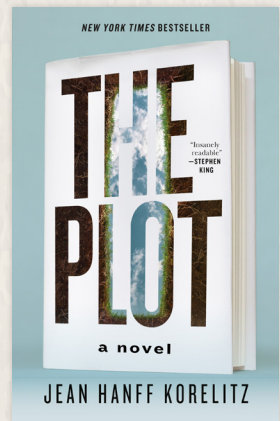
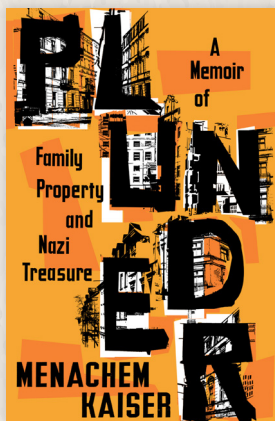
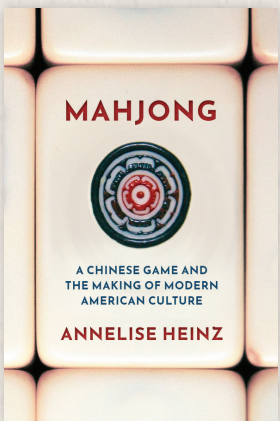
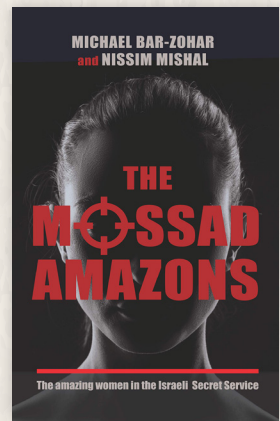
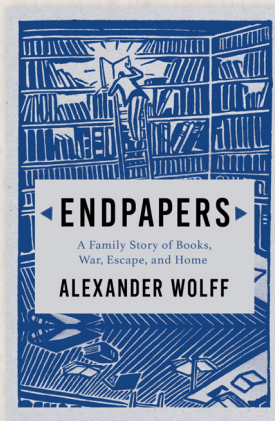
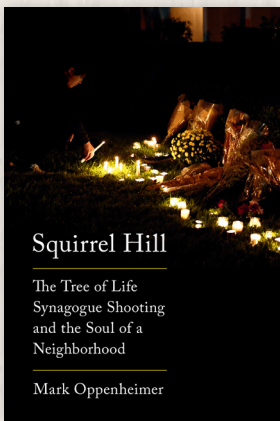




October 24–November 18, 2021



## WHAT'S INSIDE:

**Your Fest, Your Way:** 17 Virtual + 3 In-Person Events | **Historical Fiction Panel**

**NEW! Bestselling Fiction Series** December–May | **Best of Film Fest**



# Welcome to Your Fest, Your Way!

## Buy Online

Order tickets for both virtual and in-person events at [rjbf.org](http://rjbf.org)

## Virtual Events

Links for virtual events will be sent via e-mail with your order confirmation, and again one hour before event time.

## In-Person Events

In-person event tickets will be sent via e-mail or can be picked up at the box office when you arrive.

Seating is general admission at the JCC Hart Theater.

Proof of Covid-19 vaccination will be required upon entry. Masks required.

If you're not comfortable attending events in person, recordings of in-person events will be available for purchase and sent to you 24 hours after the event.

Choose the "Recording" option when ordering tickets.



# online (+limited in-person) bookstore

Visit our bookstore partner at [ampersandbooks.org](http://ampersandbooks.org) at any time for festival books and a curated selection of Jewish titles.

Featured author books will be for sale at in-person events.

Purchase books when you buy your tickets online! We'll send your book order directly to Ampersand Books to be shipped to you right away.

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# Festival Supporters

## GOLD \$10,000+

Wendy and David Dworkin  
Sheldon A. Lane Book Festival Fund

## BRONZE \$2,500+

Ames Amzalak Memorial Trust  
Deborah G. Goldman  
Victoria and Daniel Goldstein

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Family Foundation  
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## SUPPORTER \$1,000+

Kate and Jonathan Goldstein  
Rick and Sherry Goldstein

Mark and Mona Friedman Kolko  
Sharon Kovalsky

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*Sanford J. Liebschutz*  
Robin Weintraub

This list reflects pledges received as of October 1, 2021. Up-to-date list can be found at [rjbf.org](http://rjbf.org).

*The JCC is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.*

All Festival Supporters \$250+ will receive access to all virtual and in-person author events, plus an RJBf appreciation goodie bag generously underwritten by the Lane Dworkin Family.

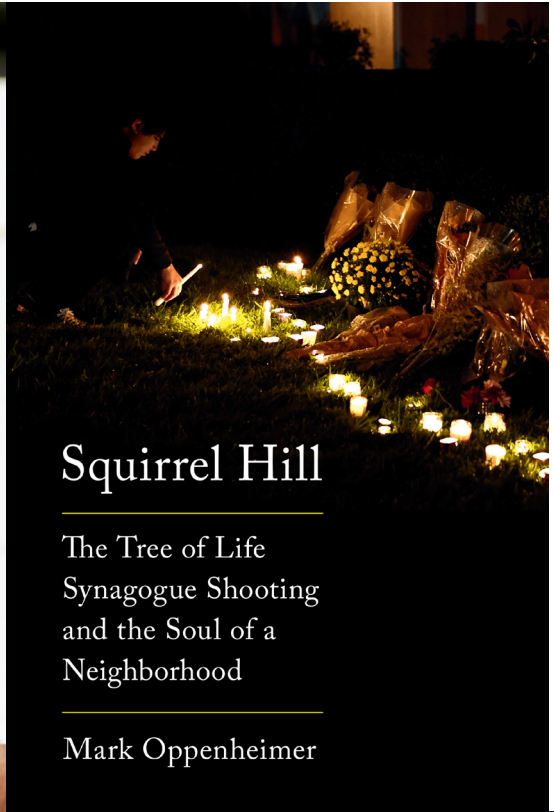
For donor information, please contact Andrea Miller at [amiller@jccrochester.org](mailto:amiller@jccrochester.org)

## SPECIAL THANKS

All the JCC staff and volunteers who continue to make our events possible!



A VERY  
SPECIAL  
EVENT



## Squirrel Hill

The Tree of Life  
Synagogue Shooting  
and the Soul of a  
Neighborhood

Mark Oppenheimer

Sunday, October 24, 7:30pm

# MARK OPPENHEIMER

IN  
PERSON

JCC Hart Theater  
\$10

## Squirrel Hill

### The Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood

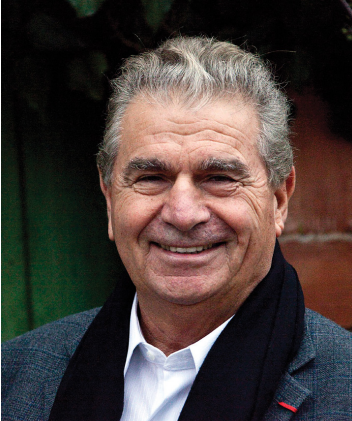
(Knopf Publishing Group, 2021)

This piercing portrait, published in advance of the third anniversary of the tragedy at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, details the struggles and triumphs of one of America's renowned Jewish neighborhoods. In the wake of the unspeakable, *Squirrel Hill* highlights the hopes, fears, and tensions all Americans must confront on the road to healing. Oppenheimer hosts the podcast *Unorthodox*, is an editor at *Tablet*, and wrote a biweekly religion column for *The New York Times*. He teaches English at Yale.

Generously underwritten by



Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER ROCHESTER  
[www.JewishRochester.org](http://www.JewishRochester.org)



Sunday, November 7, 7:30pm

# MICHAEL BAR-ZOHAR

JCC Hart Theater  
\$10

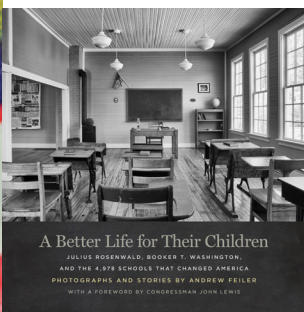


## **The Mossad Amazons: The Amazing Women in the Israeli Secret Service**

(KTAV Publishing House, 2021)

For many years, the activities of the Mossad *Ihahomot*, the female members of the Israeli Secret Service, were highly classified by the authorities. Today, the veil of secrecy has been lifted. *The Mossad Amazons* describes the turbulent lives, loves, and perilous missions of these strong, bold women. A film adaptation, starring Anne Hathaway, is coming soon. Bar-Zohar was a member of Knesset and wrote the official biography of David Ben Gurion as well as 30 non-fiction books winning many international prizes.

Generously underwritten by Mark and Mona Friedman Kolko



Tuesday, November 9, 2pm

# ANDREW FEILER

Live on Zoom  
\$10

## **A Better Life for Their Children: Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington, and the 4,978 Schools that Changed America**

(University of Georgia Press, 2021)

Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington partnered with Black communities across the segregated South to build public schools for African-American children. An award-winning photographer, Feiler drove more than 25,000 miles, photographed 105 schools, and interviewed dozens of former students, teachers, preservationists, and community leaders to chronicle 85 of the surviving 500 Rosenwald schools.

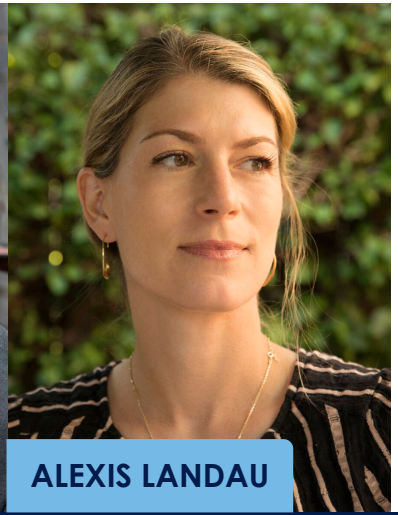
Generously underwritten by Judy Blaustein



JANE HEALEY



ALAN HLAD



ALEXIS LANDAU

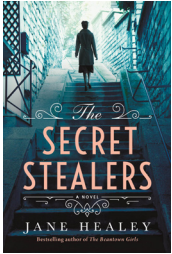
Tuesday, November 9, 7:30pm

# HISTORICAL FICTION PANEL

Moderated by Ellen Comisar

Live on Zoom  
\$10

Generously underwritten by Kate and Jonathan Goldstein



## JANE HEALEY

**The Secret Stealers: A Novel** (Lake Union Publishing, 2021)

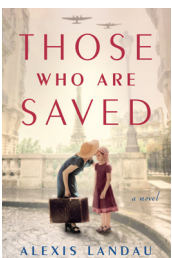
Anna Cavanaugh is a restless young widow and brilliant French teacher at a private school in Washington, DC. Everything changes when she's recruited into the Office of Strategic Services by a family friend and legendary WWI hero Major General William Donovan. Healey is the author of three historical fiction novels.



## ALAN HLAD

**Churchill's Secret Messenger** (Kensington Publishing, 2021)

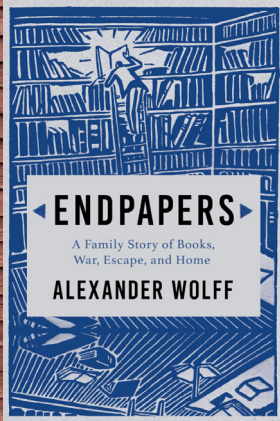
Incorporating many real historical events and people from WWII, this enthralling novel follows Rose Teasdale, a young British woman recruited from Churchill's typing pool to become an undercover spy in Nazi-occupied France. Hlad is the bestselling author of *The Long Flight Home*.



## ALEXIS LANDAU

**Those Who Are Saved** (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2021)

In 1940, Vera Voloskenova seizes on an opportunity to send her daughter Lucie to safety and spare her the horrors of the Nazi internment camp. When she and her husband are unexpectedly given an opportunity to flee to America, she cannot reach Lucie in time. Landau's previous novel, *The Empire of the Senses*, was a 2015 National Jewish Book Award finalist.



Wednesday, November 10, 2pm

# ALEXANDER WOLFF

Live on Zoom  
\$10

## Endpapers: A Family Story of Books, War, Escape, and Home

(Atlantic Monthly Press, 2021)

*Endpapers* excavates the extraordinary histories of the author's grandfather and father—the renowned publisher Kurt Wolff, dubbed “perhaps the twentieth century's most discriminating publisher” by *The New York Times Book Review*. With surprising revelations, *Endpapers* is a moving and intimate family story. Wolff wrote for *Sports Illustrated* for 36 years, is the author of four books, and is a graduate of Brighton High School.

Generously underwritten by Steve and Kim Levitsky



## FOR KIDS!

Wednesday, November 10, 6pm

# ALYSSA SATIN CAPUCILLI

Live on Zoom  
FREE

## And a Cat from Carmel Market

(Kar-Ben Publishing, 2021)

Bubbe goes to the Carmel Market in Tel Aviv to shop for Shabbat. She finds the challah and chicken, candles, flowers, and the other things she needs. She also brings home some unexpected meowing guests! Listen to this purr-fect story and enjoy some special crafts and treats!  
Ages 4-8

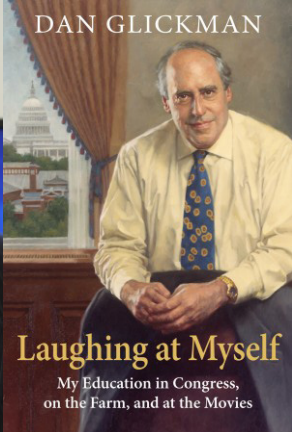
Generously underwritten by Sharon Kovalsky

Community Partner:



Following the story, we will make reusable shopping bags out of t-shirts and create other cat-terrific crafts!

Provide your address when ordering your free ticket, and craft materials and a special treat will be delivered to your home!



Thursday, November 11, 2pm

# DAN GLICKMAN

Live on Zoom  
\$10

## Laughing at Myself: My Education in Congress, on the Farm, and at the Movies

(University Press of Kansas, 2021)

Only in America could a Jewish boy from Kansas, son of self-made, entrepreneurial parents and a grandson of Russian and Eastern European immigrants end up as a congressman, secretary of agriculture, and chief lobbyist for Hollywood. Glickman, a senior fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center and an adjunct professor of agriculture and nutrition at Tufts University, pairs humor with serious reflection in this wide-ranging memoir.

Generously underwritten by Gary and Marcia Stern Family Foundation



Thursday, November 11, 7:30pm

# MENACHEM KAISER

JCC Hart Theater  
\$10



## Plunder: A Memoir of Family Property and Nazi Treasure

(HMH Books, 2021)

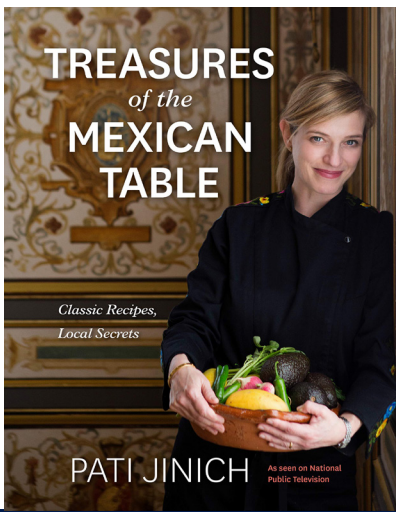
Menachem Kaiser's brilliantly told story is woven from improbable and profound revelations. Set in motion when the author takes up his Holocaust-survivor grandfather's former battle to reclaim his family's apartment building in Poland, Kaiser tells of his astonishing entanglement with Nazi treasure hunters. Kaiser holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Michigan and was the Fullbright Fellow to Lithuania.

Generously underwritten by Ames Amzalak Memorial Trust

Community partner: The Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information (CHAI) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester

This event is presented  
in commemoration  
of Kristallnacht.





PATI JINICH



ADEENA SUSSMAN

Sunday, November 14, 4pm

**PATI JINICH**

In conversation with food writer

**ADEENA SUSSMAN**



Live on Zoom  
\$10

## **Treasures of the Mexican Table: Classic Recipes, Local Secrets**

(Mariner Books, 2021)

Pati Jinich, star of PBS's *Pati's Mexican Table*, discusses her new cookbook and her Mexican-Jewish heritage and recipes with food writer Adeena Sussman.

For 10 seasons, Jinich has cooked her heart out on her James Beard Award-winning, Emmy-nominated TV series. From her new cookbook, *Treasures of the Mexican Table*, Jinich shares Mexican-Jewish recipes and discusses "what it's like to be a Yiddishe mama Mexicana."

Adeena Sussman is the author of the acclaimed cookbook *Sababa: Fresh, Sunny Flavors From My Israeli Kitchen* as well as the co-author of 14 cookbooks. Her second cookbook, all about the foods of Shabbat, will be published in 2022. She lives in Tel Aviv.

**Generously underwritten by Deborah G. Goldman**

Thanks to the Stroum Jewish Community Center of Seattle, WA for their work on this event.

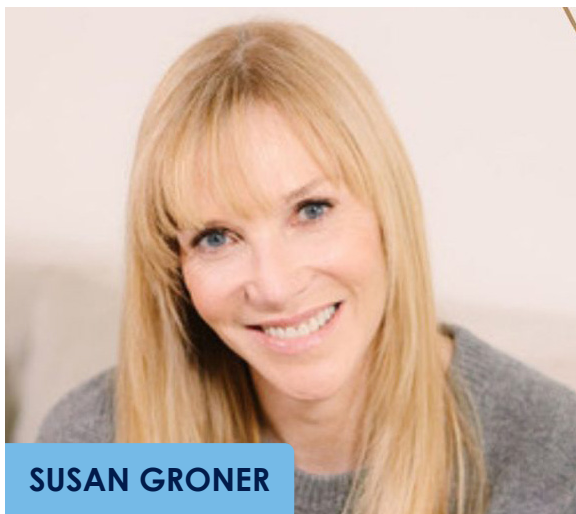
Community partner:



### **Please support the JFS Thanksgiving Food Drive!**

Donations accepted October 25–29 from 9am–12pm  
at Brookside School 220 Idlewood Drive, Door #16.

Desired items: Cornmeal/Corn Muffin Mix, Stuffing Mix, Canned Corn, Beans & Vegetables, Canned Cranberry Sauce, Canned Turkey Gravy, Boxed Desserts. Details at [jfsrochester.org](http://jfsrochester.org).



SUSAN GRONER



CLAUDIA KALB

Monday, November 15, 8pm

# PARENTING + PRODIGY

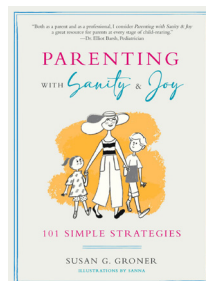
Live on Zoom  
FREE

## SUSAN GRONER

### **Parenting with Sanity & Joy: 101 Simple Strategies**

(The Collective Book Studio, 2020)

In this collection of readily actionable tips, parenting mentor Susan Groner distills the best parenting wisdom into one easy-to-read book providing fun, simple, and effective guidance. Groner is the founder of The Parenting Mentor, an online resource to help raise confident and resilient children.

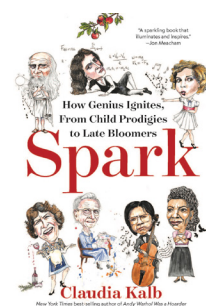


## CLAUDIA KALB

### **Spark: How Genius Ignites, From Child Prodigies to Late Bloomers**

(National Geographic Books, 2021)

Spotlighting icons past and present – from Yo-Yo Ma and Isaac Newton, to Julia Child and Eleanor Roosevelt – *Spark* explores how and when inspiration strikes prodigies, midlifers, and late bloomers. Kalb is an award-winning journalist whose first book, *Andy Warhol Was a Hoarder*, was a *New York Times* bestseller.



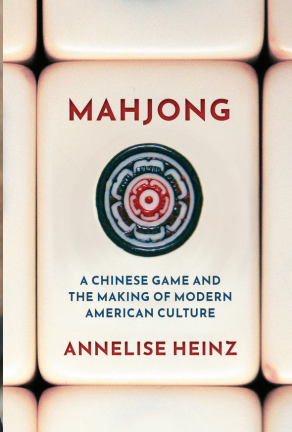
Generously underwritten by Victoria and Daniel Goldstein

Community Partner:

**WOLK**  
**CHILDREN'S CENTER**

LOUIS S. WOLK JCC OF GREATER ROCHESTER

Early Ed • Before + After Care • Summer Camp



Wednesday, November 17, 1pm  
**ANNELISE  
 HEINZ**

Live on Zoom  
 \$10

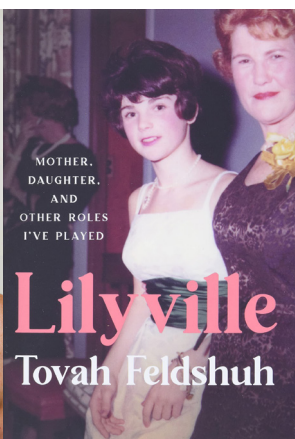
**Mahjong:**

**A Chinese Game and the Making of Modern American Culture**

(Oxford University Press, 2021)

Drawing on photographs, advertising, popular media and dozens of oral histories, Heinz brings to life the history of mahjong as it traveled from China to the U.S. and caught on with Hollywood starlets, high society, middle-class housewives, and immigrants alike to become a quintessentially American game. Heinz is an assistant professor of history at the University of Oregon. **Watch with your Mahj group!**

**Generously underwritten by Marvin and Carolyn Miller Family Foundation**



Thursday, November 18, 7pm  
**TOVAH  
 FELDSHUH**

Live on Virtual J  
 \$10

**Lilyville:**

**Mother, Daughter, and Other Roles I've Played**

(Hachette Books, 2021)

**Moderated by NPR radio host Joe Donahue**

Iconic Broadway performer and four-time Tony, two-time Emmy nominee Tovah Feldshuh presents *Lilyville*, a heartwarming and hilarious memoir exploring the mother-daughter relationship that challenged shifting socio-cultural expectations of women and shaped a magnificent career.

Presented by Falmouth Jewish Congregation, JCC of Greater Rochester, Worcester JCC, JCC of Youngstown, Jewish Federation of Greater NY, Merage JCC, Prosserman JCC, and Weinstein JCC.

RJBF  
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Fiction Series



We've got your winter and spring reading covered for the next six months!

This series is generously underwritten by Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP



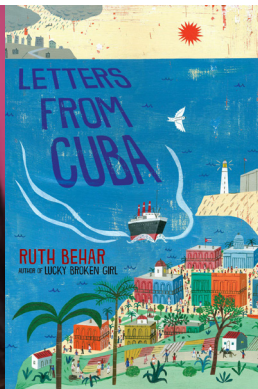
Wednesday, December 15, 8pm

**LISA SCOTTOLINE**

**Eternal**

(Putnam, 2021)

*Eternal* is the culmination of a lifetime of work: a sweeping historical epic fueled by devastating true events. Named for Rome, the Eternal City, this moving novel lifted from the pages of history is the book that Scottoline was born to write. It will be forever etched in the hearts and minds of readers, as will the powerful truth it asserts—what war destroys, only love can heal.



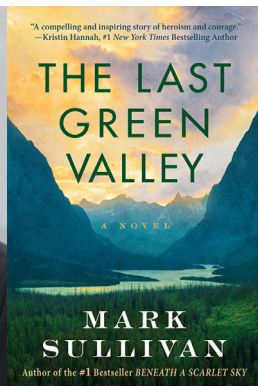
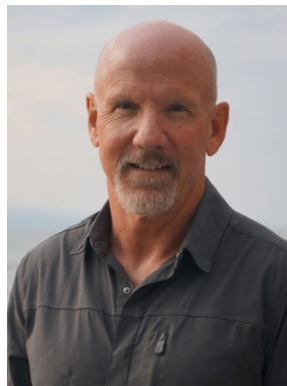
Wednesday, January 12, 8pm

**RUTH BEHAR**

**Letters from Cuba**

(Nancy Paulsen Books/  
Penguin Random House, 2020)

As the situation in Poland grows dire for Jews, Esther's father flees to Cuba. Esther is the first to join him, leaving her family behind. Based on Behar's own childhood, this compelling story celebrates the resilience of the human spirit. Behar teaches anthropology at the University of Michigan and much of her work is devoted to her native country and the Cuban Diaspora.



Wednesday, February 16, 8pm

**MARK SULLIVAN**

**The Last Green Valley**

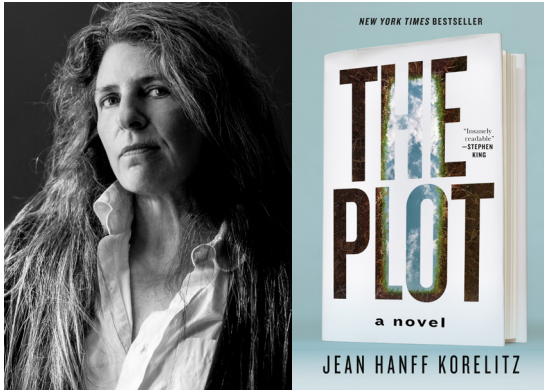
(Lake Union, 2021)

Sullivan is the author of 18 bestselling novels including those in the *Private* series, which he writes with James Patterson, and *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, set in WWII. *The Last Green Valley* mines WWII territory from a different angle as young Emil and Adeline Martel must make a terrible decision. Should they wait for the Soviets and risk being sent to Siberia, or follow the Nazis who pledge to protect "pure-blood" Germans?

Join us for this six-part monthly Bestselling Author Series featuring some of the most talked-about fiction of 2021. These six bestselling authors will Zoom into Rochester to talk about their books and answer your questions. Great for book clubs!

Moderated by Stacey Freed, Rochester journalist and RJBF co-chair.  
Order books online from [ampersandbooks.com](http://ampersandbooks.com) for 15% off!

Save more and buy a Series Pass for \$40. (Individual events are \$10 each.)



**Wednesday, March 16, 8pm**

**JEAN HANFF KORELITZ**

**The Plot**

(Celadon Books, 2021)

From the author of *You Should Have Known*, which was made into HBO's hit series *The Undoing*, comes a suspenseful, propulsive read about a story too good not to steal and the writer who steals it. *The Plot* will keep you entertained as it keeps you guessing about who did what to whom.



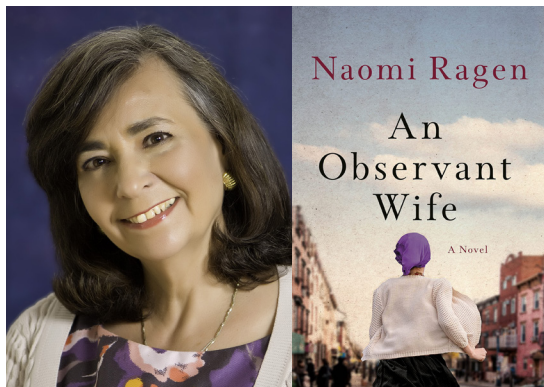
**Wednesday, April 13, 8pm**

**RACHEL BEANLAND**

**Florence Adler Swims Forever**

(Simon & Schuster, 2020)

Beanland tells the tale of three generations of the Adler family who deal with heartbreak, romance, and the weight of family secrets. Do we have the right to decide what people get to know about their own lives? This debut novel won a National Jewish Book Award and *USA Today* called it the perfect summer read.



**Wednesday, May 18, 8pm**

**NAOMI RAGEN**

**An Observant Wife**

(St. Martin's Press, 2021)

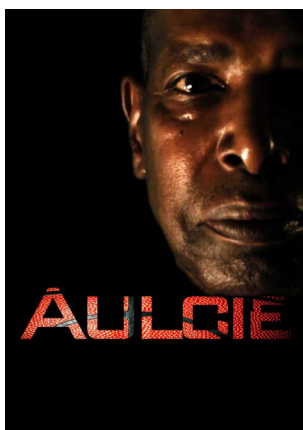
Long before *Shtisel*, Israeli-American novelist, playwright, and journalist Ragen mined Orthodox Jewish culture in five sensitive and well-informed novels. Her latest, *An Observant Wife*, is a sequel to *Unorthodox Match* and continues the love story between newly observant California girl Leah and ultra-Orthodox widower Jacob.

A M E S A M Z A L A K  
**R O C H E S T E R**  
JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

ENCORE  
SCREENINGS

2021 Carl Lasky  
Audience Favorite  
Award Winners

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### BEST DOCUMENTARY

#### Aulcie

Director: Dani Menkin | Documentary | Israel, USA  
2020 | 72 min. | English, Hebrew (w/ subtitles)

From producer Nancy Spielberg comes the unbelievable story of Aulcie Perry, an African American from the violence-filled streets of Newark, NJ. Aulcie finds his glory in leading Israel's Maccabi basketball team to the European championship, only to descend to drugs and jail time before finally finding redemption – all while searching for his biological daughter.



### BEST NARRATIVE

#### My Name Is Sara

Director: Steven Oritt | Narrative | Poland, USA  
2019 | 111 min. | English and Polish (w/ subtitles)

Based on the astonishing true life-story of Sara Goralnik, a 13-year-old Polish Jew whose entire family was killed by Nazis in WWII. This powerful saga follows Sara as she takes refuge with a farmer and his wife, hiding in plain sight. Sara's survival is nothing short of a miracle. (Mature themes.)

**Available Monday, November 8, 11am through  
Wednesday, November 10, 11am**

Virtual films can be unlocked anytime within this time frame.  
You will have an additional 48 hours to complete watching once started.

# About the Festival

## With Fond Memories of Sheldon A. Lane

The JCC Lane Dworkin Rochester Jewish Book Festival is presented in memory of Sheldon A. Lane. His vision for the Jewish Book Festival continues through the support of his loving family.

## RJBF thanks JBC!

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](http://jewishbookcouncil.org) for more information.



## JCC Lane Dworkin Rochester Jewish Book Festival Mission Statement

The JCC Lane Dworkin Rochester 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.

**RJBF.ORG**

Join the conversation on social media!



JCCRochesterJewishBookFestival



@JCCRJBF

## FESTIVAL CO-CHAIRS

Stacey Freed  
Steven Levitsky

## FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Barbara Appelbaum  
Maxine Bittker  
Judith Blaustein\*  
Ellen Comisar\*  
David Dworkin\*  
Wendy Lane Dworkin\*  
Beth Hornak  
Emma Hornak  
Caroline Korn  
Sharon Kovalsky\*  
Sarah Krieger  
Jacqui Lipschitz  
Ruth Sternberg  
*\*Past Chair*

## FESTIVAL FOUNDER

Barbara Lane<sup>ztl</sup>

## FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Andrea Miller

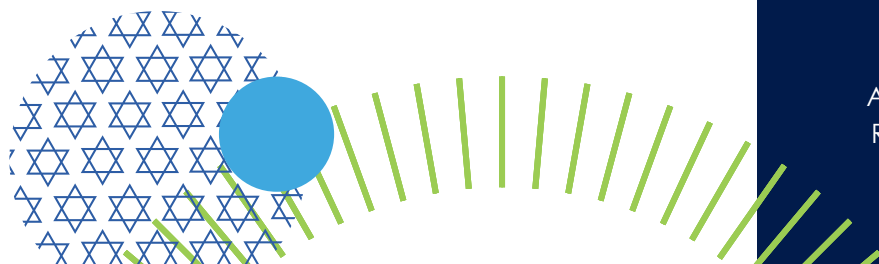
## ARTS DEPARTMENT

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JCC PRESIDENT  
Karen Menachof

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Josh Weinstein

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Ralph Meranto





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November  
**6-14**

With a script written by Mo Willems, the creator of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling, Caldecott Honor award-winning "Pigeon" picture books, and featuring music by Deborah Wicks La Puma, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* is even more fun than staying up late and having a hot dog party!

Best enjoyed by kids ages 3+

Details and tickets at [tykestheatre.org](http://tykestheatre.org)

**DON'T  
LET THE  
PIGEON  
DRIVE THE  
BUS!**



**THE MUSICAL!**

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