Dr. Judea Pearl to Keynote Main Event

Dr. Judea Pearl, Co-Founder and President of the Daniel Pearl Foundation, will be the featured speaker for the Jewish Federation’s “Main Event” to be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center. Dr. Pearl’s address is called, “Being Jewish, American and Western in the 21st Century.”

Dr. Pearl is the father of slain Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl and co-founded the Daniel Pearl Foundation with his family in February 2002, “to continue Daniel’s life-work of dialogue and understanding and to address the root causes of his tragedy.” The Daniel Pearl Foundation sponsors journalism fellowships aimed at promoting honest reporting and East-West understanding, organizes world-wide concerts that promote intercultural respect and sponsors public dialogues between Jews and Muslims to explore common ground and air differences. The Foundation received the Commonground’s Parners in Humanity Award in 2002 and the 2003 Roger E. Joseph Prize for its “distinctive contribution to humanity.”

Professors Judea Pearl and Akbar Ahmed, the founders of the Daniel Pearl Dialogue for Muslim Jewish Understanding, are co-winners of the inaugural $100,000 Purpose Prize, which honors five individuals 60 or older who have demonstrated uncommon vision in addressing community and national problems.

Dr. Pearl will also sign copies of the book, “I am Jewish: Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl,” winner of the 2004 National Jewish Book Award for Anthologies, which will be available for sale following the event.

Other highlights of this year’s program include a special musical tribute to Daniel Pearl by Maestro Arie Lipsky of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the presentation of the Spirit of the Federation Award to former Federation and Jewish Community Center President, Laurence N. Smith. Mr. Smith is also a former Vice President of EMU.

Dr. Philip and Nancy Margolis and Drs. Herb and Stefanie Aronow will co-chair the event. The Pre-Glow Dinner for major donors prior to the Main Event will be hosted by Dr. Bruce Friedman and Hillary Murt. The event is once again generously underwritten by a grant from the Ford Motor Company Fund.

Attendance at the Main Event is open to the entire community. The cost for the kosher dairy dessert reception is $36 per person/$18 for students plus a minimum donation of $100 per family to the Federation 2011 Annual Campaign. For more information, and to register, contact Cindy Adams at (734) 677-0100, email cindy@jewishannarbor.org. Or sign up on line at the Federation web site, www.jewishannarbor.org.