



Students' Association
of MacEwan

For Immediate Release:

February 2, 2012

Students' Association of Grant MacEwan University

in sponsorship of MacEwan University's Global Awareness Week

Presents a Keynote Address

Nazanin Afshin-Jam

Thursday February 2, 2012

5:00 – 9:00 p.m., City Centre Campus

Robbins Health and Learning Centre

Main Floor – Heart of Robbins

Afshin-Jam is an international human rights activist, singer/songwriter, actress, former Miss World Canada and President and co-founder of the "Stop Child Executions" organization.



Born in Tehran in 1979, at the height of Iran's Islamic revolution, her family was forced to flee a year later after her non-political father was arrested, tortured and nearly executed. Upon earning a double major degree in International Relations and Political Science at UBC, augmented by continued studies abroad, Afshin-Jam became an advocate with the Red Cross as a Global Youth Educator on the landmine crisis and children affected by war. In 2003, she won Miss Canada title and was the 1st runner up at Miss World. This accomplishment helped to give Afshin-Jam the platform she sought to raise awareness and funds for the Bam Earthquake, the 2004 Tsunami, Fistula patients in Ethiopia, Variety the Children's Charity and many others. In 2006 Afshin-Jam successfully ran an international campaign to save the life of Nazanin Fatehi, a juvenile sentenced to death in Iran for stabbing, in self defense, one of three assailants that tried to rape her.

Afshin-Jam's battle against child executions continues. She co-founded the Stop Child Executions organization - found on the web at www.stopchildexecutions.com - with the goal of halting the practice in Iran and in the handful of other countries where it still continues. Through her speeches Nazanin hopes to continue being a "voice for the voiceless" and deliver her messages of freedom, peace and love worldwide.

We would also like to congratulate Nazanin on her recent marriage to the Rt. Hon. Peter MacKay: Canada's Minister of Defense.