

For Immediate Release

April 14, 2009

Media Advisory

Forum to examine perpetrators of injustice during Holocaust

How did professionals become perpetrators of injustice during the Holocaust? A panel of experts will discuss this topic and look at the lessons learned from those dark days at a special forum at the Law Society on April 21, commemorating National Holocaust Memorial Day.

The event is being hosted by the Law Society of Upper Canada and The League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. Panellists will examine how professionals in the fields of law, medicine, the arts and education were suborned to participate in the Nazi-era agenda of injustice, persecution and genocide, leaving the high principles of their professions behind. Today, in a time when such atrocities still occur, speakers will also talk about preventive measures.

Panellists include:

- **Dr. Yoel Abells**, University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine and columnist for the *National Post*
- **Dr. Judith Cohen**, York University, Faculty of Fine Arts & Department of Music
- **Dr. Amanda Grzyb**, University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Information and Media Studies
- **Kristen Rundle**, University of Toronto, Faculty of Law.

David Matas, International Human Rights Lawyer and Senior Legal Counsel for B'nai Brith Canada, will provide concluding remarks, and **Mark Sandler**, Law Society bencher and Chair of the Law Foundation of Ontario, will moderate the panel session.

The forum will be followed by a reception, featuring a reading by award-winning poet Elana Wolf, author of *Mask*, a poetic response to the life and art of Berlin artist Charlotte Salomon, who perished at Auschwitz. The reception will also feature a musical interlude by Susan Baskin and friends.

Admission to the panel discussion and reception is free. An RSVP is required. Call **416-947-3413**, or send an e-mail to: rticzon@lsuc.on.ca.

The forum and reception are part of the Law Society's Public Education Equality Series, which is designed to encourage the exchange of information, ideas and action on issues affecting Aboriginal, Francophone, and equality-seeking communities.

The Law Society's annual Holocaust Memorial Day Program was established following a motion on anti-Semitism, which was introduced by two benchers to the Society's governing body on April 22, 2004.

Event Details

Date: April 21, 2009
Location: Law Society of Upper Canada, Osgoode Hall, 130 Queen Street West, Toronto
(Enter via east doors)
Time: Panel Discussion – 4 to 6 p.m., Donald Lamont Learning Centre
Reception – 6 to 8 p.m., Convocation Hall

Media interested in attending are encouraged to **confirm their attendance in advance** to help ensure adequate space and audio requirements. Contact Susan Tonkin, Communications Advisor, Law Society of Upper Canada at (416) 947-7605, stonkin@lsuc.on.ca.