

*Geoffrey Tabin*

Class of 1974

Dr. Geoffrey Tabin, a Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of the Division of International Ophthalmology at the John A. Moran Eye Center at the University of Utah, has spent his career working to prevent cataract blindness in developing nations. Tabin, an avid mountain climber who has reached the tallest peak on each of the seven continents, first developed an interest in helping those at risk of treatable blindness after climbing Mt. Everest and, during that trip, encountering a team performing surgery on a woman who had been needlessly blind for three years. He co-founded the Himalayan Cataract Project in 2004 with Dr. Sanduk Ruit in Nepal, who pioneered an inexpensive method of operating on cataracts to cure preventable blindness. The two doctors have taken that technology into the field to perform surgeries at several high-volume eye surgery camps. As a result, the HCP has cured unnecessary blindness in more than 500,000 people in Nepal, Tibet, Pakistan, India, Bhutan, China, Thailand, Vietnam, and North Korea. After graduating from New Trier, Tabin earned a bachelor's degree from Yale University, a Master of Arts in philosophy at Oxford University and an M.D. from Harvard Medical School. An IHSA medalist on New Trier's tennis team, Tabin also served on the Social Service Board and Tri-Ship while at New Trier.

