



Press release immediate release

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Survivors of terrorism and the Holocaust share their experiences at charity exhibition's closing event

A Walsall College lecturer who lost three members of her family in a Tunisian terrorist-attack will speak publicly for the first time about her experience on the closing day (6 December 2018) of a national charity's exhibition highlighting the dangers of prejudice and discrimination.

Suzanne Richards whose father, brother and son were murdered when a gunman opened fire at the beach resort of Port El-Kantoui, Tunisia in June 2015 will join the last remaining Holocaust survivor in the west Midlands, *Mindhu Hornick and also Birmingham schoolboy and Taliban survivor *Ahmad Nawaz, to address an audience of visitors to Anne Frank + You. The exhibition is funded by the DCLG and presented by the Anne Frank Trust UK - an education charity that uses the diary of Anne Frank to empower young people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination. Anne Frank + You draws on the life and times of Anne Frank to deliver powerful lessons about the dangers of prejudice and discrimination in the present day – it has attracted over 3000 visitors during its month-long run at Walsall College.

Lucy Glennon, Director of Strategy at the Trust said: "The harrowing experiences of Suzanne and of survivors Mindhu and Ahmad all too painfully echo the Anne Frank Trust's message about where discrimination and hatred can lead if allowed to go unchecked: it is the reason why we work with thousands of young people across the UK every year, inspiring them with Anne Frank's message of hope and humanity, and equipping them with the skills and confidence to stand up to prejudice in all its forms. I think the fact that this exhibition has attracted so many visitors during its month in Walsall is testimony to the increasing importance of that message in today's world and young people's desire to take it to heart."

Carol Egan, Director of Student Journey at Walsall College said: "We have had some fantastic support, with over 3000 visitors attending the Anne Frank + You exhibition.

We have had a wide range of people visit the college to see the exhibition, from primary and secondary school pupils to members of the public. The feedback has been overwhelming, and many have told us that the exhibition has further enhanced their understanding of prejudice and discrimination.

As a college, we make it our mission to ensure that staff and students can study and work in a safe and welcoming environment, and that involves ensuring that everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities.

The exhibition was a good opportunity to raise awareness of radicalisation and extremism, and for our visitors to understand the importance of compassion and respect in creating a strong and harmonious society. Here at Walsall College, we embrace these values, along with equality, diversity, democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect.

It has been an absolute privilege to host the Anne Frank + You exhibition, which beautifully explored the power of the human spirit, and the importance of tolerance and respect in all societies."

The event runs from 1.30pm till 3.00pm today (6 December 2018) at Walsall College.

Ends -

Anne Frank + You began its latest UK tour in London in October. It opens in Leicester on 22 December at the New Walk Museum and Gallery.

*Mindu Hornick the last remaining Holocaust survivor in the West Midlands will talk about her life's journey from Slovakia to her home city of Birmingham with the dramatic survival of the biggest extermination camp in Poland - Auschwitz-Birkenau.

*Ahmad Nawaz will speak about his survival at the hands of the Taliban at the attack on the APS School in Peshawar in Dec 2014 killing 132 people.

*Suzanne Richards will talk about how she lost three members of her family to a Daesh affiliated terrorist which resulted in the death of 38 Western tourists in Sousse, Tunisia.

The event will allow you to listen to their remarkable stories of resilience in the aftermath of such massively life changing acts of hatred and persecution. Witness the strength of humanity when faced with devastation. This is a great opportunity to hear three speakers spanning three generations.

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Notes to editors: The Anne Frank Trust UK

Prejudice and discrimination harms individuals, communities and society. The Anne Frank Trust UK is an education charity that uses Anne Frank's life and diary to empower young people with the knowledge, skills and confidence to challenge all forms of prejudice and discrimination. We partner

with schools, local authorities, criminal justice education services and others, to deliver education to young people in a variety of settings, predominantly in schools. Our interactive and impactful programme includes an exhibition of Anne Frank's life and diary combined with workshops, peer education and an ambassador programme.

The Anne Frank Trust UK was established in 1991 by family and friends of Otto Frank, following his wish for an educational organisation to be set up in memory of his daughter Anne.

Independent research has shown that the Anne Frank Trust's Schools Programme increases students' levels of confidence and respect for others. Our latest annual review and impact report can be found here: https://annefrank.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/AFTrust_ImpactReport2016_LR.pdf