



EDUCATING TWENTY FIRST CENTURY WOMEN:

PASSION, POSSIBILITIES AND POWER
CONFERENCE

Mulberry **50**
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
YEARS OF
PIONEERING
WOMEN'S
EDUCATION

Introduction to the Educating Twenty First Century Women: Passion, Possibilities and Power Conference 2014



Thank you for attending this conference, which has been established to mark the 50th anniversary celebrations of Mulberry School for Girls. The governors of Mulberry decided to hold a number of events across the year from August 2014 to December 2015 to commemorate the school's foundation in Tower Hamlets, East London. The conference is a significant event amongst a number in that it has been designed to reflect Mulberry School's continuing commitment to promoting the leadership and education of girls and young women, as well as celebrating the achievements of all women.

Our partners, represented among you, are valued friends who have helped us to fulfil this objective over the past seven years. There have been nine conferences for girls and young women, the first of which was held here at the QEII Centre in October 2007. Since then, those attending the conferences have grown in number. Over thirty schools are represented here today from London and Somerset.

Conferences for girls and young women at school are an ideal way in which to bring them together with women who are successful role models with a range of age, interests and experiences. The mentoring of younger women by those with more experience is enriching for both mentor and mentee – and the sharing of stories empowers those who have yet to make their way in the world. Knowing the challenges women have faced and how they have overcome them provides a rich resource for courage and determination which can be drawn upon at need.

I am very grateful to the women who have given up their time to be with us today to share their experience with us. In doing so, they enable those still at school to meet the future with courage and a sense of power over their own self-determination. Thank you so much.

I would like to thank the governors of Mulberry School, especially the Chair of Governors Jane Farrell who has helped to raise the money to sponsor this event. I would also like to thank Bank of America Merrill Lynch for their support of this conference. Finally, I would like to thank the Lord Bates who has lent his support to Mulberry School over a number of years and who has sponsored the reception at the House of Lords this evening for Mulberry School's community of partner schools, parents, staff and friends.

**Dr. Vanessa Ogden,
Headteacher of Mulberry School for Girls**





Conference Aims:

Mulberry School for Girls is delighted to host a conference celebrating fifty years of its work in pioneering women's education. The conference brings together 400 young women from schools across the UK and will focus on the importance of an education tailored to the needs of twenty first century women. We will place a spotlight on young women's passion to make positive social change and the possibilities that lie ahead for them. We will also hear of the power and achievements of positive female role models from a range of backgrounds.

Conference Objectives:

- To support young women in developing an awareness of the possibilities open to them and empower to them with the confidence to pursue those possibilities.
- To provide a platform for young women to make their voices heard and to hear other powerful female voices.
- To create a forum for discussion of the representation of women in various sectors and how this affects young women.
- To create an environment in which young women, educators and positive female role models can engage with each other and discuss shared passions.
- To enable young women to develop their own leadership and advocacy skills through taking responsibility for the planning, delivery and follow up of the conference

Conference Programme

9.00am	Arrival and Registration Tea and coffee in the Pickwick Suite.
9.30am	Welcome – Comperes from Mulberry School for Girls <i>Seated in the Churchill Auditorium for pre – conference announcements – e.g health and safety.</i>
9.40am	Key Note Speaker - Andrea Sullivan Corporate Responsibility Executive, Europe, Middle East & Africa at Bank of America Merrill Lynch
10.00am	Panel One – Passion Deborah Bull, CBE , Director of Cultural Partnerships, King’s College London Vicky Featherstone , Artistic Director of the Royal Court Theatre Shobana Jeyasingh , Choreographer and Director of The Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company Phyllida Lloyd, CBE , Film and Theatre Director Chair: Emma Barnett , Women’s Editor at The Telegraph
11.00am	Tea and Coffee in the Pickwick Suite
11.20am	Delegate Work on Dialogue Mats
11.45am	Panel Two – Possibilities Emily Cummins , Ethical Inventor Paola Domizio , Professor of Pathology at Barts NHS Trust Dr. Victoria Herridge , Palaeontologist at The Natural History Museum Ndidi Okezie , Educationalist and Executive Director at Teach First Belinda Parmar, OBE , Founder of Little Miss Geek and CEO of Lady Geek Chair: Kirsten Bodley , Chief Executive of STEMNET
12.45pm	Spoken Word Poetry Performance Hollie McNish, Spoken Word Artist
1.00pm	Lunch and Networking in the Pickwick Suite
1.45pm	Student Speeches





2.00pm	<p>Panel Three – Power Melissa Benn, Writer, Journalist and Campaigner Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Speaker’s Chaplin at the House of Commons Eleanor Mills, Editorial Director of <i>The Sunday Times</i> Munira Mirza, Deputy Mayor of Education and Culture, Greater London Authority Emily Thornberry, MP for Islington South and Finsbury and Shadow Attorney General Jo Wilding, Human Rights Barrister at Garden Court Chambers Chair: Kat Banyard, Founder of UK Feminista and Author of <i>The Equality Illusion</i></p> <hr/>
3.00pm	<p>Delegate Work on Dialogue Mats</p> <hr/>
3.30pm	<p>Film Screening of <i>Shaping our Future</i> by students of Ursuline High School and Mulberry School for Girls</p> <hr/>
4.00pm	<p>Film Q & A Detective Inspector Tor Garnett, London Metropolitan Police Sue Mayo, Theatre Maker and Associate Artist at Magic Me Lucy Perman, Executive Director of Clean Break Chair: Jaime Taylor, Director and Co-founder of Postcode Films</p> <hr/>
4.10pm	<p>Conference Outcomes – Gingerbread Women Exercise</p> <hr/>
4.20pm	<p>Performance Caryl Hughes, Singer Nicola Rose, Concert Pianist</p> <hr/>
4.30pm	<p>Conference Close Pinky Lilani, OBE, DL, Entrepreneur and Founder of Asian Women of Achievement and Women of the Future Awards</p>

Conference Speakers



Andrea Sullivan

Corporate Responsibility Executive, Europe, Middle East & Africa at Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Andrea Sullivan joined Bank of America Merrill Lynch in October 2011. As regional executive, she leads on corporate responsibility governance and polices and oversees the environment, philanthropy and arts & culture disciplines. Andrea is focused on the strategic alignment and integration of the platform within the firm's business objectives.

Prior to joining the bank, Andrea was a managing director at Lehman Brothers in Administration, head of Communications and Stakeholder Management, and previously she was head of Corporate Engagement and Cultural Partnerships at Lehman Brothers. She was also the Chief Executive of the Lehman Brothers Foundation Europe.

Andrea has held a variety of senior positions across the telecommunications, media and retail sectors. She has worked at BSkyB as Director of Corporate Affairs, UK Gold as Director of Distribution and Marketing, and The Lego Company on their global brand strategy. She started her career as a corporate lawyer in New York before moving into business affairs and strategic marketing.

Andrea has a BA degree in the Political Implications of Art from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctorate from the New York University School of Law. She serves on Bank of America Merrill Lynch's Regional Diversity & Inclusion Council and on its Corporate Responsibility Council. She is active on numerous charity boards including The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts, the Almeida Theatre and Teach First. She is married with two children and lives in London.



Deborah Bull, CBE

Director, Cultural Partnerships, King's College London

Deborah Bull has had a long and successful career in the arts, as performer, creative leader and cultural commentator. She danced with The Royal Ballet for twenty years, rising through the ranks to become a Principal Dancer and performing leading roles across the repertoire. In 2001, she joined the Royal Opera House Executive to establish and implement strategies for developing new art, new artists and new audiences, becoming Creative Director in 2008.

Deborah Bull joined King's College London as Director of Cultural Partnerships in 2012. In this role, she provides leadership across the College to extend and enrich its cultural partnerships, providing a framework through which culture at King's can drive innovation, enhance the student experience, offer new ways to demonstrate the impact of academic research and engage new and more diverse audiences for the College.

She has already established the Cultural Institute at King's in a home on the Strand Campus, connecting the College with practitioners, producers, participants and policy makers across arts and culture. With its location on the Guy's Campus, Science Gallery at King's will extend culture at King's to new audiences.

Over fifteen years, her extensive work for television and radio has included the award-winning *The Dancer's Body* and *Travels with my Tutu* (BBC2) and, for BBC Radio 4, programmes on topics as diverse as dance, the law and ageing. She writes and speaks on the arts across a range of media and is the author of *The Vitality Plan* (1998), *Dancing Away* (1998), *The Faber Pocket Guide to Ballet* (2005) and *The Everyday Dancer* (2011). She has served on Arts Council England, as a Governor of the BBC and as a judge for the 2010 Man Booker Prize and, in 2013, she was appointed to the Arts and Humanities Research Council. In 1999, in the Queen's Birthday Honours, she was awarded a CBE for her contribution to the arts.





Vicky Featherstone

Artistic Director of the Royal Court Theatre

Vicky Featherstone is Artistic Director of the Royal Court Theatre. Since she took over in April 2013, she has directed Dennis Kelly's *The Ritual Slaughter of Gorge Mastromas*, Abi Morgan's *The Mistress Contract* and *Maidan: Voices from the Uprising* – a reading of a verbatim play by Ukrainian writers Natal'ya Vorozhbit and Andrei Mai. She opened her first season at the Royal Court with *Open Court* – a festival of plays, ideas and events, chosen by over 140 writers.

Before the Royal Court, she was the first Artistic Director and Chief Executive of the National Theatre of Scotland. She was appointed in November 2004 and launched the company with *HOME* in February 2006.

Vicky was born in Redhill and spent her early years in Alva, Scotland before moving to India with her family age six. She moved around a lot as a child, the most memorable time spending two years in Germany at the age of eleven. Vicky studied Drama at Manchester University and furthered her education there by doing an MA in Directing in association with The Contact Theatre. After leaving University, Vicky worked as an Assistant Director at the Royal Court before going on to work as Script Editor for Central TV before becoming an Assistant Director on *RTYDS* at the West Yorkshire Playhouse with Jude Kelly. During this time, she brought several successful productions to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Following this, Vicky was Resident Director at the Bolton Octagon and worked at Northern Stage, Newcastle. Vicky then became Associate Director for the Bush Theatre before being drawn back into TV first at the BBC and then at United TV and Drama where she developed several highly successful long-running TV dramas.

Vicky became Artistic Director of Paines Plough in 1997 and ran the new writing company until her departure to set up National Theatre of Scotland. While at Paines Plough she was responsible for setting up the still running *Wild Lunch* season with Sarah Kane and *This Other England*, a dynamic programme of work asking the best contemporary playwrights to look at the use of the English language and identity. She also worked with some of the country's leading playwrights and was responsible for putting Paines Plough back on the theatrical map.

Her directing work for the National Theatre of Scotland: *Enquirer* (co-directed with John Tiffany), *Appointment With The Wicker Man*, *27, the whee* (Fringe First and Amnesty Freedom of Expression award), *Wall Of Death: A Way Of Life* (co-directed with Stephen Skrynka), *Long Gone Lonesome*, *The Miracle Man*, *Empty*, *Cockroach*, *365*, *Mary Stuart The Wolves In The Walls* (co-directed with Julian Crouch, TMA Award for Best Children's Show, 2006) and *Mary Stuart* (Citizen's Theatre and Lyceum Theatre).



Shobana Jeyasingh

Choreographer and Director of The Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company

Born in India and with roots in Sri Lanka and Malaysia, Shobana Jeyasingh lives and works in London. She has been creating dance works for twenty five years. Her highly individual work has been seen in a variety of venues including theatres, outdoor and indoor sites and on film. It is work that is rooted in a vision of society that can be culturally coherent in new and unexpected ways and in a firm belief in the intellectual as well as the physical power of dance.

Commissioned music has been a significant feature of her work and has led to new scores from an array of contemporary composers ranging from Michael Nyman to beat boxer Shlomo.

Her critically acclaimed and pioneering works have toured to festivals and venues in Europe, USA, India, Singapore, China, Korea and Hong Kong. Commissions include works for Rambert, Wayne McGregor| Random Dance and Beijing Dance Academy.



Phyllida Lloyd, CBE

Film and Theatre Director

Phyllida Lloyd is a British Film and Theatre Director. In 1986 she was appointed Associate Director at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, then in 1989 Associate Director of the Bristol Old Vic, where her production of *The Comedy of Errors* was a success. She moved on to the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester where she directed productions including an acclaimed production of *Death and the King's Horseman*. In 1991 she made her debut at the Royal Shakespeare Company with a well-received production of *The Virtuoso*. Her Royal Court Theatre production of *Six Degrees of Separation* in 1992 was a great commercial success and transferred to the West End. She directed an award-winning production of *Boston Marriage* at the Donmar Warehouse in 2001. Other recent work includes *Mary Stuart* which ran at the Donmar Warehouse and transferred to Broadway and for which she was nominated as Best Director of a Play in the 2009 Tony Awards.

Lloyd has established a significant and award-winning career as an opera director. Productions include Kurt Weill's *The Threepenny Opera* at the Donmar Warehouse; *Gloriana* for Opera North; *Dialogues of the Carmelites* for English National Opera; Verdi's *Macbeth* for the Bastille Opera and the Royal Opera House Covent Garden; and the premiere of Poul Ruders' opera *The Handmaid's Tale* (from the novel by Margaret Atwood). She received an International Emmy, a FIPA d'Or and the Royal Philharmonic Society Award.

In 1999 Lloyd directed the ABBA musical *Mamma Mia!*, which became a hit, not only in the West End and on Broadway, but worldwide. She directed the 2008 cinematic adaptation, which marked her feature debut. By the end of 2008, the film had been certified as the biggest grossing film at the UK box office ever. It was also certified as the UK's biggest-selling DVD. Phyllida also directed *The Iron Lady*, released in 2011, a biopic of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with Meryl Streep.

In 2012 Phyllida Lloyd directed an innovative all-female company in Shakespeare's raw and eternal study of power, *Julius Caesar*, at the Donmar Warehouse. Later this year her all-female production of *Henry IV* will again give women the opportunity to take on traditionally male roles and explore issue of power and influence. This will include a week's residency at Mulberry School for Girls' theatre, bringing world class theatre to Tower Hamlets.



Emma Barnett

Women's Editor at The Telegraph

Emma Barnett is an award-winning journalist, broadcaster and Women's Editor of The Telegraph – where she launched *Telegraph Wonder Women*, an irreverent and intelligent fast-paced daily section, filled with brilliant writers opining on everything from politics to sex in 2012.

Emma was previously Digital Media Editor of *The Daily Telegraph* during which time she was named Digital Journalist of the Year by the Association of Online Publishers and Digital Writer of the Year gong at the Online Media Awards in 2011.

From October she will present a brand new BBC Radio 5 Live radio show on Sunday evenings. Emma is also a regular guest presenter of Woman's Hour and The Media Show on BBC Radio 4 and across BBC 5 Live. For the last three years she hosted the weekly Sunday drive-time show on LBC 97.3. She was named best new radio presenter at the Arqiva commercial radio awards and has been twice named in the Radio Academy's thirty under thirty list.

She is a documentary maker for Radio 4 and commentator on women's issues, media, social affairs, technology, politics and culture for BBC News, ITV, Sky News and CNN.





Emily Cummins

Ethical Inventor

Emily Cummins, twenty seven, is an award-winning inventor with a passion for sustainable designs that change lives. Her latest innovation is a sustainable fridge which is 'powered' by dirty water but keeps the contents dry, hygienic and cool. Emily refined her fridge in African townships before giving away the plans to benefit local people. As a result of her work, Emily was named as One of the Top Ten Outstanding Young People in the World 2010.



Paola Domizio

Professor of Pathology at Barts NHS Trust

Paola is a Professor of Pathology Education at Bart's and the London, Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry, and an honorary consultant histopathologist at Barts' Health NHS Trust.

She has been interested in medical education and public engagement ever since she started in pathology more than twenty five years ago. Paola is an enthusiastic and committed teacher of medical students and her teaching is held in very high regard, illustrated by the award of the Draper's Prize for Excellence in Teaching and the "Best Teacher in Pathology" prize for seven consecutive years. She is a natural communicator with a passion for science education and finds speaking to non-medical audiences just as rewarding as teaching medical students. Paola has spoken many times to school students on a variety of topics, and she has contributed to several radio programmes and to the television news on the importance of pathology, particularly during the media coverage of organ retention. Paola is a STEM ambassador and regularly holds outreach activities at local schools, with the aim of educating students about science and medicine. Paola is a Director of Public Engagement at the Royal College of Pathologists where she leads a small but dedicated team that currently runs a Public Engagement programme designed to stimulate interest in pathology and biomedical science. As part of this, they have held highly successful National Pathology Weeks in 2009-2011 and National Pathology Year in 2012, which registered over 500 events around the UK.

Paola grew up in Islington, North London and is the eldest daughter of immigrant parents. The road where she lived has since become trendy, but when she was a child it was very deprived. She was determined to escape the poverty, so studied hard at school and was delighted to be offered a place to study medicine at University College London. After qualifying as a doctor she spent two years working as a surgeon but then decided to work for a short time in a specialty that would give me more time to study for postgraduate surgical exams. Paola took a job in histopathology at Barts Hospital, initially for a year, but she found the job so enjoyable and rewarding that she decided not to return to surgery. That was over twenty five years ago. Nowadays she enjoys her job more than ever, particularly as it gives her the opportunity to teach young people about biomedical science and pathology. Through doing this she hopes to inspire young people, particularly those from an underprivileged background like hers, to follow a similar career path and so achieve the rewards that hard work at school and university usually bring.





Dr. Victoria Herridge

Palaeontologist at The Natural History Museum

Victoria (Tori) Herridge is a palaeontologist at the Natural History Museum in London. Her research focuses on the evolution of dwarf elephants (sadly now extinct): when, why and how did these tiny elephants – some just 1m tall as adults – evolve on islands, and what can we learn from this about the way evolution works? Tori got her BSc in Biology at UCL, her MSc in Taxonomy and Biodiversity at Imperial College, and then went back to UCL for her PhD in Evolutionary Biology. Tori founded trowelblazers.com (a website celebrating women's contributions to archaeology, palaeontology and geology), is Joint Editor in Chief of the scientific journal Open Quaternary, and is writing a book for Bloomsbury Sigma. She's on twitter as @ToriHerridge (and also @trowelblazers and @openquaternary).



Ndidi Okezie

Educationalist and Executive Director at Teach First

As a 2003 Ambassador Ndidi has been a part of the Teach First journey from the very beginning. After spending three years in her placement school she moved to Burlington Danes Academy in 2006. There, as an Assistant Principal in Ark's foundation Academy, Ndidi contributed to the rapid improvement that lifted the school out of special measures and saw it established as one of the best state schools in the country.

After a decade of working in school leadership, Ndidi joined the Teach First employee community in January 2012, working on developing strategy around Youth and Family Engagement. She was appointed as the Executive Director of The Regions Division in January 2013.

The children and young people Teach First exist to support are locally based; therefore The Regions Division works to ensure that all points of Teach First programmatic activity are effectively delivered, grounded in local expertise and transformative relationships. As the largest of the four divisions at Teach First; The Regions Division has over 200 employees working across England and Wales.

The Regions Division is comprised of 4 departments:

- Local Areas- there are 11 Local Area teams that span across 10 English localities and Wales. Each Local Area team is responsible for understanding the specific nature and extent of educational disadvantage in their locality. Together they work with over 2,500 Participants (trainee teachers) and over 3,500 Ambassadors (alumni who have completed the programme). Local Area Teams work with numerous partners to change the landscape for the young people who live in those communities.
- School Relationships is accountable for the organisations strategic and bespoke relationship with all partner schools; currently over 1100.
- Development, Delivery and Support ensure the division is equipped to deliver world class Leadership Development that inspires teams, Participants and Ambassadors to lead in the movement to end educational inequality.
- Divisional Central Office; the communications engine and operations hub of the division.





Belinda Parmar, OBE

Founder of Little Miss Geek and CEO of Lady Geek

Belinda Parmar is the founder of social enterprise Little Miss Geek and the CEO of the award winning creative agency Lady Geek. Belinda has been chosen as a Young Global Leader 2014 by the World Economic Forum. She sits on the advisory board for the UK government's 'Your Life' campaign whose aim is to encourage women to become technology pioneers.

Belinda is the author of *Little Miss Geek* and her new book is *The Empathy Era* which is being launched in New York May 2014.

She is a public speaker and has regularly appears on BBC, Sky News, Channel 4 and Woman's Hour. Belinda has been voted as one of the most innovative women to follow on Twitter. She also writes for *The Guardian*. Belinda Parmar was appointed OBE for services to women in technology in the 2014 Birthday Honours.

Belinda has two children, Jedd and Rocca aged seven and six.



Kirsten Bodley

Chief Executive of STEMNET

Kirsten Bodley is the Chief Executive of STEMNET, a UK-wide organisation that works with thousands of businesses and schools to promote all aspects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics to young people. Kirsten has been with STEMNET for over seven years, initially as Regional Director for London before becoming Director of Networks in August 2008. Previously, Kirsten had worked as a research scientist for many years, before moving on to management consultancy and subsequently becoming a qualified teacher. Kirsten has completed degrees in science, education and business, and is a member of the Society of Chemical Industry.



Melissa Benn

Writer, Journalist and Campaigner

Melissa Benn is a writer, journalist and campaigner. She was educated at Holland Park comprehensive and the London School of Economics where she graduated with a first in history. Her early jobs included working at the National Council for Civil Liberties as an information assistant for Patricia Hewitt, later Secretary of State for Health, and as a researcher, under Professor Stuart Hall, at the Open University.

Benn worked on the co-operatively run London magazine *City Limits* and her journalism has appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines including *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Times*, *Marxism Today*, *the London Review of Books*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Public Finance* and *the New Statesman*. She is a regular contributor to *The Guardian* and a columnist for *Public Finance* magazine.

Benn has written six books, including two novels: *Public Lives* (1995) – described by writer Margaret Forster as 'remarkably sophisticated' for a first novel – and *One of Us* (2008) which was widely praised and shortlisted for Waterstone's New Writer of the Year award at the British Book Awards in 2008 and chosen by Richard and Judy as one of their best reads of the year.

Her non-fiction works include *Madonna and Child: Towards a New Politics of Motherhood* (1998); *Education and Democracy*, co-edited with Clyde Chitty (2004), a collection of essays on education, and *A Comprehensive Future: Quality and Equality For All Our Children*, a specially commissioned pamphlet for the influential pressure group Compass co-written with Fiona Millar (2006) which provoked widespread discussion and political controversy at the time.

She is a regular speaker and broadcaster. She has written and presented several Radio Four programmes including a series on the history of divorce, a three part study of forgiveness in personal and political life and a one off programme on the historic Grunwick Strike. She has spoken at the Hay, Edinburgh, Bath and Cheltenham literary festivals, among many others.

In the last couple of years Melissa has been a guest on the Today programme, Woman's Hour, Saturday Live, A Good Read, Richard and Judy, the Sky Book Show and Sky news programme, and was one of several writers featured in a one hour special on the representation of politics in the arts and fiction on Radio Four presented by Mark Lawson.

In 2011 she published *School Wars: the Battle for Britain's Education*, which has been widely reviewed and provoked much discussion. In the months after publication, she travelled around the country discussing the book's arguments with various audiences; an account of this 'road trip' was published in the New Statesman.

In September 2013 she published *'What should we tell our daughters? The pleasures and pressures of growing up female'* – a discussion of young women's lives today. Melissa lives in north west London with her husband and two daughters.



Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin

Speakers Chaplin at the House of Commons

The Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin was appointed to the role of Speaker's Chaplain in June 2010 by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Rt Hon John Bercow MP. She is the Vicar of the United Benefice of Holy Trinity with St Philip, Dalston, and All Saints, Haggerston, in the London diocese. Rose combines this parish role with the position of Speaker's Chaplain and as Priest Vicar at Westminster Abbey.

Rose was born and grew up in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Commissioned as a Church Army Officer in 1982, her theological training took place at the West Midlands Ministerial Training Course at Queen's Theological College.

She was ordained Deacon in 1991, and Priest in 1994. In 2007 she was appointed a chaplain to the Queen, making her one of only a few who are occasionally invited to officiate and preach at the 400-year-old Queen's Chapel beside St. James' Palace.

She is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and has served as one of the Panel of Chairs. During her time on the Synod she was one of the CofE's delegates to the World Council of Churches meeting in Zimbabwe & Porto Allegre.

She has served as Chair of the National Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC) and of the Worldwide Committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK). She has also been a member of the Broadcasting Standards Commission (BSC).





Eleanor Mills

Editorial Director of *The Sunday Times*

Eleanor Mills is Editorial Director of *The Sunday Times*, and also Chair of Women in Journalism. She writes a weekly column in the News Review section of the paper on social affairs as well as one in Home on how we live now.

Eleanor is proud to be a winner of the International Alliance of Women World of Difference Awards for her "contribution to the economic empowerment of women" and was one of four journalists to be shortlisted for Journalist of the Year at the European Diversity Awards 2012.

She appears regularly on television, reviewing the papers on Sky News, Lorraine, This Morning etc and on radio – Woman's Hour, BBC London, LBC etc.

In 2009 she was appointed Saturday Editor of *The Times* in charge of a major relaunch of the paper's weekend edition, creating six new sections while running the Saturday paper day to day.

In 2011, after returning to *The Sunday Times* she was shortlisted for Feature Writer of the Year at the British Press Awards for her long-form writing in *The Sunday Times* magazine (the commended entries were an interview with Banksy, an intimate portrait of Samantha Cameron and a piece about women in China).

Publications include *Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs: the best journalism by women from the last 100 Years*, published by Constable and Robinson.

For ten years Eleanor edited the News Review section of *The Sunday Times* and was the most senior woman on the paper. As Focus editor, she was in charge of *The Sunday Times's* coverage of the biggest breaking news stories of the week, and as the paper's main interviewer she interrogated everyone from Mikhail Gorbachev to Charlton Heston.

Eleanor was the youngest ever Features Editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, aged only 26, and worked before that for *The Guardian* and *The Observer*. Her first job was at *Tank World* magazine – the world's premier, bulk liquid transportation publication, but she got sick of writing 2000 word features about gratings (the ladders that go up the outside of tank containers).

She takes great pleasure in giving inspirational talks to women at all stages of their careers. She is a UK Director of the Centre for Work/Life Policy think tank based in New York.

Eleanor is forty one and lives in London and the Cotswolds with her husband and two young daughters.



Munira Mirza

Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture, Greater London Authority

Munira Mirza is the Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture. She advises the Mayor on his priorities for culture and education and leads the delivery of key programmes, including £40m Education and Youth investment in London. Munira has worked for a range of cultural and charitable organisations including the Royal Society of Arts, the independent think tank Policy Exchange and Tate. In 2009 she completed her PhD at the University of Kent. She has written and broadcast about social policy in the UK, including race relations, culture and education. Her book, *The Politics of Culture: The Case for Universalism* was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2011. Munira is a member of Arts Council England, London Area Council; the Royal College of Music Council; and the board of the Institute of Contemporary Art.



Emily Thornberry, MP

MP for Islington South and Finsbury and Shadow Attorney General

Emily lives in Islington with her husband and three children, having moved here nearly twenty years ago. She was elected Member of Parliament for Islington South & Finsbury in the 2005 General Election, and was re-elected in 2010 with an increased majority.

Emily was raised by her mother, a former Labour Councillor and Mayor, on a council estate outside Guildford. Motivated by her childhood experiences, Emily joined the Labour Party aged seventeen. On moving to London, she got involved with equality campaigns – joining anti-racist groups, and working with trade unions and parent groups for family-friendly employment practices and access to childcare. Before entering Parliament, Emily practised as a human rights barrister. In 2003 she and her family joined the march against the war in Iraq.

In 2009 she was made a ministerial aide in the Department of Energy & Climate Change. After the 2010 election, Emily became a Shadow Minister in the Department of Energy and Climate Change and took a leading role in Ed Miliband's successful leadership campaign. In October 2010 she became a Shadow Health minister, holding the government to account over their changes to the NHS and social care. She was promoted in Ed Miliband's first reshuffle in October 2011 and now attends Shadow Cabinet as the Shadow Attorney General.

Emily is campaigning against cuts from the current government, as well as changes to benefits, housing legislation, and public services that will make Islington a much harder place for low-income families to live in. In her first term in Parliament, Emily continued her commitment to justice and human rights – successfully helping to defeat Government proposals to increase the period that terror suspects could be detained without charge. Continuing her commitment to equality campaigns, Emily became chair of the All-Party Group on Maternity, led MPs in voting to defend women's right to choose, and has been a strong advocate for LGBT rights – a role that was recognised by her nomination as Stonewall MP of the year. On the environment, Emily sponsored the original Climate Change Bill and her work in Islington schools promoting marine conservation was recognized when she won Environment MP of the year in 2006.



Jo Wilding

Human Rights Barrister at Garden Court Chambers

A committed peace, environmental and social justice activist turned barrister, Jo now specialises in immigration, asylum, unlawful detention and human rights with particular interests in public law and mental health.

Jo appears in the Administrative Court and Court of Appeal as well as the first-tier and upper tribunals of the Asylum and Immigration Chamber with experience in asylum, deportation, domestic violence, bail, EEA and general immigration matters. She is a member of the emergency judicial review team and also maintains a busy paperwork practice.

She advises and represents in unlawful detention cases – including both interim relief applications and claims for damages – particularly those with a mental health element, and has also delivered training on this area.

She is developing a practice in trafficking cases. Recent successes include securing asylum for a Vietnamese victim of child trafficking for cannabis cultivation and for two young women from the DRC who had not been referred to the NRM because they arrived before it began operating. Ongoing cases include a young Afghan with learning difficulties subjected to internal trafficking for forced labour whilst in the UK.

Jo is particularly committed to quality representation of children in the immigration system, to challenging age assessments in the higher courts and to any case with an immigration-mental





health crossover. Immigrants with mental health problems frequently suffer from a double disadvantage which is not well dealt with by the Home Office and the Tribunal.

She also has a special interest in family reunion cases where parents are separated from children or other minor family members, including those where the children have “aged out” of the family reunion rules during the asylum process.

Jo has acted in claims against the Secretary of State and UKBA in matters including unlawful detention, discrimination, harassment and misfeasance in public office, recently securing a large settlement for a client who was repeatedly unlawfully detained over a period of years.

Having previously worked as an advocate for Bristol Mind on behalf of mental health service users Jo is also keen to develop her mental health practice as part of Chambers’ growing mental health team.



Kat Banyard

Founder of UK Feminista and Author of ‘The Equality Illusion’

Kat Banyard is author of *The Equality Illusion* and founder of UK Feminista - an organisation that supports grassroots feminist activism. In 2010 she was named in *The Guardian* as “the most influential young feminist in the country”, and in 2011 was named one of the Observer’s fifty contemporary innovators, described as “Game-changers whose vision is transforming the world around us”.

Kat featured in *Glamour Magazine’s* ‘The Glamour Power List 2011’ and was shortlisted for a Liberty Human Rights Award in 2010. She was previously Campaigns Officer at the Fawcett Society and in 2007 she was profiled in *Observer Woman* magazine as one of ‘The New Feminists’. Prior to her work at Fawcett, Kat worked for the Northern Refugee Centre in Sheffield setting up women’s groups. She was born in 1982 and currently lives in London.



DI Tor Garnett

Detective Inspector with the Metropolitan Police

Tor Garnett is a Detective Inspector with the Metropolitan Police. She completed a BA in Natural Sciences at Cambridge prior to joining the police service and has worked in a number of uniform and detective roles. She is passionate about how you continuously improve policing and the service to the public. She chairs the Commissioner’s 100 – a movement of frontline officers working to make practical improvements to policing and is co-founder of ‘PoliceNow’ which launches in October 2014 to recruit top graduates, who wouldn’t normally consider policing, to work for two years as Dedicated Ward Officers responsible for and accountable to communities, modelled on the successful Teach First programme. Tor is a Fulbright Scholar, and will be spending four months in Washington DC in 2015 working with the Centre for Evidence Based Policing on how to communicate the evidence of what works in policing.



Sue Mayo

Theatre Maker and Associate Artist at Magic Me

Sue is a theatre maker, facilitator, teacher and consultant. Working across art forms, often in collaboration with other artists, Sue has created and facilitated a wide range of creative projects in the UK and beyond. Sue lectures at Goldsmith's College, University of London, where she is Convenor of the MA in Applied Theatre, and is Associate Artist at Magic Me, the UK's leading intergenerational arts provider. Sue works in the professional development of artists who want to work in education and community settings, and acts as a consultant and evaluator for arts and heritage organizations.



Lucy Perman

Executive Director of Clean Break

Clean Break is an award-winning theatre company working with women whose lives have been affected by the criminal justice system. With a background in the arts and media sectors, Lucy Perman has previously held a number of trustee roles including Vice-Chair of the Independent Theatre Council.



Jaime Taylor

Director and Co-founder of Postcode Films

Jaime Taylor is co-founder of Postcode Films and a documentary maker with experience in a range of fields including television, education, museums, community arts and advertising. She has worked variously as director, producer, editor and facilitator. Most recently she was producer for the BBC2's acclaimed documentary, The Secret History of Our Streets, a multi-award winning series which explores the social history of individual streets through the people that live there. Jaime graduated from the University of Sussex with Distinction for an MA in Documentary. Prior to making films, she taught for six years as head of Media and Sociology in a southeast London college. She continues to enjoy teaching and facilitating film projects in a variety of contexts, from primary schools to universities and with a variety of arts and community organisations.



Pinky Lilani, OBE, DL, Entrepreneur

Entrepreneur and Founder of Asian Women of Achievement and Women of the Future Awards

Pinky Lilani, OBE, DL, Entrepreneur is a food guru, author, motivational speaker and internationally acclaimed champion for women. She is the force behind the annual Women of the Future Awards, the Asian Women of Achievement Awards, The Ambassadors programme, The Inspirational Women's Network and the Global Empowerment Award. She is an associate fellow of the Said Business School, Oxford. A Patron of DIL, The Westminster Society, Frank Water and Halo. She is an Ambassador for The Tiffany Circle of the British Red Cross and Girl Guiding UK.

A member of the board of Global Diversity Practice and on the Court of Brunel University. Pinky makes regular media appearances and is a keynote speaker at international conferences and at educational institutions including the Judge Business School, Cambridge and the Said Business School, Oxford. Winner of several awards she is listed as one of the 100 most powerful women in the UK by BBC Radio 4 Women's Hour.





Conference Performers



Hollie McNish

Spoken Word Artist

Hollie is a UK poet who straddles the boundaries between the literary, poetic and pop scenes. She has garnered titles like “chick of the week” (MTV), “internet sensation” (Best Daily)”, “really, really amazing” (Davina McCall) and poet Benjamin Zephaniah stated “I can’t take my ears off her”. Her poem *Embarrassed* was tweeted to fans by renowned singer Pink. Her album *Versus* was released in October 2014, recorded at Abbey Road Studios, London. She can do fifty keepy uppys on her knees but none on her feet.



Caryl Hughes

Singer

Caryl comes from Aberdaron, North Wales and was a Postgraduate and Opera Course student at the Royal Academy of Music. She subsequently attended the Cardiff International Academy of Voice.

Operatic roles include Olga in Eugene Onegin and First Nymph in Rusalka for Grange Park Opera, Maria in West Side Story and Cosette in Les Miserables for Pimlico Opera, Cenerentola and Varvara in Katya Kabanova for Scottish Opera, Teti in Le nozze di Teti e di Peleo and Orlovsky in Die Fledermaus for WNO, Cenerentola in La Cenerentola for Iford Arts, Rita in Fantastic Mr Fox, Tiny in Paul Bunyan, Papagena in The Magic Flute for ETO and Flora for Jonathan Dove’s The Enchanted Pig with the Young Vic/The Opera Group.

Caryl has released a disc of Britten’s Cabaret Songs with Malcolm Martineau, having performed them at the 2009 Aix-en-Provence and Aldeburgh Festivals.

Recent engagements include a tour with the Olivier Award-winning ETO and a series of concerts with Bryn Terfel/Raymond Gubbay Productions.



Nicola Rose

Concert Pianist

Originally from London, Nicola Rose is a graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama where she studied piano accompaniment and more recently the National Opera Studio where she continued her studies in the world of opera.

As a freelance pianist, Nicola feels fortunate to work with many different groups and organisations including Welsh National Opera, Royal Opera House, Southbank Centre and Garsington youth and community departments. The projects range from newly commissioned community operas to schools’ projects and the diversity is something that Nicola loves!

In 2010, she became a member of the Live Music Now! scheme and more recently, Lost Chord. Both of these charities make music more accessible and take live performances and workshops to many different areas of the UK that can’t access classical music as easily.

Through working as a musician for both of these schemes, Nicola helped found The Forget-me-not chorus, a Cardiff based choir for Alzheimer’s and Dementia patients and their families and carers.

Although still based in London, Nicola works throughout the UK as a teacher, pianist and vocal coach.

Associated Projects

Shaping our Future film project in conjunction with Postcode Films

Shaping our Future is a series of short films made by Mulberry School for Girls and Ursuline High School, in conjunction with Postcode Films. The project was based upon one central question: how can young women challenge conventional ideas of 'power', and make a positive contribution to the communities in which they live?

Students from both schools worked together over the Easter holidays to develop research and interviewing techniques. They considered the concepts of 'success' and 'empowerment', and how these ideas might be applied to their own lives. They then met with and interviewed women who have challenged the idea that power is an aggressive, typically masculine quality, and have risen to the top of their fields in careers which focus on social justice, women's empowerment and community action.

The purpose of these interviews was to give female leaders an opportunity to share their own stories, and through this, to advise young women on how they may become leaders themselves. By interviewing these women, Mulberry and Ursuline students were able to encounter and learn from a model of female leadership which is based on courage, innovation, and a powerful drive towards positive social change.

The films feature Baroness Susan Greenfield, Scientist, Shami Chakrabati, Director of Liberty, Detective Inspector Tor Garnett, London Metropolitan Police, Sue Mayo, Associate Artist at Magic Me which is an intergenerational charity, Lucy Perman, Executive Director of Clean Break Theatre Company and Alice Boyle, Manager at Luminary Bakery which works with vulnerable women. The result is a series of brave, uplifting films which speak eloquently of what women can make possible.

Project co-ordinator: Aniq Mortuza

Film-makers: Jaime Taylor, Sky Neal and Kate McLarnon

Ursuline High School

Lead Staff: Lisa Thefaut

Students involved: Chloe Murray, Cleo McCarthy, Cynthia Mosengo, Samantha Mashhadi

Mulberry School for Girls

Lead Staff: Aniq Mortuza

Students involved: Kinza Javaid, Simran Mahmud, Sumayya Bilqis, Nurtaaj Luma, Mahema Mahmud





Postcode Films

Across all of Postcode's education work, we particularly enjoy working with Mulberry School for Girls. In fact, the school was one of the first organisations we partnered with when we formed in 2007, and we're always impressed by the quality of work and the creative minds of the young women who take part in our projects.

The school provides students with opportunities for genuine creative expression, putting both power and responsibility in their hands and encouraging them to realise their potential as artists or interlocutors. It's an ethos we share at Postcode Films – respectful partnership, shared responsibility and cooperation are central to all of our projects. By working together we create better films.

Filmmaking is an incredibly rewarding process – the opportunity to explore the world around us, meet people we may not otherwise get the chance to interact with, to consider the issues and debates that confront us, to ask difficult questions and to understand why there are often no easy answers. It challenges us creatively and intellectually, asking us to open our minds to other points of view, to be brave enough to share ideas, to make and learn from mistakes, and to realise that the best films are borne out of collaboration with those in front of, and behind, the camera.

The Mulberry and Ursuline students on this project have embraced this process wholeheartedly: their intelligent and probing questions resulted in insightful and inspiring interviews, and they were both fearless and sensitive in asking our participants to reflect on the challenges that face them as leaders and as women.

As three female filmmakers, we're well aware that under-representation of women is a huge issue, not least in our own industry: the percentage of women working in film has declined since 1998 and in 2012, only 7.8% of UK films were directed by women. We would be delighted if our projects have prompted any of our student filmmakers to pursue a career in film, and we hope that our Shaping the Future films will inspire many in the audience to aim high in their own future careers.

We've not only been inspired by the incredible women leaders who took part in this project, but also by the younger women we've worked with: articulate, confident, creative individuals – our next generation of female leaders.

Kate McLarnon of Postcode Films has worked as an ethnographer and independent documentary filmmaker since graduating with masters degrees in both visual anthropology and philosophy. As an ethnographer she has specialised in social policy and public health studies across the UK and US, as well as running ethnographic film workshops with the Postcode team. Kate is currently co-directing her first feature documentary – *Even When I Fall* – set in Kathmandu and following the journey of three young trafficking survivors as they form Nepal's first circus. She continues to collaborate with anthropologists, journalists, musicians, artists, charities, businesses and schools, using film in innovative ways to express, investigate and create.

Sky Neal is an ethnographer, documentary filmmaker and a creative education specialist. Since 2005 Sky has been producing a range of films from short and long form documentaries to video art for live performance and is currently co-directing a feature documentary - *Even When I Fall*. Through her design and production of creative education programmes Sky has worked with every age group and engages a diverse range of art forms from film and animation through to performing arts. As an ethnographer she has worked for leading organisations on medical research, marketing communications campaigns, customer insight work and supports charities and organisations working on human rights issues and with vulnerable and at risk young people.

Influences Nail Bar in conjunction with Phoebe Davies

Over the past year artist Phoebe Davies has been working in collaboration with groups of women exploring current attitudes to feminism, female expectations and aspirations. Drawing upon the contemporary culture of nail art, these dialogues and collaborations have resulted in a series of printed nail design sets depicting women of personal influence or significance, to be worn and distributed to friends, family and peers.

Phoebe worked with a group of Year 9 students at Mulberry School exploring what feminism means to them, who their role models are and how art and popular culture can be used to discuss social issues. Working collaboratively they created a new set of nailwraps, depicting women and men they admire, who aren't afraid to stand up for what they believe in, promoting gender equality and campaigning for social change.

Following the success of the project Phoebe has been invited to redesign the set for Mulberry School for Girls' 'Educating Twenty First Century Women' Conference, celebrating fifty years of its work in pioneering women's education. During the conference students will host a nail bar, creating a site for these nailwraps to be publicly applied and distributed.

Mulberry School for Girls

Lead Staff: Jo Latham

Students involved: Sharika Ruthba, Kinza Javaid, Jamila Ahmed, Yasmin Sultana, Jemila Jeng

Doctor Who Project in conjunction with Julia Voce

Doctor Who has regenerated at Mulberry School on the eve of the 'Educating Twenty First Century Women' Conference. The regeneration wasn't a straightforward one – not that it ever is – on this occasion the Doctor, for the first time ever, regenerated as female.

Facing an imminent attack on the heart of London, a confused Doctor thinks this must all be a mistake. She has come here, to a room full of young women who might be able to help her. The Doctor is a traveller, a healer, a diplomat, a scientist and a warrior – what kind of woman does she need to be?

Project co-ordinator: Julia Voce

Project team: Seiriol Davies, Antonia Mellows, Ina Berggren, Alexandra Grey

Mulberry School for Girls

Lead Staff: Jill Tuffee

Students involved: Various from Mulberry School for Girls





Magic Me in conjunction with Sue Mayo

Magic Me is the UK's leading provider of intergenerational arts projects. Led by our team of creative artists, projects bring together people of different ages and often diverse cultures, ethnicities and faiths. Based in Tower Hamlets, east London, we reach over 600 people each year and many more nationally and internationally through research, training and consultancy.

From 2004 to 2013 Magic Me worked in partnership with Mulberry School for Girls and The Women's Library, bringing together younger and older women living in east London. Led by Magic Me Associate Artist, Sue Mayo, and many other artists, intergenerational groups used the Library's resources as inspiration for a range of themed projects: from beauty, to visions of utopia to tales of the heart. For details of this work, and Outspoken, our 2014 project with Bishopsgate Institute, visit:

<http://www.magicme.co.uk/wildwildwomenreport/index.php>

Magic Me is all about making connections. We invite you to join us to play 'Life Story Dominoes' - come and see how many connections there are between all of us here today.

Schools participating in the Conference

Ansford Academy, Somerset
Bonus Pastor Catholic College
Brentford School for Girls
Central Foundation Girls' School
Challney High School for Girls
Chelmsford County High School for Girls
City of London Academy Islington
Haberdashers' Aske's Federation - Hatcham College
Haberdashers' Aske's Federation - Knights Academy
Haygrove Academy, Somerset
Highgate Wood School
Hornsey School for Girls
Isaac Newton Academy
Lampton School
Langley Park School for Girls

Mulberry School for Girls
Parliament Hill School
Royal Greenwich University Technical College
Seven Kings High School
Stationers' Crown Woods Academy
St Paul's Way Trust
St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls
Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls
Swanlea School
The Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls
Ursuline High School
Wadham School, Somerset
Whitstone School, Somerset
Wycombe Abbey

Sponsors and Supporters of the Conference

Mulberry School for Girls is extremely grateful for the support we have received from our sponsors, who have provided generous financial support. We acknowledge the key role and support of Bank of America Merrill Lynch. The school is also grateful to Jane Farrell from The EW Group and Sarah Quinlan for their support for the ongoing women's education work at Mulberry School for Girls.

Note from Ms. Jane Farrell

Chair of Governors for Mulberry School for Girls, Sponsors of the Conference

This conference celebrates fifty years of Mulberry School for Girls creating and delivering a world class education for young women in the heart of Tower Hamlets. It also recognises and encourages young women's crucial leadership role in building a better world where diversity is respected and leveraged by businesses, governments and society as a whole. The conference builds on great achievements so far, and looks forward to what else needs to be done to create this world.



Mulberry school for Girls is grateful to Andrea Sullivan, Alice Crawley, Bandana Spettigue and Bank of America Merrill Lynch for their support.



