

## I Am a Girl from Africa: The Power of Community, Perseverance, and Education Elizabeth Nyamayaro

Award-winning humanitarian and former United Nations Senior Advisor on Gender Equality. Ms Nyamayaro has held leadership roles at the World Bank, the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, and UN Women.

### Angela Duckworth, Ph.D.

Founder and CEO, Character Lab and the Rosa Lee and Egbert Chang Professor, University of Pennsylvania. Author of the #1 New York Times bestseller Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance.

# Monday, May 3, 2021, 7:00 PM Central www.bit.ly/NyamayaroFANWebinar

#### PLUS: After-Hours Event!

Purchase a copy of *I Am a Girl from Africa* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall to receive a link to an interactive "After-Hours" event hosted by Ms. Nyamayaro. Details on the webinar registration page.

#### Presented by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with

Baker Demonstration School, Bennett Day School, Catherine Cook School, Evanston Township High School D202, Fusion Academy, Glencoe D35, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Mindful Psychology Associates, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Sacred Heart Schools, the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University, Wolcott School, and Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.).

This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+ familyactionnetwork.net





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: ELIZABETH NYAMAYARO

CONTACT: Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, Ionnie@familyactionnetwork.net

## Monday, May 3, 2021, 7:00-8:00 PM, <u>I Am a Girl from Africa: The Power of Community, Perseverance, and Education</u>, a FAN webinar featuring Elizabeth Nyamayaro, in conversation with Angela Duckworth, Ph.D.

#### REGISTER: www.bit.ly/NyamayaroFANWebinar.

**BONUS AFTER-HOURS EVENT:** Attendees who purchase a copy of *I Am a Girl from Africa* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall are invited to attend an AFTER-HOURS event hosted by Ms. Nyamayaro that will start immediately after the webinar. Details on the webinar registration page.

**Elizabeth Nyamayaro,** an award-winning humanitarian and former United Nations Senior Advisor on Gender Equality, spent her childhood in rural Zimbabwe, living with her grandmother, Gogo, in a village affected by both HIV/AIDS and famine. During one such famine, Ms. Nyamayaro was given food and water by "the girl in the blue uniform" – a United Nations worker – saving her life. From that moment on, she knew her purpose in life was to become like that girl in the blue shirt, a humanitarian trying to improve the lives of people around the world, and thus her dream of growing up to work for the United Nations was born.

But as a girl from a small African village, Ms. Nyamayaro faced incredible odds in pursuit of her dreams. Her first book, *I Am a Girl from Africa*, alternates between stories of her childhood in Zimbabwe spent with her extended family and her beloved Gogo, her early attempts to achieve her dream by setting out on her own in London, and her eventual career with the UN, where she pioneered the groundbreaking HeForShe movement that sought to unite men and women in the fight for gender equality. arguing that no one could succeed without the support of everyone. A movement inspired in part by the philosophy, learned from her grandmother, that guided Ms. Nyamayaro throughout her entire life: *Ubuntu*, which means "I am because we are." Even as she worked to achieve her own dreams, she knew that she could not succeed without her community – and, in turn, Ms. Nyamayaro knew that her success would help that community thrive.

By sharing her story, Ms. Nyamayaro hopes to introduce readers around the world to the concept of Ubuntu ("I am because we are"), and prove that if the power of community, perseverance, and education can change the life of one little girl from Africa, it can change the lives of people like her everywhere.

Ms. Nyamayaro has worked at the forefront of global development for over two decades improving the lives of underserved populations and has held leadership roles at the World Bank, the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, and UN Women.

Ms. Nyamayaru will be in conversation with **Angela Duckworth**, **Ph.D.**, **(FAN '12 and '16)**, **founder and CEO** of **Character Lab**, the Rosa Lee and Egbert Chang Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, the faculty codirector at Behavior Change for Good, and faculty co-director of Wharton People Analytics. She is also cohost, with Stephen Dubner, of the podcast *No Stupid Questions*. Her 2013 TED talk has over 23 million views, and her first book, *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*, is a #1 *New York Times* best seller.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available later on our website and YouTube channel.

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