

office* 2013: Katie Piper confirmed for headline Keynote

Charity campaigner, TV presenter and best selling author Katie Piper will host a headline Keynote at this year's office* show, which returns to London's Olympia on 8-9 October.

As the UK's leading annual event dedicated to meeting the business, training and networking needs of Britain's PAs, office managers and executive support professionals, office*'s free Keynote programme is renowned for attracting a host of 'inspirational' names. Previous headline Keynote speakers include Deborah Meaden, Karren Brady, Michelle Mone and Jacqueline Gold – and this year it's Katie Piper's turn to draw in the crowds.

Having successfully rebuilt her life after surviving a horrific sulphuric acid attack in 2008, Katie has been a familiar face on UK television – first appearing on Channel 4's *Katie: My Beautiful Face*, which won best documentary at the 2011 Broadcast Awards. In 2009, she set up The Katie Piper Foundation to improve rehabilitation facilities for burns survivors, providing support and information on burns, scars and treatment.

Winner of countless inspiration awards, including the 2011 Women of the Year 'You Can' Award, Katie's office* Keynote (taking place at 1pm on Wednesday 9 October) promises to be the most thought provoking speech of the show. Sharing the title of her second book – *Things Get Better* – her true story of triumph over adversity shares the inspirational message that no matter what we face, things really do get better.

"I'm so excited to be speaking at this year's office show," says Katie Piper, "it's great to be involved in the UK's leading event for the modern-day office professional!"

"Katie Piper is an inspiration to all those lucky enough to hear her story and we are delighted to welcome her to office* 2013," says David Maguire, event manager of office*. "We're anticipating a capacity crowd for her session at this year's event."

The growing office* Keynote line-up also includes a newly-confirmed interview with Hamish Jenkinson, former PA to Madonna and Guy Ritchie and current EA to Kevin Spacey, hosted by Mike Caridia, director of PA-Assist.com. Whilst experienced celebrity PA Donna Coulling, whose illustrious client list includes Helena Bonham Carter, Rachel Weisz, and Sir Derek Jacobi, is back for her second year – this time with her own Keynote session.

"I was flattered to be asked to be one of this year's Keynote speakers at office*," says Donna Coulling. "The EA/PA industry is a thriving community packed to the brim with people wanting to share and absorb knowledge, skills and experience (plus the odd joke or two!). I am a huge supporter of conferences around the world but just as the movie says 'there's no place like home'. London is a hot bed of PA talent and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to speak, meet (and listen) to professionals and individuals who, like me, want to learn from each other to be the best that we can in the job that we do."

A well-regarded seminar speaker and coach, Donna will be sharing insider knowledge from the world of being a celebrity PA with office* delegates on the opening day of the show – which coincides with the third annual National PA Day (8 October).

With visitor registration opening early to cater for increasing demand, pre-registrations for office* 2013 have already reached over 1,300 and are rising daily. Visitors wishing to secure their first choice of the remaining seminar places at this year's event are advised to register as soon as possible. Admission to the Keynote programme – which will be confirmed in full later next month – is non-bookable and is included with free show entry at www.eventdata.co.uk/Visitor/Office.aspx?AffiliateCode=OFF109.

office* returns to Olympia, London, on 8-9 October 2013. For further information and to register, please visit www.officeshow.co.uk.

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Notes:

office* attracted 3,687 attendees to its 2012 event. It was shortlisted for Best UK Trade Show Exhibition (under 2,000m²) at the Association of Event Organisers (AEO) Excellence Awards in 2013.

High resolution imagery is available upon request.

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