

# ST. LOUIS JEWISH BOOK Festival ST. LOUIS JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 4 – 16, 2018 | Plus bookend author events throughout the year

### FEATURING NPR'S PETER SAGAL AND MORE THAN 35 PREMIER AUTHORS





The St. Louis Jewish Book Festival is excited to celebrate our 40th year by bringing back some "Festival Favorites!" Look for this icon next to authors who are excited to make their return to St. Louis.



St. Louis Jewish Book Festival

All events take place in the Carl & Helene Mirowitz Performing Arts & Banquet Center unless otherwise noted.

Jewish Community Center, Staenberg Family Complex, 2 Millstone Campus Drive, St. Louis Missouri 63146



# Premier Pass | \$110

\$680 Value!

Entry into all Festival programs, including the keynote speaker, the November Festival – featuring Jewish authors and books of Jewish content – and bookend events year round.

#### DON'T FORGET TO RSVP BY NOV. 1

Including Premier Pass Holders

#### The following events require an RSVP:

Sports Night November 6
Sarge November 10
40th Celebration November 11
Dennis Turner November 13
Andy Theising November 15
Women's Night November 15

#### The following sponsor events require an RSVP:

Sponsor Reception after Peter Sagal November 4
Sponsor Dinner November 11



#### **FREE Student Tickets**

Available to junior high, high school and college students who show a current ID at the door of any author program.

# Four ways to purchase tickets



Charge by phone **314-442-3299** 



In person

Box Office

2 Millstone Campus Dr.



Order online stljewishbookfestival.org



Printable order form **stljewishbookfestival.org** 

Please Note: All Festival ticket and book sales are final. No refunds or exchanges. Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs may be subject to change or rescheduling. Every effort will be made to reschedule or replace a cancelled author. The J will not be liable for non-appearance of any scheduled author or performer. Check Festival hotline 314.442.3299 or stilewishbookfestival.org for any schedule changes.

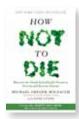
# FALL BOOKEND EVENTS

INCLUDED WITH PREMIER PASS

#### DR. MICHAEL GREGER

Thursday, October 4 at 7:30pm | \$40





The American Parkinson Disease Association - Greater St. Louis Chapter presents the Elliot & Mary Ann Stein Speaker Series featuring Dr. Michael Greger, M.D. FACLM, a physician, New York Times bestselling author, and internationally recognized professional speaker on a number of important public health issues. How Not to Die reveals the groundbreaking scientific evidence behind the only diet that can prevent and reverse many of the causes of diseaserelated death. Dr. Michael Greger, examines the fifteen top causes of death in America and explains how nutritional and lifestyle interventions can sometimes trump prescription pills and other pharmaceutical and surgical approaches, freeing us to live healthier lives.

Sponsored by The American Parkinson Disease Association – Greater St. Louis Chapter

**Takes place at Congregation Shaare Emeth,** 11645 Ladue Road, 63141

#### **HOWARD SCHWARTZ**

Thursday, October 25 at 7:00pm | FREE





Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav is widely recognized as the greatest Jewish storyteller of all time. Until now, only thirteen of his stories were widely documented, but folklorist Howard Schwartz has located dozens of his other tales. collected here in A Palace of Pearls: The Stories of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav for the first time in English. RSVP required by October 18.

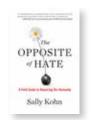
In partnership with the Center for Jewish Learning. Sponsored by the Saul Brodsky Jewish Community Library.

Takes place at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis - 12 Millstone Campus Drive, 63146.

#### **SALLY KOHN**

Tuesday, October 30 at 7:00pm | \$20





In The Opposite of Hate, writer, activist and CNN political commentator Sally Kohn talks to leading scientists and researchers, investigating the evolutionary and cultural roots of hate and how simple incivility can be a gateway to much worse. She travels to Rwanda, the Middle East, and across the United States, introducing us to terrorists, white supremacists, and even some of her own Twitter trolls, drawing surprising lessons from these dramatic examples, including inspiring stories of those who left hate behind. As Kohn boldly confronts her own shameful moments, whether it's the girl she bullied as a child or her own deep partisan resentment, she points the way toward change.

Sponsored by Dana & Barry Sandweiss

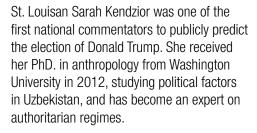
#### SARAH KENDZIOR

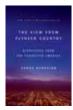
Saturday, November 3 at 7:00pm | \$20

Interviewed by Wendy Jaffe, Representing Booksource









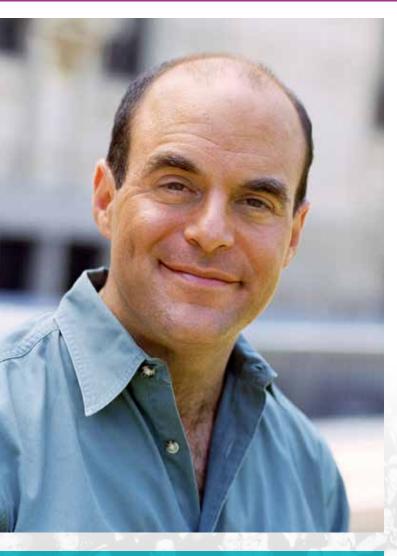
The View From Flyover Country, a New York Times bestseller, is a "clear-eyed account of the realities of life in America's overlooked heartland." Her writings have focused on authoritarian tactics, racism, xenophobia, voting rights, geographical and economic inequality, and the media, specifically how the internet affects political mobilization, self-expression and trust.

Sponsored by Booksource

# Sunday, November 4

Keynote Speaker

# PETER SAGAL



7:00pm | \$45

Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

#### As the host of National Public Radio's

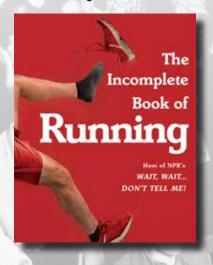
#### Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me!,

Peter Sagal is heard by more than three million people every week, on 450 public radio stations nationwide and via a popular podcast. The show received the prestigious Peabody Award in 2008, the same year it celebrated its 10th Anniversary. The hour-long show has captivated news junkies across the country with its lighthearted approach to current events, and has become the biggest and most beloved weekend radio phenomenon since *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Sagal is also the host of PBS' new series, *Constitution USA*. The show follows him as he travels across country – on a Harley-Davidson Road King – to find out where the Constitution lives, how it works, its history and its vital relevance today.

A native of Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, Sagal attended Harvard University, and has worked as a literary manager for a regional theater, a stage director, an actor, an extra in a Michael Jackson video ("Remember the Time"), travel writer, an essayist and a staff writer for a motorcycle magazine. He is the author of numerous plays that have been performed in large and small theaters around the country and abroad. He has also written a number of screenplays, including an original screenplay that became, without his knowledge, the basis for *Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights*.

Sagal is a radio host, author, humorist and commentator on current events with a remarkably eclectic career and an inquiring mind. Peter Sagal is also the author of a new book, *The Incomplete Book to Running*. He lives in Chicago with his wife and three daughters.



# Monday, November 5

# ROSE LEVY BERANBAUM

1:00pm | \$20

In this book of no-fuss recipes everyone should know, trusted baking expert and three-time winner of a James Beard Award, Rose Levy Beranbaum guides you through every recipe for can't-fail results — with a streamlined, simplified approach and more than 600 mouthwatering and instructive photos. Throughout *Rose's Baking Basics*, Rose shares her unique tips and methods for unlocking the secrets to the best flavors and foolproof results, for a treasury of essential recipes you'll use forever.

Author's treats will be served.

Sponsored by The Rubin Family Foundation

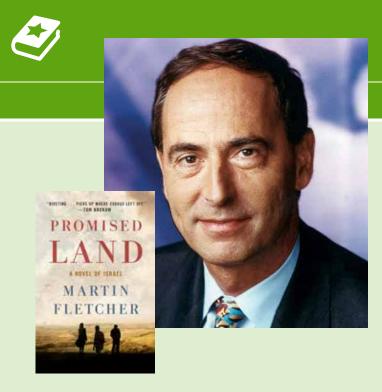


# MARTIN FLETCHER

#### 7:00pm | \$20

The tumultuous early years of the young Jewish state are brought to vivid life through the eyes of two German Jewish brothers in *Promised Land*. Arie survived the Holocaust in Europe. Peter, one year older, was chosen for the Kindertransport and sent to America. They find each other again in Israel, knowing everyone else in their family has been murdered. The brothers' jealousies and intrigues are mirrored by the young nation's very own struggles to survive. Author Martin Fletcher spent many years as the NBC News Bureau Chief in Tel Aviv and has won many awards, including five Emmys.

Sponsored by Sidney Guller, Howard Hearsh in loving memory of Betty Hearsh, Terry & Harvey Hieken, Phyllis & Stephen Kamenetzky, Felicia & Steve Malter, Judi Scissors & Sam Broh



# **NOVEMBER BOOKSTORE** HOURS

Saturday, November 3 6:30 – 9:00pm **OPENING NIGHT** Sunday, November 4 6:30 - 9:00pm 12:30 - 3:00pmMonday, November 5 6:30 - 9:00pm 10:00am - 3:00pm Tuesday, November 6 6:30 - 9:00pm10:00am - 3:00pm Wednesday, November 7 6:30 - 9:00pm 10:00am - 3:00pm Thursday, November 8 6:30 - 9:00pm Friday, November 9 10:00am - 3:00pm Saturday, November 10 6:30 - 9:00pmSunday, November 11 closed 10:00am - 3:00pm Monday, November 12 6:30 - 9:00pm10:00am - 3:00pm

Tuesday, November 13

6:30 - 9:00pm

Wednesday, November 14

10:00am - 3:00pm

6:30 - 9:00pm

Thursday, November 15

10:00am - 3:00pm

6:30 - 9:00pm

Friday, November 16 10:00am – 3:00pm

#### AUTHOR'S ALLEY – THE FESTIVAL BOOKSTORE

Located in the A&E Building Beit Midrash, right off the Main Lobby. Featuring all the authors' latest titles and books by local Jewish authors, too!

> Visit stljewishbookfestival.org to preorder books

#### Purchase three books at one time and save 10%

Not valid on bargain books



Can't Be Here? Order a personalized, autographed book from the author of your choice. Call 314.442.3299 to arrange for signed books.

#### REBECCA ERBELDING

10:30am | \$20



America has long been criticized for refusing to give harbor to the Jews during World War II as Hitler and the Nazis closed in. Rescue Board tells the extraordinary unknown story of the War Refugee Board, FDR's unpublicized effort late in the war to save the remaining Jews. Author Rebecca Erbelding is an archivist, curator and historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.



Sponsored by Berger Memorial Chapel / Richard & Linda Stein and Emily Stein MacDonald, Rosalie & Jerome Brasch. Silk Foundation (Susan Godwin Kofkoff & Richard Kofkoff, Gary Godwin & Deborah Godwin)

#### **JAMIE BERNSTEIN**

1:00pm | \$20



The oldest daughter of revered composer/conductor Leonard Bernstein offers a rare look at her father on the centennial of his birth in a deeply intimate and broadly evocative memoir. In Famous Father Girl, Bernstein mines the emotional depths of her childhood and invites us into her family's private world. Deeply moving and often hilarious, Bernstein's beautifully written memoir is a great American story about one of the greatest Americans of the modern age.



Sponsored by Gallop Family Foundation, Marsha & David Soshnik, Webster University



# Tuesday, November 6

#### **SPORTS NIGHT**

7:00pm | \$25 | RSVP by November 1

Moderator: Randy Karraker, 101 ESPN Radio | Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium



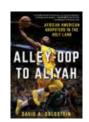
#### **BENJAMIN HOCHMAN**

The Big 50: St. Louis Cardinals is an amazing, full-color look at the 50 men and moments that make the Cardinals the Cardinals. St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist Benjamin Hochman recounts the living history of the team, counting down from No. 50 to No. 1. Learn about and revisit the remarkable stories, featuring greats like Stan Musial, Bob Gibson, Mark McGwire, Albert Pujols and Yadier Molina.



#### DAVID GOLDSTEIN

Alley-Oop to Aliyah: African American Hoopsters in the Holy Land chronicles four decades of African Americans travelling to Israel to play professional basketball. In that time, more than 800 have made the journey, many of whom have fallen in love with the country and chosen to return year after year. Alley-Oop to Aliyah examines how they end up in Israel in the first place, the multitude of distinctive aspects of their lives there, the challenges and difficulties they face, and the reasons some choose to return to Israel year after year, or even make it their home.

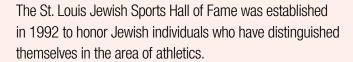


Sponsored by Brown Smith Wallace, Diane & Paul Gallant, Gail Glaser, Kuhn Foundation, Howard N. Lesser

# Welcome the Class of 2018!

# St. Louis Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Induction & Dinner Ceremony

5:00pm | Takes place in the PAC Requires additional ticket purchase



#### Sports Hall of Fame requires an additional ticket purchase.

\$36 per person includes a ticket to Sports Night \$18 per person for Premier Pass holders Reservations required by October 23 to Phil Ruben, 314.442.3279, pruben@jccstl.org



#### **Class of 2018**

Sam Broh Soccer
Nikki Caplan\* Balloonist
Morty Gelber Baseball
Silas Goldman Handball
Robert Hardcastle Baseball

Myron Holtzman Sports Writer/Editor & Author

Marc Schreiber Civic Dedication & Sportsmanship

Dr. Stacey Smith Ice Dance
Aaron Vickar Ice Hockey
Jerry Zuckerman Racquetball

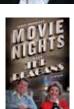
\*Inducted posthumously

## Wednesday, November 7

#### **MARK WEINBERG**

10:30am | \$20





The former special advisor and press secretary to President Ronald Reagan shares an intimate, behind-the-scenes look inside the Reagan presidency—told through the movies they watched together every week at Camp David. Each chapter discusses a legendary film, what the Reagans thought of it, and provides warm anecdotes and untold stories about his family and the administration.

Sponsored by Goldstein & Pressman, P.C.

#### **ANGELA HIMSEL**

1:00pm | \$20



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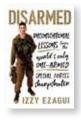
How does a woman who grew up in rural Indiana as a fundamentalist Christian end up a practicing Jew in New York? Angela Himsel is from a family that belonged to an evangelical branch of Christianity, the Worldwide Church of God. At 19, she decided to study at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem. But instead of strengthening her faith, she began to think that maybe everything she'd been taught was wrong. Those three words — "maybe I'm wrong"— set her on a completely different path, and ultimately, she found her own form of salvation in the most unexpected place. A River Could Be A Tree traces a seemingly impossible journey of faith, family and friendship.

Sponsored by Nancy & Jerry Raskas

#### **IZZY EZAGUI**

7:00pm | \$20





Combining refreshing candor with self-deprecating wit, this inspiring memoir will encourage readers to live up to their aspirations despite seemingly impossible odds. On January 8, 2009, Izzy Ezagui—an American who had enlisted in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) at 19—lost his arm in a mortar attack on the border of the Gaza Strip. In this stirring and wryly humorous memoir, Izzy recounts his tortuous trek through rehabilitation to re-enlistment as a squad commander in the IDF. He became the world's only one-armed Special Forces sharpshooter. Through his motivational speeches across the world, and now through this book, *Disarmed*, he encourages people to seek their own power and to face whatever adversity life throws at them.

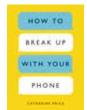
Sponsored by Paul & Betty Mendelson

# Thursday, November 8

#### **CATHERINE PRICE**

10:30am | \$20





Is your phone the first thing you reach for in the morning and the last thing you touch before bed? Do you say you want to spend less time on your phone, but have no idea how to do so without giving it up completely? If so, *How To Break Up With Your Phone* is your solution. Award-winning journalist Catherine Price presents a practical, hands-on plan to break up, and then make up, with your phone. The goal? A long-term relationship that actually feels good. In a world of hyper-distraction, this book makes the case for unplugging and making time for friends, family or reflection.

Sponsored by Ken & Nancy Kranzberg

#### **RACHEL HERZ**

1:00pm | \$20





In Why You Eat What You Eat, acclaimed neuroscientist Rachel Herz mixes the social with the scientific to uncover how psychology, neurology and physiology shape our relationship with food and how food alters the relationships we have with ourselves and with one another. Herz uncovers the fascinating and surprising facts that affect food consumption: bringing reusable bags to the grocery store encourages us to buy more treats; our beliefs about food affect the number of calories we burn; TV alters how much we eat; and what we see and hear changes how food tastes.

Sponsored by The Harvey Kornblum Foundation, Saint Louis Science Center

#### AMBASSADOR WENDY SHERMAN

7:00pm | \$25





Distinguished ambassador Wendy Sherman combines personal storytelling and expert insight to show readers how they can put diplomatic values like courage, persistence, and empathy to work in their own lives. In *Not for the Faint of Heart*, Sherman shares stories of her time in the State Department negotiating the most sensitive issues of our time (often as the lone woman in the room), along with personal stories that show how our private experiences affect our professional lives. *Not for the Faint of Heart* brings readers inside the world of international diplomacy and into the mind of one of our most effective diplomatic negotiators.

Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

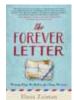
Sponsored by Eileen Schneider Edelman, Fox Family Foundation, Margie Horowitz, Myrtle & Bernard Kornblum's Changing World Fund

## Friday, November 9

#### RABBI ELANA ZAIMAN

10:30am | \$20





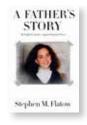
Authentic connection with ourselves and with those we love is at the core of writing forever letters. We can share our wisdom and personal experiences; express our love and gratitude; accept responsibility for misunderstandings and hurts; and ask for forgiveness and forgive. Through inspirational stories, sample letters and writing guidance, Rabbi Elana Zaiman's book, *The Forever Letter*, serves as our companion on a transformational journey of self-discovery and uplifting and deepening our relationships.

Sponsored by Maxine & Steven Mirowitz, Rabbi Carnie & Mrs. Paulie Rose

#### STEPHEN FLATOW

1:00pm | \$20





This is the story of one brave father's determination to bring his daughter's murderers to justice through the American justice system. Stephen Flatow says he was "just a real estate lawyer in New Jersey" until April 9, 1995. Flatow's life changed that day when he learned his daughter Alisa, a 20-year-old college student traveling in Israel, had been the victim of a terrorist busbombing. After he discovered the Iranian government had directly sponsored the bomber, Flatow decided to sue the terror state. Working with a superb Washington lawyer and an astute forensic researcher, Stephen Flatow not only won a dramatic verdict against Iran, but also collected a huge judgment. In *A Father's Story: My Fight for Justice Against Iranian Terror*, Flatow recalls the events surrounding his successful lawsuit.

Sponsored by Ilene & Howard Pakett and Family

# 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY **CELEBRATION WEEKEND**November 10-11 SEE PAGES 10-11



# Sunday, November 11

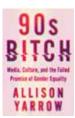
#### **ALLISON YARROW**

10:30am | \$5



To understand how we got here, we have to rewind the VHS tape. *90s Bitch* tells the real story of women and girls in the 1990s, exploring how they were maligned by the media, vilified by popular culture and objectified in the marketplace. Trailblazing women like Hillary Clinton, Anita Hill, Marcia Clark, and Roseanne Barr were undermined. Newsmakers like Monica Lewinsky, Tonya Harding, and Lorena Bobbitt were shamed and misunderstood. The advent of the 24-hour news cycle reinforced society's deeply entrenched sexism. Meanwhile, marketers hijacked feminism and poisoned girlhood for a generation of young women.

Yarrow's thoughtful, juicy and timely examination is a must-read for anyone trying to understand 21st century sexism and end it for the next generation.



Takes place at MaTovu, 4200 Blaine Avenue, 63110

# 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CEI

# Saturday, November 10

# COMEDY NIGHT WITH SARGE

7:00pm | \$40 | Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

Born black and Jewish in Miami Beach, Florida, "Sarge" (as he's known nationwide) is one of the most hilarious, high energy, triple threat entertainers working anywhere in the country today. Not only is he a top notch comedian and an excellent singer, he became a piano virtuoso at the age of five. Also, Sarge is 27 years clean and sober and he works as a clinician in treatment centers and prisons from Miami to Malibu.

Celebratory dessert reception follows performance.

RSVP by November 1.

Sponsored by Stuart & Marie Block



# LEBRATION WEEKEND

# Sunday, November 11

# BROADWAY SALUTES 40 YEARS OF THE ST. LOUIS JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

7:00pm | \$40 | Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

Join us for a truly special evening to celebrate 40 amazing years of the St. Louis Jewish Book Festival. Ben Nordstrom and April Strelinger, stars of The Muny, The Rep and STAGES ST. LOUIS, along with students from the Webster University Conservatory will sing and entertain with songs from your favorite Broadway musicals. Under the musical direction of Steve Neal, the evening will be filled with music from the golden age of Broadway to the hits of today.



Celebratory dessert reception follows performance.

RSVP by November 1.

Sponsored by J Associates







# Monday, November 12

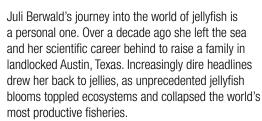
#### MISSOURI'S OWN: HOME-GROWN TALENT

10:30am | \$20

#### Moderator: Jane Henderson, St. Louis Post-Dispatch



#### JULI BERWALD





Berwald's desire to understand jellyfish takes her on a scientific odyssey. Gracefully blending personal memoir with crystal-clear distillations of science, *Spineless* reveals that jellyfish are a bellwether for the damage we're inflicting on the climate and the oceans and a call to realize our collective responsibility for the planet we share.



#### DR. RICHARD LAZAROFF

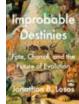
The parenting journey can be a life-changing experience, and when going somewhere new, guidelines are often helpful. In *Some Assembly Required*, author Dr. Richard Lazaroff offers a pediatrician's advice for parents attempting to raise successful and emotionally healthy children by making intentional choices starting in infancy and continuing through adolescence. With a list of online and print resources included, Dr. Lazaroff shares his personal and professional experiences and lessons learned from his 35 years of work, with humor, guidance and wisdom about what often lies just beneath the everyday challenges of parenthood.



#### JONATHAN LOSOS



Jonathan Losos reveals what the latest breakthroughs in evolutionary biology can tell us about one of the greatest ongoing debates in science. He takes us around the globe to meet the researchers who are solving the deepest mysteries of life on Earth through their work in experimental evolutionary science.



Improbable Destinies will change the way we think and talk about evolution. Losos' insights into natural selection and evolutionary change have far-reaching applications for protecting ecosystems, securing our food supply and fighting off harmful viruses and bacteria. This compelling narrative offers a new understanding of ourselves and our role in the natural world and the cosmos.

Sponsored by Gail & David Berwald, Bethe & Gary Growe, Gloria & Sanford Spitzer Foundation

#### **ANTHONY LEDONNE**

1:00pm | \$20





In this fun, unofficial cookbook inspired by *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, everyone will love dropping into the Maisels' kitchen and eating, drinking and entertaining just like them. Anthony LeDonne explores the culinary world of Manhattan in the 1950s, honoring beloved classics while offering a fresh take with modern ingredients and techniques with more than 100 recipes—from classic cocktails and fancy finger foods to mouthwatering mains and decadent desserts. With stunning photography, clever integration with the world of comedy, and a nod to eating and drinking in New York City, *Eat Like a Maisel* is a must-have for any day you're feeling particularly marvelous.

Author's treats will be served.

Sponsored by Robin & David Chervitz, UMSL Center for the Humanities

#### **REBECCA ROSEN**

7:00pm | \$25



After serving as a spiritual medium for more than two decades, Rebecca Rosen knows with absolute clarity that the spirit world is always trying to get our attention. Our departed loved ones and spirit guides intervene in our lives daily to let us know that our real-life struggles have a rhyme, a reason and a purpose, and that we're not alone to figure it all out.





In What the Dead Have Taught Me about Living Well, Rosen shares the daily practices and spiritual tools she relies on to recognize and interpret signs from beyond. This new perspective will help you better understand and navigate your day-to-day world so that new opportunities and possibilities unfold in all aspects of your life. Through personal insights and shared extraordinary stories from the Other Side, she answers the question she's asked most frequently: How can my departed loved ones help guide me to live my best life?

Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium.

Sponsored by Regina Shapiro & Paula Sigel in Memory of our Fathers Hymen & Harry "Pete" Glovinsky, Karen Yoffie

# Tuesday, November 13

# DENNIS TURNER

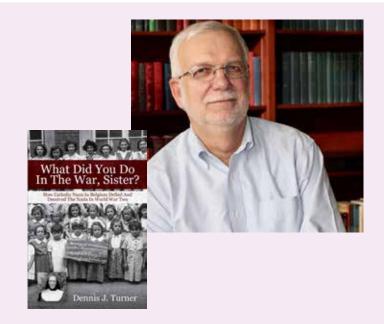
#### 10:30am | FREE | Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

What Did You Do In The War, Sister? is a fictional memoir based on actual events. The inspiration for the book came from hundreds of letters and other accounts written by Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who were living in German-occupied Belgium and Italy during World War II.

Turner created a composite character and order of nuns to give voice to the letter writers. Sister Christina, an Ohio farm girl, joined the Sisters of Our Lady to teach English and agricultural skills to school girls. Assigned to Belgium in 1939, she worked in Nazi-occupied Belgium for the duration of the war. Soon, the nuns were risking their lives by joining forces with the Belgian Resistance to hide refugees, Jews and downed American pilots. Turner's story covers military and civilian life during Nazi occupation, the Battle of the Bulge and Belgium's liberation by the Allied forces. This evocative account explores events through August 1945.

This event is FREE as part of our Mitzvah Authors Program. RSVP by November 1.

Sponsored by Judith Gall



#### MARILYN ROTHSTEIN

#### 1:00pm | \$20



Husbands and Other Sharp Objects is a heartwarming, hilarious novel for anyone who has ever had a family, from the author of *Lift and Separate*. After a lifetime of marriage, Marcy Hammer, a Jewish woman living in Connecticut, is ready to get herself unhitched — just as everyone else in her life is looking for a commitment. Her new boyfriend, Jon, wants to get serious, and her soon-to-be ex-husband, Harvey, The Bra King, wants to get back together. When Marcy's headstrong daughter, Amanda, announces a secret engagement to Harvey's attorney, Marcy finds herself planning her daughter's wedding as she plans her own divorce.



Marilyn Simon Rothstein grew up in New York City, earned a degree in journalism from New York University, began her writing career at Seventeen Magazine, married a man she met in an elevator, and owned an advertising agency for more than twenty-five years.



Sponsored by Debbi Grebler in Memory of David M. Grebler

#### ADAM VALEN LEVINSON

#### 7:00pm | \$20





Armed only with college Arabic and restless curiosity, Adam Valen Levinson set out to "learn about the world 9/11 made us fear." From a base in globalized and sterilized Abu Dhabi, he sets out to lunch in Taliban territory in Afghanistan, travels under the watchful eye of Aleppo's secret police, risks shipwreck en route to Somalia, investigates Yazidi beliefs in a sacred cave, cliff-dives in Oman, celebrates New Year's Eve in Tahrir Square, and, at every turn, discovers a place that matches not at all with its reputation.

While politicians and media eagerly stoke the flames of Islamophobia, Valen Levinson crosses borders with abundant humor and humanity. Seeking common ground everywhere, he finds that people who pray differently often laugh the same. He became a bar mitzvah at 21 (instead of the usual 13), and slowly learned how childish it was to live by decisions and distinctions born of fear. The Abu Dhabi Bar Mitzvah is his story.

Sponsored by Judith & Ted Isaacs

# Wednesday, November 14

#### **BECK DOREY-STEIN**

#### 10:30am | \$20





In 2012, Beck Dorey-Stein was just scraping by in D.C. when a posting on Craigslist landed her in the Oval Office as one of Barack Obama's stenographers. The ultimate D.C. outsider, she joined the elite team who accompanied the president wherever he went, recorder and mic in hand, eventually traveling to 45 countries around the globe. Beck forged friendships with a tight group of fellow travelers—young men and women who, like her, left their real lives behind to hop aboard Air Force One in service of the President. Set against the backdrop of a White House full of glamour, drama, and intrigue, From The Corner of the Oval is the story of a young woman making unlikely friendships, learning what truly matters and discovering her voice in the process.

Sponsored by Bob Germain and Bruce Glatter

#### SAMANTHA HARRIS

#### 1:00pm | \$20





Millions watched Samantha Harris cohost *Dancing* with the Stars and Entertainment Tonight and then share the story of her breast cancer diagnosis at age 40. Her book, Your Healthiest Healthy combines her inspiring journey and offers an easy, eightstep plan for overcoming adversity, preventing and fighting cancer and living a healthier, happier life.

#### KRISTALLNACHT PROGRAM WITH NORA KRUG

#### 7:00pm | \$10



*Belonging* is a revelatory, visually stunning graphic memoir by award-winning artist Nora Krug, telling the story of her attempt to confront the hidden truths of her family's wartime past in Nazi Germany and to comprehend the forces that have shaped her life, her generation and history.

Nora Krug's drawings and visual narratives have appeared in publications such as *The New York Times, The Guardian*, and *Le Monde diplomatique*. She is an associate professor in the Illustration Program at Parsons School of Design in New York and lives in Brooklyn with her family.



In partnership with the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center – in memory of Gloria M. Goldstein.

Sponsored by The Delmar Gardens Family, Stan & Jean Margul, Gloria Feldman & Family in Loving Memory of Rubin Feldman

#### **DON'T FORGET TO RSVP BY NOVEMBER 1**

Including Premier Pass Holders

#### The following events require an RSVP:

Sports Night

Sarge

November 10

40th Celebration

November 11

Dennis Turner

Andy Theising

November 15

Women's Night

November 15

#### The following sponsor events require an RSVP:

Sponsor Reception after Peter Sagal November 4
Sponsor Dinner November 11

#### **AUTHOR TESTIMONIAL**

"There's a particular energy at the St. Louis JBF that makes me want to write another book so I can go back again. The welcome is warm, the audience is intelligent and engaged, and people line up to buy books after the talk. What else could an author wish for?"

- Judith Fein

# Thursday, November 15

#### ANDY THEISING AND RABBI JEFFREY MARX

10:30am | FREE







Join us for a look at Jewish immigration through one family's experience. Rabbi Jeffrey Marx (Santa Monica, CA) will discuss his ongoing research regarding the Jewish immigration experience in the 19th century and speak to the Breakstone Family's immigration and the establishment of a significant American presence. Dr. Andrew Theising, author of *Main Street USA*, will speak about one member of that family – Henry Bregstone – who settled for a time in St. Louis and became one of the Midwest's most prolific photographers.

Enjoy a photography exhibit and light breakfast featuring Breakstone dairy products at 10:00am.

This event is FREE as part of our Mitzvah Authors Program. RSVP by November 1.

#### **YVETTE CORPORON**

1:00pm | \$20





Yvette Manessis Corporon grew up listening to her grandmother's stories about how the people of the small Greek island Erikousa hid a Jewish family—a tailor named Savvas and his daughters—from the Nazis during World War II. Seventy years later, Yvette couldn't get the story out of her head. Armed with just first names she set out to track down the tailor's descendants. Her seemingly impossible search lasted years and took her around the world until, miraculously, she found them. Their tear-filled reunion was halted when three days later Yvette's nephew was gunned down in a parking lot, a victim of a Neo-Nazi out to kill Jews. As Yvette and her family wrestled with their own tragedy, the lessons she learned from the survivors of the Holocaust and her unending quest to honor the islanders who risked everything taught Yvette that even in the midst of unimaginable pain beautiful things still happen.

Something Beautiful Happened is a nuanced story about the power of faith, the importance of kindness and the courage to stand up for what's right no matter the cost.

Sponsored by Ann S. Lux

Women's Night with

# NELL **SCOVELL**

6:30pm Reception

7:00pm Program | \$25 | Takes place in the Edison Gymnasium

You've almost certainly laughed at Scovell's jokes--you just didn't know it until now. Just the Funny Parts is a juicy and scathingly funny insider look at how pop culture gets made. For more than thirty years, writer, producer and director Nell Scovell worked behind the scenes of iconic TV shows, including *The Simpsons, Late* Night with David Letterman, Murphy Brown, NCIS, The Muppets, and Sabrina, the Teenage Witch, which she created and executive produced.

In 2009, Scovell gave up her behind-the-scenes status when the David Letterman sex scandal broke. Only the second woman ever to write for his show, Scovell used the moment to publicly call out the lack of gender diversity in late-night TV writers' rooms. Her criticisms fueled a cultural debate. Two years later, Scovell was collaborating with Sheryl Sandberg on speeches and later on her book, Lean In, which resulted in a worldwide movement. Now, Scovell opens up with this fun, honest and often shocking account. It's part memoir, part how-to and part survival story.

RSVPs required by November 1.

Sponsored by Eidelman & Traub DDS, Inc., Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis



# Friday, November 16

#### DR. ELISHA WALDMAN

10:30am | \$20





In *This Narrow Space*, Dr. Elisha Waldman, an American pediatric oncologist working at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, describes his struggles as a doctor in the Israeli healthcare system. As he cares for his vulnerable young patients, Waldman explains how navigating the unique political, economic, cultural, linguistic and religious challenges of the hospital affects how he constructs his identity as a physician, an American, an Israeli and a Jew.

This Narrow Space is not only Waldman's personal story, it is also the story of the hospital, its staff, patients, and their families—and even of Jerusalem, Israel and the Middle East as a whole. From the opening pages, Waldman shows that his experiences are closely intertwined with those of others. It is to his credit that he gives the hospital, its employees and those they serve such central roles in the book.

Sponsored by Barnes Jewish Hospital

#### **JOCELYN DAN WURZBURG**

1:00pm | \$20





Jocie follows the author's transformation from a typical Southern Jewish—American princess into an honored civil rights activist. Born in 1940, Jocelyn Wurzburg reached adulthood in Memphis during its 1960s turmoil. Her value system was turned upside down and Jocie tried to straddle the life she was reared to live and the life that was revolting against her former self. From the State House to the White House, this book charts her journey through sacrifice and tragedy, but also through crazy-fun situations and meetings with incredible people.

Sponsored by Carole C. Levin

### Winter Bookend Event



#### MLK DAY COMMEMORATION

SAM GRAHAM-FELSEN

Monday, January 21 at 7:00pm | FREE





The story of two middle school boys in 1992, Green explores a cross-racial friendship embracing one of our essential American stories. David Greenfield, nicknamed "Green" is one of only two white boys at an all-black school. This is a coming of age novel that through the friendship of Greenfield and his black friend Marlon Wellings, poignantly reflects racism, privilege and what it means to try to overcome built-in barriers to relationships.

Graham-Felsen, a former Obama campaign staffer, will moderate a discussion with leaders from local schools about education, class and modern day civil rights.

This program is presented in partnership with the Barbara and Michael Newmark Institute for Human Relations at the Jewish Community Relations Council.

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# TWO PRIVATE RECEPTIONS FOR SPONSORS

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Following Peter Sagal's presentation, sponsors are invited to a dessert reception and to have your picture taken with our guest of honor. Reception will take place in the Carl & Helene Mirowitz Performing Arts and Banquet Center and will begin at approximately 8:45pm.

RSVP required by November 1 to 314.442.3299

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Join us for dinner before our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Dinner takes place in the Carl & Helene Mirowitz Performing Arts and Banquet Center and begins at 5:00pm.

RSVPs required by November 1 to 314.442.3299

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Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, the St. Louis Jewish Book Festival is able to promote events year-round, featuring talented, best-selling, award-winning authors and entertainers. This leads to the Festival receiving local and national recognition as one of the premier Jewish Book Festival in the United States. Thank you for your support!

Our sincere appreciation for sponsorships received after the printing of this brochure.

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The Jewish Book Festival hosted more than 1,100 people to hear about Holocaust survivor Michael Bornstein's Survivors Club in 2017.

Please Note: All festival ticket and book sales are final. No refunds or exchanges. Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs may be subject to change or rescheduling. Every effort will be made to reschedule or replace a cancelled author. The J will not be liable for non-appearance of any scheduled author or performer. Check Festival hotline 314.442.3299 or stijewishbookfestival.org for any schedule changes.

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#### Important Information for ALL Events



All programs take place at the J's Staenberg Family Complex in Creve Coeur, Carl & Helene Mirowitz Performing Arts & Banquet Center, unless otherwise indicated.



Free parking is available in the J's Upper and Northern lots. Shuttle buses will run continuously through all J parking lots for 30 minutes prior to each program and 30 minutes after. Guests are asked to enter through the Arts & Education entrance.

#### Jewish Book Council



The St. Louis Jewish Book Festival is proud to be a long-term partner of the National Jewish Book Council. The following authors are represented by the Council:

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