



## **World Trade Center Survivors' Network, Inc.**

22 Cortland Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor; New York, NY 10007

web: [www.survivorsnet.org](http://www.survivorsnet.org) — [www.savethestairway.org](http://www.savethestairway.org)

e-mail: [info@survivorsnet.org](mailto:info@survivorsnet.org) — [press@survivorsnet.org](mailto:press@survivorsnet.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Richard Zimble (917) 533-9093

## **World Trade Center Survivors' Network September 11, 2001 Fifth Anniversary Commemorative Program**

Our program to mark the Fifth Anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center will be centered on our common desire for "Hope, Healing and Renewal". The following events are open to the public, and we extend a warm invitation to all.

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2006  
DAY OF LESSONS LEARNED**

### **"Lessons Forgotten: Survivors Bear Witness"**

The World Trade Center Survivors' Network, with the help of the Simon Wiesenthal Center\*, is proud to announce a groundbreaking panel discussion entitled "*Lessons Forgotten: Survivors Bear Witness*". The event will focus on survivors and their experiences, and will be hosted by the New York Tolerance Center, located just blocks from Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and the United Nations. Panelists will include survivors of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, the Holocaust, Rwanda and Darfur. Our goal is to bring attention to the devastating effects of hatred and intolerance, and explore common themes in the survivor experience.

6:00 – 6:45 PM: Refreshments and Tolerance Center Open House

7:00 – 8:30 PM: Panel Discussion

8:30 – 9:00 PM: Q & A

*NY Tolerance Center  
226 East 42nd Street  
(Between 2nd and 3rd Avenues)*

*\*The Simon Wiesenthal Center is an international human rights organization accredited as an NGO at the United Nations.*

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2006**  
**DAY OF HEALING**

**Third Annual Healing Community Concert and Healing Art Exposition**  
**promoted by St. Vincent's WTC Healing Services and the WTC Survivors'**  
**Network**

The World Trade Center Survivors' Network and Saint Vincent's World Trade Center Healing Services extend a warm invitation to all to attend their third annual Healing Concert and Art Exposition, hosted by the Church of St. Andrew's near City Hall. The art exposition will feature works of survivors and rescue and recovery workers of September 11, 2001 participating in the Saint Vincent's Healing Services "Healing Art Workshop." The concert starts at 5:00 PM and the art viewing at 6:30.

5:00 – 6:00 M Concert  
6:30 – 8:00 M Cocktail & Art Viewing

*St. Andrew's Church*  
*20 Cardinal Hayes Place @Police Plaza, New York, NY 10007*

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2006**  
**DAY OF HOPE**

**"New Definitions of Community" Conference**

In the past, traditional community structures were sufficient for disaster response. However, this was not the case in the wake of September 11, 2001. As a result people organized in a variety of new ways to address unmet needs; and from these organizations, new types of communities formed.

The World Trade Center Survivors' Network, a good example of this new trend, will co-sponsor a conference exploring how new definitions of community have arisen in response to September 11th and what survivors can teach authorities and responders to help them prepare for the next disaster. Our co-sponsor is the Jewish Community Relations Council of NY – experts in community outreach, and pioneers in building alliances between the many diverse ethnic and religious groups in NYC. Our common goal is to document our lessons learned, and to instruct the broader community.

Details are still being finalized, and will be announced shortly. The event will take place approximately 11:30 – 2:30 in midtown Manhattan, and we hope to have luncheon provided.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2006**  
**DAY OF TRIBUTE**

**5th Anniversary Walk of Tribute**

The World Trade Center Survivors' Network is excited to announce our first annual Walk of Tribute, which will be an opportunity for participants to honor and acknowledge the many varied groups within the September 11th Community. The walk will begin at "The Sphere," Fritz Koenig's famous sculpture which was recovered from the ruins of the World Trade Center and relocated to Battery Park. Participants will briefly stop at five symbolic locations along the three-quarter-mile route, where a few words will be spoken. All are invited to attend.

The tribute locations are:

- NYPD Downtown Center, 104 Washington Street -- to honor the City's Finest.
- FDNY "10 House", 124 Liberty Street -- to honor the City's Bravest.
- Tribute Center, 120 Liberty Street -- to honor the Victims of September 11th.
- "Survivors' Stairway," Vesey Street -- to honor the Survivors of September 11th.
- St. Paul's Chapel, 211 Broadway -- to honor the Rescue and Recovery Workers and Volunteers who responded to September 11th.

09:30 - 10:00 AM - Gather by the Sphere at Battery Park, Walk Registration

10:00 - 11:30 AM – Remembrance Walk and Tributes

The Remembrance Walk concludes at 11:30, and will be followed by a brief candle lighting ceremony in St. Paul's Chapel.

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2006**  
**DAY OF RENEWAL**

**Planting of the Survivor Tree & Interfaith Gathering**

The World Trade Center Survivors' Network, with the help of the NYC Parks Department, will be replanting a tree grown from a cutting of the Oklahoma City Survivor Tree. The tree will be planted in the Living Memorial Grove, located across the street from City Hall, next to five trees that were previously planted in the World Trade Center Plaza. We invite all to attend.

The OKC Survivors' Tree is an American elm that offered shade in the parking lot of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, prior to the bombing on April 19, 1995. The tree was badly damaged in the explosion, but survived and is now the center piece for the Survivor Circle in the Oklahoma City Memorial. The Survivor Tree is a symbol of human resiliency and a tribute to renewal and rebirth. We hope to solidify, with this planting, the deep bond that has developed between the people of Oklahoma City and New York – sister cities in grief, but also in the strength needed to survive.

### ***Day of Renewal (cont'd.)***

The planting of the Survivor Tree will be preceded by a short interfaith gathering arranged with the support and assistance of the Jewish Community Relations Council of NY. Speakers representing the wisdom of the many faith traditions in New York City will make short statements describing what the planting ceremony means to them. Most traditions embrace tree plantings as symbolic of life and rebirth. We hope the public expression of this common human thread will prove both healing and uniting.

08:45 – 09:15 AM - Meet at the Memorial Grove  
09:15 – 09:45 AM – Interfaith Gathering  
09:45 - 10:30 AM – Planting of the Survivors' Tree

*The Living Memorial Grove  
City Hall Triangle Park, on Park Row  
(Across from City Hall Park)*

**Please note that the starting times for some of these events may be subject to change. Please check our website for the most current information:**

**<http://www.survivorsnet.org>**

#### ***About the WTC Survivors' Network ([www.survivorsnet.org](http://www.survivorsnet.org))***

Formed in 2003, the WTC Survivors' Network is one of the only organizations for survivors of the two attacks on the World Trade Center. The main objectives of the network include:

- Enabling survivors to successfully deal with the impact of the attacks
- Empowering survivors to find renewed purpose in their personal and professional lives
- Using our experience to assist survivors of other disasters

The WTC Survivors' Network also functions as a resource for interested parties to obtain survivors' perspectives and serves as a conduit for the common thoughts of survivors. WTCSN is a nonprofit organization under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service, relying on private donations to cover operational expenses.