The Jewish Community Center of Greater Rochester presents
November 3-19, 2013

What are YOU Reading?

Culture | Comedy | Classics

2013 Rochester Jewish Book Festival
rjbf.org
We’re 21 …

... and my how we’ve grown! We’ve got a new look with something for everyone: humor, history, friendship, romance, family, music, sports, and spirituality. As we celebrate 21 years of bringing Jewish literature and culture to our community, we are expanding our repertoire with an exceptional lineup. This year we are proud to present: a community read, a musical performance, an afternoon tea, panel discussions, a film screening, a brunch, the annual fiction luncheon, and the return of Beer ‘n Books at the Genesee Valley Club.

Opening night features comedian Marion Grodin, daughter of Charles Grodin. Her hilarious memoir, *Standing Up*, integrates the challenges of everyday life with her unstoppable ability to make everything funny.

We are especially grateful to the Lane Dworkin family, whose generosity continues to enhance Sheldon Lane’s dream of bringing Jewish literature to our community.

We look forward to seeing you!

Lori M. Harter, Director                                  Ellen Comisar, Chair
Thank you to all our generous supporters!

AUTHOR $5,000+
Lane Dworkin Family
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
M&T Bank

PUBLISHER $2,000+
Ames Amzalak Memorial Trust
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Mona and Mark Kolko
Sarah F. Liebschutz in memory of Sanford J. Liebschutz
Dr. Morris J. and Miriam F. Shapiro Fund
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READER $200+
Barbara and E. David Appelbaum
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Louise W. Epstein
Penny and Alan Fishman
Essie Germanow
Warren and Joyce Heilbrunner
Lenore and Marshall Lesser
Steven and Kimberly Levitsky
Joy and Arthur Moss
Arlene and Lee Pollan
Rachel Rosen and Ron Wexler
Rabbi Amy Sapowith
Karen and Sy Zivan

This list reflects contributions and pledges received by September 9, 2013.

Lane Dworkin Jewish Book Festival Mission Statement

The Lane Dworkin Jewish Book Festival exists to create a showcase for Jewish authors and/or books of Jewish content. In so doing, the Festival promotes awareness, appreciation, and pride in the diversity of the Jewish people; strengthens community consciousness of Jewish identity, history, and culture; and provides a community forum to stimulate dynamic and provocative dialogue.

Special Thanks:

The Jewish Book Festival Committee
The JCC Rochester staff
The David Posnack Jewish Community Center
All of our volunteers, ushers, book sellers and special guests!

The Jewish Book Council is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1943 to promote the publishing, writing and reading of books of Jewish interest. Visit jewishbookcouncil.org.

PrintROC
Pre-Fest Event!
Sunday, October 20, 3pm, JCC Auditorium, $8/$11
Marianne Zeitlin
Motherless Child (Zephyr Press, July 2012)

Motherless Child immerses its readers in the world of classical music, where powerful managers can make or break the careers of aspiring artists. In this captivating whodunit, a young woman assumes a new name as she takes a job with the impresario who ruined her father's piano career and upended her family's happiness years earlier. Marianne Zeitlin taps her own experience – as the wife of acclaimed RPO violinist Zvi Zeitlin, as one of the first women to manage an orchestra, and as a former employee of one of the largest U.S. music management firms – in this inventive and suspenseful novel, her third.

Join us for an afternoon filled with live music and memories.

The Festival calendar of authors

Sunday
- Leigh Rubin
  2pm
- Marion Gradin Opening Night
  7pm

Monday
- Judge Anthony Scialiano
  7:30pm

Tuesday
- Kristallnacht Remembrance
  7pm
- Leslie Weltman
  7:30pm

Wednesday
- John Schwartz
  7:30pm

Thursday
- Francesca Segal noon
- Fiction Panel noon
- Beer 'n Books 7pm

Friday
- Second Suns Book and Film 7:30pm

Saturday
- Rabbi Aaron Raskin 7:30pm
- Letty Cottin Pogrebin 4pm
- Rabbi Acker 7:30pm

Visit the Festival bookstore
Open November 3 - 19
Judaica, cookbooks, fiction, history, children's books & more!

Books make great Hanukkah gifts!
All book sales benefit the JCC.

Books provided by
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
www.bn.com
Rubes® Cartoons

Sunday, November 3, 2pm,
JCC Senior Adult Lounge, $8/$11
Leigh Rubin

Join us for an afternoon of laughter and cartooning with Rubes® cartoonist Leigh Rubin. No matter where he looks, Leigh sees something funny. As the cartoonist who created the comic panel Rubes®, seen daily in the Democrat & Chronicle and more than 400 other media outlets worldwide, Leigh has made a career of observing everyday situations and then poking fun at them. The fact that farm animals often express his clever punch lines makes Rubes® popular with kids and adults alike.

Opening Night & Dessert Reception!

An Evening of Comedy and Laughs

Sunday, November 3, 7pm, JCC Auditorium, $12/$15
Marion Grodin
Standing Up: A Memoir of a Funny (Not Always) Life
(Center Street; Nov. 2013)

With this hilarious memoir, screenwriter-turned-standup comic Marion Grodin – like Carrie Fisher and Chelsea Handler – mines her Hollywood childhood and various addictions, including what she describes as her “inappropriate relationship with Häagen-Dazs.”

The daughter of comedian Charles Grodin riffs on the trauma of her teenage years, her crush on Jeff Bridges, and how she turned her life around post-cancer and post-divorce with the help of two wise cats. Marion’s cleverly written memoir integrates her diverse and challenging life experiences and her unstoppable ability to make everything funny in a way that is both entertaining and helpful.

Underwritten by The Lane Dworkin Family
Oddly Normal is a true story told with love and humor. When it became clear that their son Joseph's school didn't deal well with kids who are different, John Schwartz and his wife, Jeanne Mixon, turned to their rabbi, local LGBT resources, and gay friends for advice. Over time, the couple found resources to help Joseph become more comfortable in his own skin, and their journey offers lessons for all parents. A New York Times national correspondent, John examines what it means to be normal—or oddly so—in this thoughtful, personal and humorous memoir. The book also focuses on the scientific and legal issues related to gay teens and suicide risk, as well as the changes in America's cultural landscape.

— With Keith Greer, MSW, private practice and social worker from Webster High School
Community Remembrance
Sunday, November 10, 7pm, JCC Hart Theatre, Free
A Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht
Reflections by Curt Lowens

Curt Lowens’ family moved from East Prussia (now Poland) to Berlin in 1936, hoping for safety amid the city’s large Jewish community. Instead, they lived through Kristallnacht, the night of broken glass (November 9-10, 1938) that marked a clear escalation of Hitler’s persecution of the Jews.

Curt was less than 20 when his family’s plans to escape to the U.S. were thwarted by Germany’s invasion of Holland. Curt’s journey – from Westerbork transit camp to Auschwitz, from his role as active member of the underground to his many acting roles on Broadway, film and television – was one of terror and triumph.

Join the Rochester Jewish community in this observance of the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht.

Underwritten by The Jewish Federation of Rochester and The Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information

Book Fest Community Read - A Memoir

Monday, November 11, 7:30pm, JCC Auditorium, $8/$11
Leslie Maitland
Crossing the Borders of Time: A True Story of War, Exile, and Love Reclaimed (Other Press; Jan. 2013)

Leslie Maitland grew up enthralled by her mother Janine’s dramatic stories of her childhood, her family’s escape from the Nazis in 1942, and her first love. While a last-minute escape to Cuba saved Janine’s German Jewish family, it wrenched her from Roland, the young man who had captured her heart. They had pledged to marry after the war, but their dreams were thwarted, in part by her family’s displacement. Janine married, but her yearnings for Roland were often central to the war stories she told her children. Maitland, an award-winning investigative journalist, set out to find Roland by visiting Germany, France, Havana and New York, and researching the history of her mother’s treacherous journey to freedom. Propelled by a mother’s memories, Crossing the Borders of Time traces one family’s escape and the mysteries of love lost.

Help get the conversation started:

Individuals, couples, book clubs and ad hoc groups are encouraged to join this “read.” Check out rjbf.org to download reading guides and more. Books available for purchase at the JCC now!

SPECIAL OFFER: Book and lecture ticket for $21. On-site book sales support the JCC.

Underwritten by M&T Bank
**Joshua Henkin**  
_The World Without You_ (Vintage Books; April 2013)  

When the Frankels gather one Fourth of July weekend at their home in the Berkshires, there are more fireworks than usual. In _The World Without You_, their earlier selves are practically bouncing off the walls, colliding with ongoing sibling rivalries, marital spats and their memories of Leo. Add to this mix Thisbe, Leo’s young widow, who arrives with a secret of her own. The winner of the 2012 Edward Lewis Wallant Award for Jewish American Fiction and a Finalist for the 2012 National Jewish Book Award, Joshua Henkin directs the MFA program in fiction writing at Brooklyn College.

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**Ilan Mochari**  
_Zinsky the Obscure_ (Fromite Press; April 2013)  

No one, it seems, cares that 30-year-old bachelor Ariel Zinsky has yet to recover from his abusive childhood. Zinsky, however, is sure that his narrative matters and sets out to prove it by writing an autobiography: While he behaves in ways that continually jeopardize his romantic life, he sees himself as the hero of his own coming-of-age story. Like Zinsky, Ilan Mochari worked as a waiter in the Boston area to support himself. Unlike Zochari, Mochari has a B.A. in English from Yale, and contributes to Cogniscienti, the online magazine for Boston’s NPR station.

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**Liz Rosenberg**  
_The Laws of Gravity_ (Amazon Publishing; May 2013)  

To the library of novels about the turbulence that resides on every suburban street, add Liz Rosenberg’s latest novel, _The Laws of Gravity_. With the lyrical grace of the poet that she is, Rosenberg explores how one decision can bind or break people. The question of whether “blood is thicker than water” leads two once close but now embattled cousins to the courtroom of Judge Sol Richter. Rosenberg, who won the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching at SUNY-Binghamton and serves as The Boston Globe’s book columnist, introduces us to three Jewish families and the life-altering challenges that change them.
Beer 'n Books

Thursday, November 14, 7pm, Genesee Valley Club, $25/$28

John Rosengren

Hank Greenberg (New American Library; March 2013)

Between Babe Ruth's 1927 record of 60 homeruns and Roger Maris's record-breaking 61 in 1961, the two players with the highest one-year homerun records were Jimmie Foxx and Hank Greenberg, with 58 a piece, in 1932 and 1938, respectively. Thus, Greenberg—who had already earned a spot in the hearts of Jewish Americans—solidified his spot on the roster of baseball's greats. Known by all as the “Hebrew Hammer,” Greenberg overcame bigotry, prejudice, and rampant anti-Semitism and became a national hero, holding true to his ethnic identity and breaking stereotypes and barriers alike. Award-winning sports journalist and professor of magazine writing at the University of Minnesota John Rosengren has written a definitive portrait of Greenberg, America's first Jewish superstar.

Special Event Details

* Business attire * Jacket required * Advanced tickets required * Open bar before and after presentation

The Genesee Valley Club is located at 421 East Avenue.

Underwritten by OppenheimerFunds/Rochester and the Lane Dworkin Family

A Special Night of Book and Film

Saturday, November 16, 7:30pm, JCC Hart Theatre, $12/$15

David Oliver Relin’s last book

Introduced by Marjorie Relin and presented by Dr. Geoffrey Tabin

Second Suns (Random House; June 2013)

In this transporting book, David Oliver Relin shines a light on the work of Geoffrey Tabin and Sanduk Ruit, gifted ophthalmologists who have dedicated their lives to restoring sight to some of the world’s most isolated, impoverished people through the Himalayan Cataract Project, an organization they founded in 1995. Tabin was the high-achieving bad boy of Harvard Medical School, an accomplished mountain climber and adrenaline junkie as brilliant as he was unconventional. Ruit grew up in a remote Nepalese village, where he became intimately acquainted with the human costs of inadequate access to health care. Together they found their life’s calling: tending to the afflicted people of the Himalayas, a vast region with an alarmingly high incidence of cataract blindness.

Second Suns is the moving, unforgettable story of how two men with a shared dream are changing the world, one pair of eyes at a time.

Featuring a screening of Out of the Darkness

Director: Stefano Levi, Germany, 2012. 79 min., English, Documentary

Special guest speakers: Dr. Geoffrey Tabin and filmmaker Stefano Levi
With an eyewitness account of Henry’s childhood prior to the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia, we learn how Henry’s family struggled to provide for their children under the restrictions that Hitler imposed on Jewish daily life. Here we see an intimate view from one of 89 boys living in a dormitory in the Terezin ghetto and later in the Family Camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. Having lost his family by the age of 15, Henry shares his courageous account of liberation and his efforts to create a new life. In this remarkable story, we learn about human resilience in the face of unimaginable evil.

Sheila Konar shares with us her intimate journey from wife and best friend to caretaker and advocate, as her beloved husband Bill, a brilliant man with an illustrious background and career, became afflicted with the debilitating disease of Alzheimer’s. She shares her wisdom about improving brain function through eating well, exercise, music, motion, mental stimulation, humor, and heart. Sheila says, “When a door closes in life, it’s important to find an open window.” This poignant book is about finding the windows.

An Afternoon with PJ Library®

Sunday, November 17, 1-3pm, JCC Auditorium, Free

“Creation Stations” for ages 2-12. Come make holiday gifts and wrapping paper. Enjoy some Hanukkah snacks and juice!

PJ Library is sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center with a generous grant from the Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation.
Spirituality - The Kabbalah of the Alphabet

Tuesday, November 19, 7:30pm, JCC Auditorium, $8/$11
Rabbi Aaron L. Raskin
Letters of Light (Sichos in English; Aug. 2013)

As a carpenter employs tools to build a home, so G-d utilized the 22 letters of the Hebrew alphabet, the Alef-Bet, to form heaven and earth. These letters are the metaphorical wood, stone, nails, corner posts and crossbeams of our earthly and spiritual existence.

In Letters of Light, Rabbi Aaron L. Raskin explores the essence of these holy letters, illustrating how they continue to be a source of creation, reflection, prayer, and inspiration in our everyday lives. The result is a unique and insightful exposition of how the 22 letters of the Alef-Bet can provide wisdom and guidance for every aspect of our lives.

Rabbi Raskin, a dynamic speaker, is descended from a long line of prominent rabbis. His grandfather, Rabbi Jacob J. Hecht, was the Lubavitcher Rebbe’s official translator. Rabbi Raskin lives in Brooklyn Heights and co-founded Congregation B’nai Avraham, where he inspires his community leaders with ethical and spiritual guidance.

Underwritten by Chabad Lubavitch of Rochester
10/20 Pre-Fest Event
11/3 Rubes® Cartoons
11/3 Opening Night and Dessert Reception
11/4 Issues and Answers
11/6 American Culture and Acceptance
11/7 Romance and Brunch
11/10 A Community Remembrance
11/11 A Community Read - A Memoir
11/14 Fiction Panel Luncheon
11/14 Beer ‘n’ Books
11/16 A Special Night of Book and Film
11/17 Rochester’s Own
11/17 An Afternoon with PJ Library
11/18 Afternoon Tea
11/19 Spirituality

What are YOU Reading?
Yiddish Tog: A Celebration of Yiddish Tradition and Culture

Yiddish Film Night: A Serious Man, a Coen Brothers Film
Saturday, Oct. 26, 7pm, Resource Place, FREE

Bagels and Schmooze
Sunday, Oct. 27, 11:30am-1:30pm, Yiddish Culture Center, FREE
Learn about the National Yiddish Book Center, 1pm presentation by photographer Arnold Chekow on Yiddish theater in the 1960s/1970s.

“From Klezmer to Broadway”
Sunday, Oct. 27, 2pm, Hart Theater, Member: $14 Non-Member: $16
Professional singer Naomi Miller performs some of Broadway’s best with a Yiddish twist

Tickets available at jccrochester.org or 585-461-2000
WALK IN | MAIL | ONLINE

Walk-In: JCC Main Desk
By Mail: JCC Jewish Book Festival, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618
Online: www.rjbf.org  By Phone: 585-461-2000  By Fax: 585-461-0805

Patrons interested in donating to the 2013 Jewish Book Festival are asked to contact Lori Harter at lharter@jccrochester.org or call 461-2000, ext. 237.

RESERVE YOUR PASS

I’D LIKE TO PURCHASE THE NEW ALL FESTIVAL PASS

QNTY  SUBTOTAL

All Festival Pass: $121 JCC Member/$145 Non Member

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS

I’D LIKE TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

DATE  TIME  JCC MEMB.  NON-MEMB.  # TIX  SUBTOTAL

Marianne Zeitlin  10/20  3pm  $8  $11
Leigh Rubin  11/3  2pm  $8  $11
Marion Grodin  11/3  7pm  $12  $15
Judge Anthony Sciolino  11/4  7:30pm  $8  $11
John Schwartz  11/6  7:30pm  $8  $11
Francesca Segal  11/7  Noon  $18  $21
Kristallnacht  11/10  7pm  Free/Tix not required
Leslie Maitland  11/11  7:30pm  $8  $11
Fiction Panel Luncheon  11/14  Noon  $18  $21
John Rosengren: “Beer ‘n Books”  11/14  7pm  $25  $28
Second Suns: Book and Film  11/16  7:30pm  $12  $15
Rochester’s Own  11/17  10am  Free/Tix required
PJ Library  11/17  1pm  Free/Tix not required
Letty Cottin Pogrebin  11/18  4pm  $12  $15
Rabbi Aaron L. Raskin  11/19  7:30pm  $8  $11

Please consider giving a gift to the Book Festival in honor of our 21st year!

TOTAL DUE:

PAYMENT FORM:

Check:  ☐ Check enclosed made payable to JCC Jewish Book Festival
Credit Card:  ☐ Master Card  ☐ Visa  ☐ Discover  ☐ American Express
Card #:_______________________________________Exp. Date:______________Security Code:_______
Authorized Signature:_______________________________________________________________________
Name:____________________________________________________________________________________
Street Address:_____________________________________________________________________________
City:_________________________________________State:___________Zip:_________________
Phone:____________________________________Email:_________________________________________
Some info about the FESTIVAL

TICKET INFORMATION: Advance purchase of tickets is encouraged.
Walk-In: JCC Main Desk
By Mail: JCC Jewish Book Festival, 1200 Edgewood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618
By Phone: 585-461-2000
By Fax: 585-461-0805
Online: www.rjbf.org (A convenience fee will apply.) Online sales end one hour before each event.

WALK-INS DAY OF SHOW:
Per availability, walk-in tickets may be available 30 minutes prior to the event.
We strongly encourage you to purchase tickets in advance.

STUDENT DISCOUNTS:
$1 off with valid student ID. (Applies to advance ticket sales only. No discounts for walk-ins.)

GENERAL INFORMATION:

FOOD
All foods served at the Lane Dworkin Jewish Book Festival are in strict observance of the laws of kashrut.

SEATING
Seating is general admission except for Book Festival donors who have reserved seating. Reserved seating is held until 15 minutes prior to the event. Reserved seating is not guaranteed for late arrivals. Remaining seating is general admission.

REFUNDS
Refunds may be available for canceled or rescheduled programs only. Due to circumstances beyond our control, speakers may be canceled or rescheduled without prior notice.

ACCESSIBILITY
All Festival venues are handicap accessible.

QUESTIONS
For additional information, please call 585-461-2000, ext. 237, or visit rjbf.org.

DONOR OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS:
Please consider becoming a Lane Dworkin Jewish Book Festival donor!

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What are YOU Reading?

Memoirs Music Brunch Afternoon Tea Film Luncheon Beer ‘n Books Panel Discussions Community Read

November 3-19, 2013

NEW 2013 All Festival Pass!

17 Authors Live!
15 Unique Events!
1 Valuable Pass!