



For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE
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League of American Bicyclists to Award National Geographic Society and Welcome Cross-Country Bike-Rider Ryan Van Duzer

Washington, DC - August 06, 2009 – The League of American Bicyclists is celebrating bicycle friendliness nationally and locally Monday, August 10 at National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington D.C. from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. As part of its [Bicycle Friendly America program](#), the League will recognize National Geographic with a Bicycle Friendly Business award and will celebrate the culmination of a cross-country bicycle ride by travel journalist Ryan Van Duzer. Van Duzer, who rode across the United States to raise awareness about bicycling, visited several League-designated Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFC) along his route. Fittingly, his journey ends in Washington, D.C., a BFC that is neighbored by two BFCs: Alexandria, Va., and Arlington, Va.

The purpose of the event is to recognize collective improvements in bicycle friendliness, locally and nationally; talk about what is next; and raise awareness about incorporating bicycle commuting into one's work and daily life. National Geographic has become a community leader for bicycling in the workplace and will be awarded for its efforts. "The bicycle is an easy solution to many of the complex challenges facing our nation's transportation, climate and health issues," said Andy Clarke, League president. "National Geographic promotes a vibrant working culture that understands the importance of the bicycle." National Geographic is the second Washington organization to be designated a bicycle-friendly business. The World Bank was the first.

Van Duzer's trip has showcased bicycling as an essential ingredient to a community where people want to live, work and visit. He is spreading his philosophy that if he can ride a 3-speed cruiser across America, people can ride their bikes to work or to the store. He has been producing video content and updating his travel blog (<http://ryanvanduzer.com/>) along the way to document the advancements of our nation's bicycle friendliness. "As I start heading toward our nation's capital, I am enthusiastic about how we as a country can benefit by more people embracing the two-wheeled lifestyle," said Van Duzer. Monday's event will close with a mini-documentary, celebrating his journey and the bicycle.

National and local representatives from the legislative and bicycle community will attend and participate in the event. Media is welcome and encouraged. For further event information, contact Meghan Cahill at 202.822.1333 or communications@bikeleague.org.

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America's 57 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. For more information or to support the League, visit www.bikeleague.org.

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