

PRESS RELEASE

Mariane Pearl, widow of beheaded hostage Daniel Pearl, and Auschwitz survivor Eva Schloss announced as guest speakers at the Anne Frank Trust's lunch to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, on January 29th 2015.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Anne Frank Trust UK is delighted to announce Mariane Pearl and Eva Schloss as guest speakers at the Trust's biggest event of the year. The lunch is to be held on Thursday 29th January at the London Hilton on Park Lane.

Mariane Pearl was five months pregnant with her son when her husband, The Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, was kidnapped and brutally murdered by a militant Islamic fundamentalist group in Pakistan in 2002. Determined not to be broken, she wrote *A Mighty Heart: The Brave Life and Death of My Husband Daniel Pearl*. The book won international praise and was translated into 15 languages. In 2007, it was released as a major feature movie starring Angelina Jolie in the role of Mariane Pearl. Mariane will receive the Anne Frank Award for Moral Courage.

The lunch will also feature Holocaust survivor Dr Eva Schloss MBE, posthumous step-sister of Anne Frank, who in conversation with broadcaster Natasha Kaplinsky, will recount the horrors of Auschwitz she experienced when she was just a teenager.

This will be the thirteenth such lunch held by the Anne Frank Trust for London's business community to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, regularly attended by over 600 people. It will include a poignant candle lighting ceremony conducted by those whose families have suffered persecution, genocide and acts of brutality.

For interview requests and press invitations please contact Siama Khan on 020 7284 5858 or siamo@annefrank.org.uk

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. The Anne Frank Trust UK is a not for profit educational charity set up in 1990 by British family and friends of the late Mr Otto Frank. The Trust draws on the power of Anne Frank's life and diary to challenge prejudice and reduce hatred, encouraging people to embrace positive attitudes, responsibility and respect for others. It does

this through its exhibitions and educational programmes in schools, prisons and community settings, educating 30,000 young people a year. www.annefrank.org.uk

2. Mariane Pearl is an award winning journalist and writer who works in French, English and Spanish. She is currently the managing editor of Chime for Change global journalism platform focusing on women and girls which was launched in 2013 in partnership with the International Herald Tribune and the Thomson Reuters Foundation. She will be attending from her home in Spain, along with her son Adam who was born a few months after Daniel's murder.
3. Eva Schloss MBE is a survivor of the Holocaust and a co-founder of the Anne Frank Trust. Having fled Austria from Nazi persecution in 1938, Eva and her family moved to Amsterdam where Eva became friendly with Anne and her family. Both families were subsequently forced into hiding in 1942. In May 1944 Eva's family was betrayed and deported to Auschwitz; Eva and her mother were to survive their ordeal but both her father and brother perished.
4. Natasha Kaplinsky is one of the UK's leading broadcasters and one of the most familiar faces of TV news having worked for Sky News, BBC and Channel 5. She is currently one of the main anchors for the ITN network. In 2004 Natasha became the inaugural winner of Strictly Come Dancing. Natasha's family history was the subject of one of the most memorable programmes in the popular BBC1 television series, *Who Do You Think You Are?* She is a Commissioner on the Prime Minister's Holocaust Commission