

NEWS

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER
PAUL KORETZ
FIFTH DISTRICT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Los Angeles City Council Officially Declares Anne Frank Day

LOS ANGELES - May 12, 2022 - The Los Angeles City Council has approved a Resolution led by Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD5) and Bob Blumenfield (CD3) declaring May 12, 2022 as Anne Frank Day in the City of Los Angeles. May 12 was Anne Frank's father's birthday.

Anne Frank was a Jewish girl whose diary during World War II documented her life from 1942 to 1944 while hiding with her family from the Nazis. The Diary of a Young Girl, also known as The Diary of Anne Frank, has become one of the most widely read books in the world. Millions of people have continued to be inspired by Anne's words in advocating for positive change, raising awareness about the dangers of prejudice and discrimination, and the importance of speaking up against injustices.

"As a son of a Holocaust survivor it has been lifelong mission to Never Forget the atrocities WWII," said **Councilmember Paul Koretz**. "Anne's story is still relevant today in combating hateful rhetoric spewed in this current climate that seeks to dehumanize anyone perceived as the "other." We must continue to educate future generations so that we continue to remember and reflect, and if they see acts of unfairness and injustice, they don't remain silent and act."

"I was inspired after reading about Anne Frank's life, so I reached out to Councilmember Koretz about creating a day to honor her," said **10-year-old activist Olivia Prince**. "Even though Anne was forced to leave her home, her friends, and even her cat and go into hiding during WWII, she still believed that people are good at heart. That's a great lesson for today. People's views are so different from each other, but if we believe that everyone has love in their heart for someone or something, we can see past our differences and collaborate to make the world a better place."

"We at Anne Frank LA, and our partner organizations, are so grateful to young Olivia Prince who was inspired enough by Anne Frank's short life and words to suggest to Councilmember Paul Koretz that we commemorate her story with an official Anne Frank Day" said **Margrit Polak, Founder [Anne Frank LA](#)**. "We are hoping that this special day will encourage other young students across our county to read The Diary of Anne Frank and learn about Anne's messages of hope, love, and peace."

"Thank you to Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield for continuing to advocate for Holocaust education. By teaching the critical lessons from the past and their continued relevance today, we empower the next generation - like the remarkable Olivia Prince - to recognize and confront antisemitism, racism, and hatred," said **Beth Kean, CEO of Holocaust Museum LA**.