. Stevens, chairman of NIGA, will be serving on the industry keynote panel and a number of NIGA staff and experts on Native American gaming will be moderators or participants on a variety of panels of interest to Native American gaming. *Indian Country Today*, the leading newspaper for American Indians, will also serve as an official show publication.

The American Gaming Association represents the commercial casino-entertainment industry by addressing federal legislative and regulatory issues. The association also serves as a clearinghouse for information, develops educational and advocacy programs, and provides leadership on industry-related issues of public concern.

Reed Exhibition Companies, G2E's show management partner, is the world leader in bringing buyers and suppliers together at more than 400 trade and consumer events in 27 countries and nearly 50 industries. The company is a member of the Reed Elsevier plc group, a world-leading business and information provider.

To obtain a press pass and learn more about G2E, visit the event's Web site at [www.globalgamingexpo.com](http://www.globalgamingexpo.com). Buyers can also pre-register online for the conference program and for free show admission.

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