

"Faced with the collective forgetting, we must strive to remember.."

Reni Oddo-Lodge

International Women's Day

Ursuline High School Conference
**The Power of Memory: A celebration
and reflection on the female story**

5 March 2024



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Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
WIMBLEDON

Belong and Succeed



International
Women's Day



WELCOME

Welcome to our conference to celebrate International Women's Day. The theme of our conference this year for International Women's Day 2024 is "The Power of Memory: A celebration and reflection on the female story". We have five wonderful speakers who are with us today- thank you to Katie Chennells, Sarah Hussein, Shamira Graham, Julia O'Connor and a former head girl of the Ursuline, Jennifer Anafi-Acquah!

The founder of the Ursuline order, St Angela Merici, was truly visionary in the focus she put on the education of girls. I am very proud, and humbled, as a man, to help continue St Angela's legacy. She was an amazing woman and the success of this school has built on her work and that of many other women who came after her. This school has at its heart, the goal of creating confident young women who will be leaders acting with integrity, who will make a positive change in the world. I am delighted that this conference is led by some of our wonderful year 12 student leaders. Today is a day to celebrate female success, and to ask what work still needs to be done to make this world a truly equal place for all. I hope you all enjoy today and that it will produce a great debate among you. Thank you to our five wonderful speakers who are joining us today. We are so grateful for you sharing your time and your talent for the benefit of the students.

Eoin Kelly

Headteacher

Ursuline High School



PROGRAMME

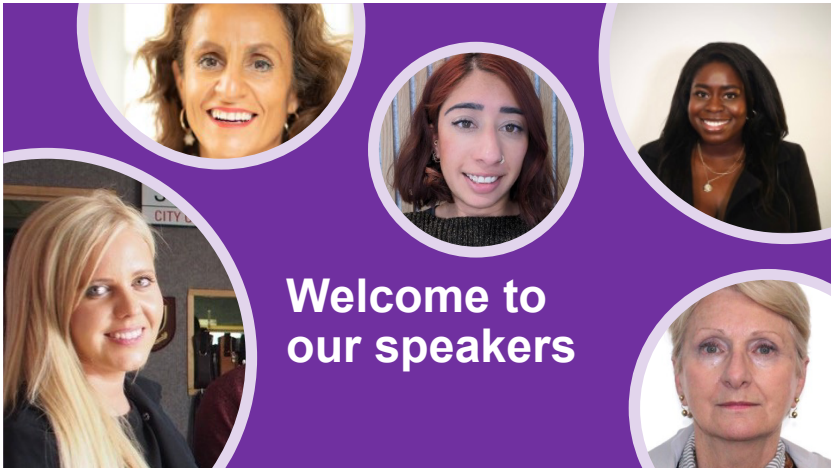
9.00am	Welcome Mr Kelly to open the conference
9.05am	Student leaders to introduce the conference and lead student activity
9.10am	Speakers to present (8-10 minutes each) in the following order: Katie Chennells Murphy, Sarah Hussain, Julia O'Connor, Shamira Graham, and Jennifer Anafi-Acquah
10.10am	Q and A with speakers
10.30am	Student leaders to close the conference, followed by evaluation
10.35am	End of conference

AIMS OF THE CONFERENCE

The theme of International Women's Day this year is "Inspire Inclusion". We will look at this theme through the concept of Memory and consider the following:

- **How has our collective memory been formed and how is this changing? How is the female story, and intersectionally the lived experience of those from other underrepresented backgrounds, now being told?**
- **How women are working in the field of Memory itself in its many guises (technology, the arts, education, cab driving and data analysis).**
- **What can we learn from the experience of our speakers and our discussions with our peers?**
- **How do we want to use our studies and our experience of life to address issues which matter to us collectively as women and also as individuals?**
- **How together we can inspire inclusion.**

OUR SPEAKERS



Katie Chennells Murphy

Katie is one of the few female London Black Taxi Drivers- only 2% of London's 18,000 Black Taxi drivers are female. Katie also works for Transport for London, who regulate the Taxi and Private Hire industry in London. Katie manages the 'Knowledge of London', the process cab drivers go through when learning London's streets and roads before they become Licensed. She will talk about her success in a very male-dominated sector and share what she has learnt about how to make best use of your memory- cabbie tips!

Sarah Hussain

Sarah has a PhD in laser physics but is currently jack of all cloud & data trades; a consultant and instructor. She could be setting up a virtual machine in the cloud to automate streaming jobs one day, and teaching a class of 16 people how to create a machine learning model and create dashboards based on those predictions another week. She lives in South London with her four cats and husband, and in her spare time likes upcycling old clothes into something new and fun. She will talk about how the human brain and perhaps by extension our memories are used as inspiration for Generative AI models, how we use those models to generate new images and text, and give a demo in Google.

OUR SPEAKERS

Julia O'Connor

Julia is currently the director of a tutoring school in South Wimbledon. She started life as the daughter of English/Irish and Italian immigrants in Australia. She became a teacher, head of year, deputy headteacher and eventually a headteacher. She has worked as an educational consultant in China, Japan, Mexico and Spain. She now runs a business called Learning Links Tuition and says this is the work of which she is most proud as she is helping young people who want to be the best they can be.

Shamira Graham

Shamira has been working in mental health research and clinical practice for over 20 years and currently works for Onebright as the Chief Commercial Officer which organisationally treats over 60,000 patients per year in the UK. She is a passionate mental health specialist designing clinical pathways and building innovative evidence based mental health propositions which incorporate assessment, psychiatry, psychological therapy, and counselling pathways for both adults and children and young people, whilst always ensuring patient care and patient experience is optimised. As a practicing clinician, Shamira delivers therapy for Anxiety Disorders including OCD, PTSD, GAD, Panic and Social Anxiety, Low Self Esteem and Depressive disorders.

Jennifer Anafi-Acquah

Jennifer is a creative Producer with 10 years of experience in the television & broadcast industry. Producing across science, factual & travel adventure shows, no production is too ambitious. She has worked on programmes for the BBC, Channel 4, Netflix & Disney+. Her credits include Welcome to Earth, an original series with Will Smith on an extraordinary, once-in-a-lifetime adventure around the world for National Geographic & Disney +, Gordon, Gino & Fred's Roadtrip for ITV and Travel Man for Channel 4. She is currently working on the second series of Limitless with Chris Hemsworth for Disney+. She is a UHS alumna (and former head girl!).

"It's important to remember that the work that we do as writers, artists and performers will form an essential part of the collective memory that future generations will draw upon. And so we owe it to those future generations to defend that memory and be honest witnesses to our times."

Rene Balcer

"We can't create a shift in normalised attitudes and behaviours without everybody on board, so not being sexist isn't enough - get stuck in and start tackling sexism too."

Laura Bates

"When Women and Girls rise, their communities and their countries rise with them."

Michelle Obama

"Many stories matter. Stories have been used to dispossess and to malign. But stories can also be used to empower, and to humanise."

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

"Whiteness and maleness are silent precisely because they do not need to be vocalized. Whiteness and maleness are implicit. They are unquestioned. They are the default. And this reality is inescapable for anyone whose identity does not go without saying, for anyone whose needs and perspective are routinely forgotten. For anyone who is used to jarring up against a world that has not been designed around them."

Caroline Criado Perez



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