



Jewish
Community
Center of
Greater
Washington

THE LESSANS FAMILY ANNUAL BOOK FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 6-16

*Celebrating our
45th year!*

jccgw.org/bookfestival

**Tickets
available
October 6.**

THE LESSANS FAMILY ANNUAL BOOK FESTIVAL

BOOK STORE HOURS

Friday, November 7, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | Sunday, November 9, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Monday, November 10-Thursday, November 13: 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; 4-9 p.m.
Friday, November 14, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. | Sunday, November 16, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

BOOK FESTIVAL SPONSORS

PUBLISHER



EDITOR

Bruce, Paula and Debra Robinson, Harold and Shirley Robinson Philanthropic Fund
Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman

AUTHOR

Adele and Roy Igersheim
Helen and David Rubin
Dale and Andy Singer

AGENT



REVIEWER



COMMUNITY READER

Women's Philanthropy of The Jewish Federation
of Greater Washington
The Sisterhood of Congregation B'nai Tzedek



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Temple Beth Ami

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(<http://smile.amazon.com>) and select the JCCGW as your favorite nonprofit, Amazon will make a donation to us. Supporting the JCCGW could not be easier!

Questions? Contact Katya Pidgurskaya at katya@jccgw.org.

Kosher dietary laws observed.

Tickets are non-refundable.

All events are held at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington.

Special Post-Festival Event

AMBASSADOR STUART EIZENSTAT

The Future of the Jews: How Global Forces are Impacting the Jewish People, Israel, and Its Relationship with the United States

Thursday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.

Amb. Eizenstat, a senior diplomat of international reputation, brilliantly surveys the major geo-political, economic and security challenges facing the Jewish world. In light of recent events in Israel, this look at our future and the fate of the Jewish people should not be missed.

Ticket price: \$15

Sponsored by Ellen and Stuart Lessans





AN EVENING WITH MOLLY RINGWALD

Thursday, November 6, 7:30 p.m.

Actress, jazz performer and author, Molly Ringwald, earned a Golden Globe nomination at age thirteen, and went on to star in award-winning Broadway productions and numerous films, including the iconic films *Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club* and *Pretty in Pink*. Ringwald is now touring for her first jazz album called *Except Sometimes*. She and her band have performed over 140 concerts in four countries since its release, with songs we all know and love like *Don't You (Forget About Me)*. *Dessert will be served following performance.*

Ticket Price: \$45

Sponsored by Bruce, Paula and Debra Robinson, Harold and Shirley Robinson Philanthropic Fund

PATRONS RECEPTION

Thursday, November 6, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for food and drinks before the performance.

Ticket to Patrons Reception and Performance:

\$136 includes one copy of Molly Ringwald's new CD

Reviewer Level Sponsorship (\$500)

This sponsorship provides 2 tickets to the Patrons Reception and Performance, 2 CDs from Molly Ringwald, 2 complimentary tickets to an author lecture of choice, 1 complimentary book from an author lecture of choice, \$5 discount coupon for the book store and recognition in the JCCGW *Center Scene*.

CATHERINE ZACKS GILDENHORN

*Redefining Moments: End of Life Stories for
Better Living*

Friday, November 7, 12:00 Noon

Ticket Price: \$40

Sponsored by Women's Philanthropy of The
Jewish Federation of Greater Washington



Redefining Moments is a book offering the perspective of a man at the end of a richly rewarding life. Gordon B. Zacks, a pillar of the Jewish community, was diagnosed with terminal cancer in December 2013. Instead of succumbing to grief, he channeled his positive energy and the result was not only a celebration of his life, but also an advice book to help others realize and maximize life's joy. *Lunch will be served.*

Free Children's Program



Here Is the World is a joyous celebration of the Jewish holidays throughout the year for young children. From lighting the menorah for Chanukah, shaking a grogger for Purim, and sounding the shofar for Rosh Hashanah, the joy and significance of each holiday comes to life in this beautiful book. Join Lesléa Newman, PJ Library author of more than 50 books, for morning snacks and story time!

LESLÉA NEWMAN

*Here is the World: A Year of Jewish
Holidays*

Sunday, November 9, 9:30 a.m.

Free admission, tickets required.
Children must be accompanied by an
adult. Ages 4-7.

In Partnership with PJ Library





DR. ELANA SZTOKMAN

The War on Women in Israel: A Story of Religious Radicalism and the Women Fighting for Freedom

Sunday, November 9, 1:00 p.m.

Ticket price: \$12

Co-Sponsored by Temple Beth Ami and The Embassy of Israel

In this stunning exposé, award-winning author and leading Jewish women's advocate Dr. Elana Sztokman reveals the struggles of Israeli women against increasing oppression. Sztokman is the former executive director of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, and a leading author and activist on the issue of religious feminism in Jewish life. Her first book, *The Men's Section: Orthodox Jewish Men in an Egalitarian World*, won the 2012 National Jewish Book Council Award.



JOSHUA SAFRAN

Free Spirit: Growing Up On the Road and Off the Grid

Sunday, November 9, 5:30 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$20

Sponsored by Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse (JCADA)



Safran was born to a coven of lesbian witches in a Haight-Ashbury commune, spent his childhood hitchhiking and surviving the elements and a violent alcoholic stepfather from El Salvador and, against all odds, found his way to Orthodox Judaism and law school. An author, attorney, occasional rabbi, and nationally recognized advocate for survivors of domestic violence and the wrongfully imprisoned, Safran's compelling and inspirational story has been heard around the world. *Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.*

DR. JOEL HOFFMAN

The Bible's Cutting Room Floor: The Holy Scriptures Missing From Your Bible

Monday, November 10, 12:00 Noon

Ticket price: \$12



Acclaimed author Dr. Joel Hoffman gives us the stories and other texts that didn't make it into the Bible, even though they offer penetrating insight into the Bible and its teachings. Dr. Hoffman deftly brings these and other ancient scriptural texts to life, exploring how they offer new answers to some of the most fundamental and universal questions of life. An impressive blend of history, linguistics and religious scholarship, *The Bible's Cutting Room Floor* reveals what's missing from your Bible.

FREE MOVIE NIGHT



SALINGER

Produced by PBS American Masters

Monday, November 10, 7:30 p.m.

Free admission, ticket required.

An unprecedented look inside the private world of J.D. Salinger, the reclusive author of *The Catcher in the Rye*. SALINGER features interviews with 150 subjects, including Salinger's friends and colleagues who have never spoken on the record before, as well as film footage, photographs and other material that has never been seen.



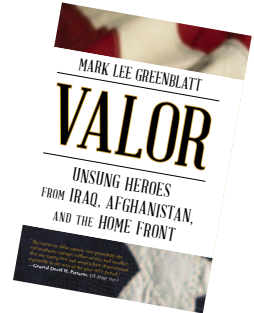
MARK LEE GREENBLATT

Valor: Unsung Heroes from Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Home Front

Tuesday, November 11, 12:00 Noon

Valor features the thrilling stories that are the fruit of Mark Lee Greenblatt's interviews with brave American servicemen from 21st century wars. These soldiers, sailors and Marines have risked their lives several times over for their country as well as for their fellow troops and civilians. Still, until now, their stories have largely gone unnoticed by the public, perhaps lost in the frenzied and often nasty debate surrounding those conflicts. Mark Lee Greenblatt is an attorney based in the Washington, DC area specializing in criminal and ethics investigations.

Ticket Prices: \$12 | Free for US Veterans



Student Program

DEBBIE LEVY AND VANESSA BRANTLEY-NEWTON

We Shall Overcome: The Story of a Song

Tuesday, November 11, 4:30 p.m.

It only takes a few words to create change. It only takes a few people to believe that change is possible. And when those people sing out, they can change the world. *We Shall Overcome* has come to represent the fight for equality and freedom around the world. This important book, lyrically written by Debbie Levy and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, pays tribute to the heroic spirit of the famous song that encompasses American history. Debbie Levy is the award-winning author of more than 20 books for young people. Ages 6-8.

Ticket Price: \$8

Sponsored by Congregation Beth El, B'nai Israel Congregation, Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital and Shaare Torah



Debbie

Vanessa



LAURA SILVER

Knish: In Search of the Jewish Soul Food

Tuesday, November 11, 7:00 p.m.

When Laura Silver's favorite knish shop went out of business, the native New Yorker sank into mourning, but then she sprang into action. She embarked on a round-the-world quest for the origins and modern-day manifestations of the knish. With good humor and a hunger for history, Silver mines knish lore for stories of entrepreneurship, survival and major deliciousness. In a series of funny, moving and touching episodes, award-winning journalist Silver takes us on a tour of worlds past and present, thus laying the foundation for a global knish renaissance. *We will be serving...knishes!*

Ticket Price: \$18

Sponsored by Helen and Dave Rubin

Photo by Joan Roth





Sex and the Center

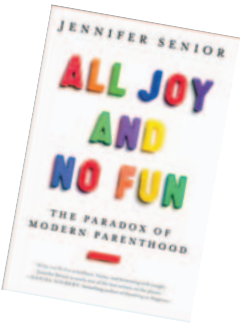
IRIS KRASNOW

Sex After...: Women Share How Intimacy Changes as Life Changes

Wednesday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.

The bestselling author of *The Secret Lives of Wives* offers a refreshingly straightforward guide to enjoying a long, satisfying sex life. Women of the baby boomer generation know and trust Iris Krasnow as a writer who speaks candidly to the issues that concern them most. Filled with edgy, funny and honest stories of carnal challenge and triumph from women of all backgrounds and life stages, *Sex After* is Krasnow's signature take on sex during all of life's passages. *Enjoy wine and cheese before the program!*

Ticket Price: \$20



JENNIFER SENIOR

All Joy and No Fun: The Paradox of Modern Parenthood

Thursday, November 13, 10:00 a.m.

Meticulously researched yet imbued with emotional intelligence, *New York Times* bestseller *All Joy and No Fun* makes us reconsider some of our culture's most basic beliefs about parenthood, all while illuminating the profound ways children deepen and add purpose to our lives. By focusing on parenthood rather than parenting, the book is original and essential reading for mothers and fathers of today—and tomorrow. Award-winning journalist Jennifer Senior is a contributing editor at *New York Magazine* and her work has been featured on *American Morning*, *Anderson Cooper 360*, *Good Morning America* and *Today*.

Ticket Price: \$12

In Partnership with the Bender-Dosik Parenting Center and PJ Library

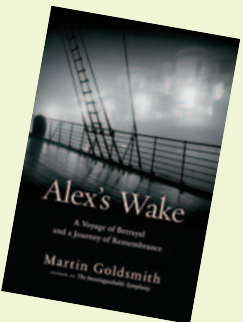


Photo by Amy Roach

MARTIN GOLDSMITH

Alex's Wake: A Voyage of Betrayal and a Journey of Remembrance

Thursday, November 13, 12:00 p.m.

Martin Goldsmith details his six-week quest to retrace the journey his grandfather and his uncle made from the *St. Louis* to Auschwitz. It is a contemporary travelogue and a heartfelt memoir of a second-generation American Jew trying to make sense of his heritage and to escape the burden of guilt he long thought was his sole inheritance. Martin Goldsmith, author of *The Inextinguishable Symphony*, is the host and classical music programmer for SiriusXM Radio's *Symphony Hall* and hosted NPR's *Performance Today* from 1989 to 1999.

Ticket Price: \$12



Photo credit: Michael Paternostro

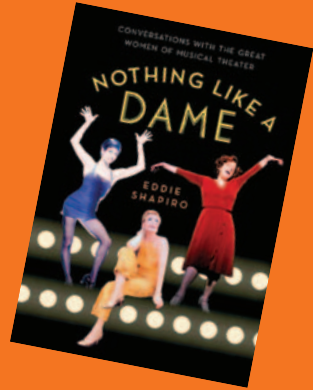
EDDIE SHAPIRO

Nothing Like a Dame: Conversations with the Great Women of Musical Theater

Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$25

In *Nothing Like a Dame*, theater journalist Eddie Shapiro opens a jewelry box full of glittering surprises, through in-depth conversations with 20 leading women of Broadway. This fascinating collection reveals the artistic genius and human experience of the women who have made Broadway musicals more popular than ever--a must for anyone who loves the theater!



New York Night: Shows, Schmooze and Snacks

Special Combo Price: Come to both programs for \$40.

Your favorite NY themed snacks will be featured between these programs.

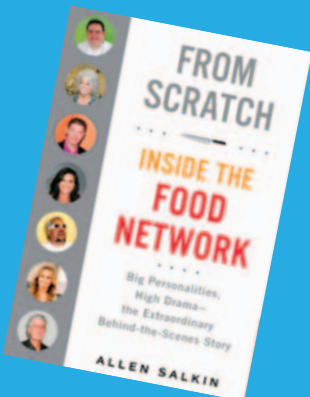
ALLEN SALKIN

From Scratch: Inside the Food Network

Thursday, November 13, 8:15 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$25

Sponsored by Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman



Allen Salkin takes you on a hilarious and informative journey through the network you can't stop watching. How did the *Barefoot Contessa* almost end up never getting on TV? Did Julia Child really love McDonald's french fries? Is Martha Stewart really mean? Is Guy Fieri for real? What are Giada, Bobby and Paula Deen really like? Bring your questions and Allen will deliver the answers!

9th Annual Book Club Brunch

SUSAN JANE GILMAN

Photo credit: François Bourru

The Ice Cream Queen of Orchard Street

Friday, November 14, 10:30 a.m.

Our annual brunch features the captivating story of ice cream queen Lillian Dunkle. A young Russian immigrant, Dunkle is all at once pathetic, sarcastic, ambitious and bold. As a poor immigrant becomes the ice cream queen, the story provides historical insights on the development and franchising of the ice cream industry. Gilman is the acclaimed author of several books and has written commentary for *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Ms. Magazine*. *Book Club Brunchers will be treated to a healthy portion of laughter and ice cream!*

Ticket Price: \$40, includes book

Sponsored by The Sisterhood of Congregation B'nai Tzedek



Breakfast and Baseball

J.B. BERNSTEIN

Photo credit: Jeff Gale

Million Dollar Arm: Sometimes to Win, You Have to Change the Game

Sunday, November 16, 10:00 a.m.

Made into a multi-million dollar Disney film, *Million Dollar Arm* is a humorous and inspiring story about three guys transformed: Bernstein, the consummate bachelor and shrewd businessman, and Dinesh and Rinku, the two young men from small farming villages whom he brought home to California. It is a timeless reflection on baseball and the American dream, as well as a tale of victory over incredible odds. Above all, it's about the limitless possibilities inside every one of us. *Light breakfast will be served.*

Ticket Price: \$18

Sponsored by Dale and Andy Singer

**MITCHELL BARD***Death to the Infidels: Radical Islam's War Against the Jews*

Sunday, November 16, 1:00 p.m.

For decades, much of the attention devoted to the Middle East has focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict. Conventional wisdom dictates that territory, politics and the issue of Palestinian statehood are the root causes of this conflict, but Mitchell Bard, leading authority on US-Middle East policy and editor/author of more than 22 books, argues that the media is missing the real crux of the dispute. In his latest work, he makes the case that radical Islam has transformed the conflict into an all-out religious war, making the prospects for peace even more precarious.

Ticket Price: \$12

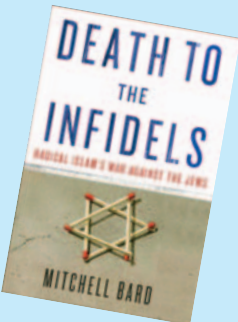
Sponsored by *Washington Jewish Week*



Photo credit: Hannah Young

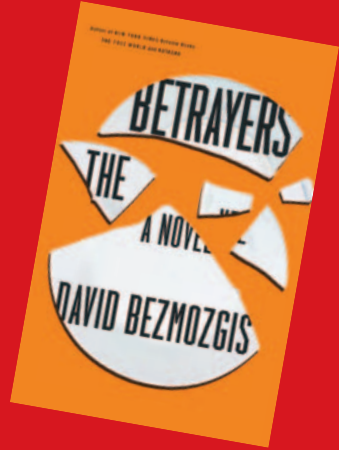
DAVID BEZMOZGIS

The Betrayers

Sunday, November 16, 5:00 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$36, includes book

Bezmozgis has rendered a story for the ages, an inquest into the nature of fate and consequence, love and forgiveness. *The Betrayers* is a high-wire act, a powerful tale of morality and sacrifice that will haunt readers long after they turn the final page. Bezmozgis was heralded by *The New Yorker* as one of the best “20 under 40” fiction writers in 2010, and both of his previous books were *New York Times* Notable Books of the year. This is a must-see event!



From Russia With Love...

Special Combo Pricing: Come to both programs for \$50.

Join us for vodka tasting and other Russian delicacies between the Russian programs for the evening.

LEV GOLINKIN

A Backpack, A Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka

Sunday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$25

Sponsored by Adele and Roy Igersheim



In the twilight of the Cold War, 9-year old Lev Golinkin and his family cross the Soviet border with only ten suitcases, \$600 and the vague promise of help awaiting in Vienna. Golinkin gives an unforgettable first-person account of real life in the unpredictable and turbulent pre-independent Ukraine. His search for identity, set against the relentless currents of history, is more than a memoir – it is a portrait of a lost era.

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