

For Immediate Release
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Commemorating the 80th Birthday of

Anne Frank

Langhart Communications, LLC

Presents

“Anne and Emmett”

an imaginary conversation between

Anne Frank and Emmett Till

a one act play written by

Janet Langhart Cohen

Friday, June 12, 2009, 7:00 PM

Langhart Communications, LLC presents the groundbreaking play, “**Anne and Emmett**”, an imaginary conversation between **Anne Frank and Emmett Till** both of whom were young victims of anti-Semitism and racism. This event represents the first exploration of the commonalities and parallels between their lives. “**Anne and Emmett**” will be directed by Janet Langhart Cohen. Original score composed by 16-year-old, violinist and composer Joshua Coyne. Anne Frank will be played by Amal Saade and Emmett Till will be played by Kenneth Washington.

Anne Frank remains a symbol for the millions of people who have been victims of various forms of persecution. Anne Frank was 15 when she died in a Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. Her famous diary details her life from 1942 to 1944 as her family hid from the Nazis in an Amsterdam attic.

Emmett Till of Chicago was 14, in August 1955, when he visited his great-uncle in Money, Mississippi. He was kidnapped, beaten, shot, and his weighted body dropped into the Tallahatchie River. Two white men were charged and acquitted; they later admitted to the crime by stating that they had done it because Till had either spoken to, or whistled at, a white woman.

The play is a fictional dialogue between teenagers Anne Frank and Emmett Till, one murdered because she was Jewish, the other because he was Black. The play reveals the commonality of the struggles of African Americans and the Jewish people and offers viewers a chance to open a dialogue on racism and anti-Semitism.

This public debut of the play follows a private screening at The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10th. By releasing the play to the public on Anne Frank's birthday, June 12th, we offer both a time of reflection and remembrance for all in attendance.

Performance Details:

A public performance of this phenomenal play will be held on **June 12, 2009 at the Jack Morton Auditorium, located on the campus of George Washington University**. Tickets are \$15 for general admission. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster and may be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com or via phone at (202) 397-SEAT or 800-551-SEAT.

About the Playwright

An author and journalist, Janet Langhart Cohen has produced several television programs including "On Capitol Hill with Janet Langhart." She has been an overseas correspondent in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, and hosted ABC's "Good Day" show in Boston. When she married former U.S. Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, she became the first and only black woman to have her marriage ceremony in the U.S. Capitol. Later in her career, Mrs. Cohen provided media training to CEOs and government officials. Janet Langhart Cohen is the President & CEO of Langhart Communications, LLC.

Langhart Communications, LLC envisions and produces events that encourage education and understanding of current issues in our society. We use multimedia avenues to support plays, websites, conferences, fundraising and the like. The mission of Langhart Communications is to promote race relations, education for underprivileged children and a call to community service in our nation.

About the Play

Excerpts from "Anne and Emmett" were first published in 2007 in Love in Black and White: A Memoir of Race, Religion, and Romance, co-authored by Secretary William S. Cohen and Janet Langhart Cohen, which chronicles the couple's lives against the backdrop of racial and political history.

"If nothing else we must learn what happens when we allow racism, discrimination and hatred to go unchallenged."

It is the heartfelt desire of Janet Langhart Cohen that this play will give all who view it an inside look at why it is so vital that the world learn more about genocide and how we can act to prevent it before it is too late.

For more information on this once in a lifetime opportunity, please contact Leris Bernard, LGB Productions, (202) 234-0312 or leris@lgbprod.com.

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