



**100 women in  
hedge funds®**

## HRH The Duke of Cambridge Continues his Patronage of 100 Women in Hedge Funds' UK Philanthropic Initiatives

### SkillForce to be Beneficiary of 100WHF's Annual London Gala and Other UK Fundraising Events in 2016

London – 16 December 2015 – 100 Women in Hedge Funds, a leading non-profit organisation for professionals in the alternative investments industry, today announced that it will partner with SkillForce in 2016, in association with HRH The Duke of Cambridge's ongoing patronage of 100 Women in Hedge Funds' philanthropic initiatives.

SkillForce is a national education and veterans charity dedicated to helping young people flourish through motivational mentoring and education programmes for five- to nineteen-year-olds. Their mission is to help young people develop the skills they need to succeed in education, work and life, drawing upon the military experience and values of ex-services personnel.

100 Women in Hedge Funds has a strong track record of supporting charities and has raised more than \$38 million (gross total) for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's and family health, education and mentoring. The organisation is planning a number of fundraising events to benefit SkillForce during 2016, culminating with the 100 Women in Hedge Funds London Gala to be held in Autumn 2016.

The Duke of Cambridge first became patron of 100 Women in Hedge Funds' philanthropic initiatives in 2009 and in 2012, The Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry joined the Duke in becoming patrons. 100 Women in Hedge Funds' partnership with the Charities Forum of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry has been renewed and the London Board of 100 Women in Hedge Funds recently voted to select SkillForce as the beneficiary of its UK philanthropic initiatives in the UK in 2016.

Ben Slade, Chief Executive of SkillForce, said: "We are absolutely thrilled that 100 Women in Hedge Funds have again chosen to partner with SkillForce. We're looking forward to a calendar of exciting events which will raise essential funds to enable us to fund more programmes – including new mentoring programmes – that change the lives of young people."

Kathryn Graham, Chair of the London Board of 100 Women in Hedge Funds, commented: "With an outstanding record of helping children and young people develop aspirations, self confidence, resilience and character, SkillForce is committed to transforming young lives through their mentoring and education programmes, delivered primarily by ex-service personnel. 100 Women in Hedge Funds is proud to support their important initiatives. We are also very grateful for the ongoing support of Blaine and Laura Tomlinson as Patronage Sponsors, and salute their commitment to making a difference."

Since 2010, Blaine and Laura Tomlinson have served as 100 Women in Hedge Funds' Patronage Sponsor, very generously supporting each of the charities selected as beneficiaries of 100 Women in Hedge Funds' fundraising. They will continue to serve in this role for the next several years.

Firms and individuals interested in learning more about any of our upcoming events should please contact the [London Philanthropy Committee](#).

### **About 100 Women in Hedge Funds ([www.100womeninhedgefunds.org](http://www.100womeninhedgefunds.org))**

100 Women in Hedge Funds is a global, practitioner-driven non-profit organization serving over 13,000 alternative investment management investors and professionals in 20 locations through educational, professional leverage and philanthropic initiatives. Formed in 2001, 100 Women in Hedge Funds has hosted over 500 industry education events globally, connected more than 350 senior women through Peer Advisory Groups and raised over \$38 million for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's and family health, education and mentoring.

### About SkillForce

[www.skillforce.org](http://www.skillforce.org)

Our mission is to inspire children and young people to see their uniqueness and cherish it, believe in their potential and realise it, and value opportunities and seize them.

Far too many bright and talented children and young people are at odds with who they are and not ready to risk being their best. At SkillForce, we don't accept this.

We will not stand by and allow children and young people to live within self-imposed barricades, lacking in confidence and settling for mediocrity when they are capable of brilliance. They deserve more. And communities, schools and employers across the UK miss out on the talent and contributions those individuals could, and should, have made.

SkillForce is a national education charity that operates in more than 200 primary and secondary schools across England, Scotland, Wales and shortly Northern Ireland to help children and young people develop aspirations, self confidence, resilience and character – skills for life and work.

We transform lives through our motivational mentoring and education programmes for five- to nineteen-year-olds. The people who make that possible are our instructors and mentors, predominantly ex-service personnel who have served their country and now wish to serve their community by applying their skills and experience to inspire young people to succeed.

Our 'heroes' are a proud and defining characteristic of our charity. We are generously supported in our endeavours by our Royal Patron, HRH Prince William The Duke of Cambridge KG KT, who has given us the only two awards in his name, the SkillForce Prince's Awards.

We are SkillForce – Heroes in Schools Transforming Lives.

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