Quotes from participants in Daniel Pearl Music Day

“Tonight’s Junoon concert is dedicated to Danny Pearl… his life was brutally taken away by those who only bow to the gods of hate, fanaticism and bigotry. Danny you will be missed by all of us who still believe that goodness and courage can overcome all injustices.”
– Salman Ahmad, bandleader of Pakistan’s critically acclaimed rock band Junoon

“Music Day is a fresh opportunity for the choir to show the world that human beings, while capable of astonishing acts of brutality and barbarity, have also contemplated eternity and infinity, and distilled out of the chaos of the human condition works of profound and lasting genius.”
– Somtow Sucharitkul, composer, conductor, Bangkok Opera

“I dedicate this programme to Daniel Pearl in condemnation for all sorts of fanaticism, violence, terrorism, and hatred in the world. May sanity, logic and harmony prevail in every soul.”
– Ravi Shankar, legendary sitar player & composer

“Daniel Pearl was exceedingly brave, was one of these journalists from the media that put their life on the line to bring you the truth… All around the world people are going to play music in tribute to him… I’m going to sneak in early and pay our respects to the memory of Daniel Pearl with this song.”
– Elton John, dedication of the song “Daniel”
THE HISTORY  It happened on February 22, 2002, a day after the world learned that kidnapped Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl had been brutally murdered by his captors in Pakistan. That night, George Pehlivanian, Danny’s neighbor and friend from Paris, was scheduled to lead the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra as a guest conductor. Deeply troubled by the news, he was reluctant to perform but defied the horror by proudly dedicating the concert to Danny.

“As the orchestra played Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5, I finally understood the triumph of hope over despair,” said Pehlivanian. It was an emotional and exultant concert, ending with 15 minutes of sustained applause.

Thus the seeds were planted for Daniel Pearl Music Day – a worldwide day of promoting tolerance through music.

After Danny’s funeral in August 2002, his family wrote: “As a tribute to his life and family we wrote: “As a tribute to his life and...”

The second annual Daniel Pearl Music Day was an even greater and more powerful series of musical events. On and around October 10, 2003, the day that Danny would have turned 40, tens of thousands joined in “Harmony for Humanity” at over 230 concerts in 29 countries on 5 continents. From school children to the Masters of Persian Music, from African drummers to Jewish Cantors, classical ensembles, jazz groups and others around the world used music to form a global community based on tolerance and mutual respect.

DANIEL PEARL MUSIC DAY 2004 WILL INCLUDE EVENTS TAKING PLACE FROM OCTOBER 8TH THROUGH OCTOBER 17TH.

A sampling of previous Music Day events include:

IN THE UNITED STATES

Los Angeles, CA
Prendergast “Stories from my Favorite Planet” music by R. Steinberg to stories by Daniel Pearl

Stanford, CA
The St. Lawrence String Quartet and friends at the Memorial Church at Stanford University

Chicago, IL
Hanna el Din in Concert

Live Oak, FL
Great Southern Music Harvest

Atlanta, GA
Ravi and Anoushka Shankar’s “Full Circle” Concert

Austin, TX
Tania Libertad in Concert

Boston, MA
Boston Symphony Orchestra with Emanuel Ax

Charlotte, NC
Dixie Chicks and Indigo Girls

Kensington, MD
A Musical Share-in concert by students, faculty and families at the Levine School of Music

Oklahoma City, OK
Itzhak Perlman with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic

New York City, NY
Mbira Music of Zimbabwe

Cincinnati, OH
Mark O’Connor with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Easton, PA
Pennsylvania Jazz Society Concert

Los Angeles, CA
American Youth Symphony Concert

Encino, CA
California Traditional Music Society Festival

AROUND THE WORLD

Toronto, Canada
The Royal Conservatory Orchestra

Beijing, China
A Concert and Jam Session hosted by Beijing’s Jazz Community

Munich, Germany
Three Great World Religions and Their Music at the Tuerkischer Oktober 2003 Festival

Tunisia, Tunisia
Alan Weiss at the October Musicaie de Carthage

Warsaw, Poland
Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra Chamber Concert

Haiifa, Israel
Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra

Pune, Goa, India
The Daniel Pearl Peace Concert at the Bandstand Municipal Garden

London, England
Masters of Persian Music – Mohammad Reza Shahjarian, Hossein Alijadeh, Kayhan Kalhor, Homayoun Shajarian

Bangkok, Thailand
Bangkok Opera Foundation’s Thailand Premiere of Brahms Requiem

Karakci, Pakistan
Shezaan Roy in Concert

Karakci, Pakistan
Music Day Concert for Peace with Tina Sani & Saffia Baig

Moscow, Russia
Misbah Rakhkevsky and the Kremlin Chamber Orchestra

Daejon, South Korea
Kiev Sax Quartet at Kaist Auditorium

JOIN US The Daniel Pearl Music Day network of performances connects millions of people to one another through music. The number of concerts in the network doubles every year thanks to the spirit and enthusiasm of musicians, music lovers and volunteers all over the world. We invite musicians, performers, DJs, schools, cultural and religious centers everywhere to create a global voice in support of tolerance and humanity between October 8th & 17th, 2004.

To join in “Harmony for Humanity” as a participant, volunteer or to document an event, please register online via our website www.danielpearl.org or send an e-mail to musicday@danielpearl.org. Registration is free and open to anyone who wishes to spread tolerance, understanding and global harmony through music.