27TH ANNUAL

# JEWISH



OCTOBER 26 -DECEMBER 7, 2025



#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I would like to begin by thanking this year's community members who believe so strongly in our annual Jewish Book Festival, as shown by their generous participation in our Literary Circle. I also extend my deepest appreciation to this year's Jewish Book Festival Committee, whose dedication and commitment have brought together an incredible lineup for our Federation's 27th Annual Jewish Book Festival.

For the past 27 years, our Book Festival has united our community with authors from around the world, sharing books that span an extraordinary range of topics. This year is no different - there is something for everyone.

On behalf of the Jewish Federation's Board of Governors and myself, we look forward to welcoming you at one (or more) of this year's events as we celebrate our shared love of literature. Once again, thank you to both our Literary Circle and Jewish Book Festival Committee members - your support makes this Festival possible.

Jason Moss Executive Director

#### JEWISH FEDERATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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David Levy Vice President John Carlton

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626.445.0810 federation@jewishsgpv.org www.jewishsgpv.org



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Barbara Levinson

Linda Mazur

Jan McFarlane

Anita Merzel-Todd

Tyna Orren

Deborah Noble

Denise Schaefer

**Debby Singer** 

Andrea Tarr



# Thank you!

To our Advance Readers:

You helped make it possible for us to select outstanding authors and books in record time. We could not have done it without you.

Veronica Andersen

Diane Burr

Claire Gorfinkel

Beth Mael

Carey McIntosh

Stacy Miller

Karen M. Rosenthal

Lauren Simmons

**Ruth Slater** 



# 27<sup>™</sup> ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 26 - DECEMBER 7, 2025



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 10:00 A.M.** 

#### **RACHEL COCKERELL**

Melting Point
Temple Sholom of Ontario



# WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29 7:00 P.M.

# BETINA ANTON

Hiding Mengele
On Zoom



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 10:00 A.M.

#### **EMILY RAIJ**

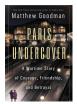
Just Say Welcome!
Temple Beth Israel of Highland Park & Eagle Rock



# WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 11:00 A.M.

#### **BONNY REICHERT**

How to Share an Egg Private Home in Arcadia



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 4:00 P.M.

#### **MATTHEW GOODMAN**

Paris Undercover University of La Verne

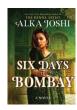


# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 7:00 P.M.

#### JANE EISNER

Carole King
Temple Beth Israel of Pomona





# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 4:00 P.M.

#### **ALKA JOSHI**

Six Days in Bombay Temple Ami Shalom



#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 10:00 A.M.

#### RABBI ANGELA BUCHDAHL

Heart of a Stranger
On Zoom



# WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 7:00 P.M.

#### **MARY MORRIS**

The Red House
Temple Beth David



# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 4:00 P.M.

#### **DAN SLATER**

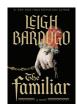
The Incorruptibles
Temple Sinai of Glendale



# WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 7:00 P.M.

#### **OWEN LEWIS**

A Prayer of Six Wings
On Zoom



# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 7:30 P.M.

#### **LEIGH BARDUGO**

The Familiar

Hosted by Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center Location to be announced

For more information and to register, visit www.jewishsgpv.org





114A W. Lime Ave. | Monrovia, CA 91016 626.445.0810 | www.jewishsgpv.org

# LITERARY CIRCLE

On behalf of our Jewish Federation and the 2025 Jewish Book Festival Committee, we warmly thank our Literary Circle members for their extraordinary support. Your generosity makes it possible to bring world-class authors and meaningful conversations to our community, enriching Jewish life across the greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

By helping this festival thrive, you not only celebrate our shared literary traditions but also nurture connection, curiosity, and pride in our Jewish heritage. Your dedication ensures that our community continues to learn, grow, and strengthen Jewish identity for generations to come.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership and for being such an essential part of our 27<sup>th</sup> Jewish Book Festival!

#### PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

Fishman Family Ellen and Harvey Knell: In memory of Lorin Knell

#### **AUTHOR**

Ellen and Larry Gervase: In honor of Mark, Andrew and Melissa Gervase

Debby and Jack Singer Mike Stephen:

In memory of Mira Stephen

#### **SCHOLAR**

Ruth Goldstein:

In memory of Richard Goldstein

Barbara Rvder Levinson:

In honor of

the congregation of PJTC

Mickey and Lee Segal

#### LIBRARIAN

Howard and Nikki Applebaum: In memory of Myra Weiss Gretchen and Gary Gilbert

Lori Gross:

In memory of Sadie Winkelstein and Rhea Brenner

Peter and Susan Ivory

Janet Kadin:

In memory of Dr. Michael Kadin

Deborah Klein:

In memory of Carl and Sylvia Sugar

David, Rachel, and Zoe Levy:

In memory of Rita B. Reuben

Linda Mazur:

In memory of Elliott Mazur

Michael and Agnes McGaha:

In honor of Rabbi Jonathan Kupetz Aubrey and Nya Fine:

Deborah Noble and Erich Schlecht

Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center

Sisterhood

Jeffrey and Terry Paule

Louis Rubenstein:

In memory of Linda Rubenstein

Jim and Denise Schaefer

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In memory of

Paula Forman Schiffman

Julie Solberg and Ted Chandler

David Weiss and Family:

In memory of Myra Weiss

Alan and Sandy Whitman

Robert Zeller:

In memory of Lynn Zeller

#### **SCRIBE**

Myrna Bauman:

In memory of Louis Bauman, M.D.

Ronni and Richard Bergman

Neil H. and Karen Hochman Brown

Bonnie J. Buratti and Kai S. Lam

Susan, Phillip, and Andrew Hain: In honor of Rabbi Rick Schechter's

20 years at Temple Sinai of Glendale

Clark and Karen Linstone

Tina and Marc Lowenthal:

*In memory of Elaine Lowenthal* 

and Donald Pocock

Gail Neiman:

In memory of Marshall Neiman

#### **READER**

Mickey and Mary Ann Bernath

Ginny and Ira Blitz:

In memory of our parents

Larry and Kristen Brock

Yvonne Chevney and Simon Saul:

In memory of

Marilyn and Ruth Lubarsky

Sarah Epstein

In honor of Leora, Matteo and Alina

Judith Goodstein:

In memory of David Goodstein

Carole Magnus Grant

Yvonne Green

Bernard Karmatz and Suzette Guzman:

In memory of

Sarah and Bernard S. Karmatz

Stuart J. Kerridge:

In memory of Marjorie Kerridge

R. Klein and G. Leong

Ronna Mandel and Dan Sokol

Stacy and Stuart Miller

Rachel and Jason Moss

Jan and Josh Pais

Julie and Oran Reznik:

In honor of our mom, Helen Reznik,

96 and still reading

Halaine M. Rose:

In honor of Janet Kadin, and

Stacy and Dr. Stuart Miller

Karen M. Rosenthal

Atv Rotter

Rita and Bob Rubin:

In memory of Myra Weiss

Alice Shulman:

In memory of Giovanna Fradkin

Mona and Randy Shulman:

*In honor of Alice Shulman* 

Tammy and Michael Silver

Steve and Ellen Sopkin

Dr. Elliot and Carole Weinstein:

In honor of our children and granddaughters

Marilyn and Ron Weintraub:

In memory of Myra Weiss

Valerie and Aaron Weiss



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED FUNDS TO SUPPORT OUR 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL.

#### WELCOME TO THE

# **27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL**

Our stories have sustained our people through millennia and does this year's festival have stories for you! Did you know Galveston, Texas was to be the new Ellis Island, the most famous female painter in India was Jewish, or that German Jews in 1900s New York formed an off-the-books vice squad to fight organized crime? Why would a book about the French Resistance never mention the protagonist's Judaism? How were most of the Jews of Italy's Puglia region saved from deportation during World War II? Listen to a Brazilian journalist whose kindergarten teacher was arrested for helping Josef Mengele, and a Columbia University professor who responded to the events of October 7 with evocative poetry. Learn more about a beloved singer and songwriter, and discover an alternate universe wherein historic fiction of the Spanish Inquisition is combined with magic and fantasy. Intrigued? We hope you will join us at these educational, enlightening, and entertaining events.

As always, these programs would not be possible without the generous support of our Literary Circle. Many thanks to all our new and continuing members.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Festival!

Shelley Klein

Chair, Jewish Book Festival Committee

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 | 10:00 A.M. | TEMPLE SHOLOM OF ONTARIO | BAGEL BRUNCH



## **RACHEL COCKERELL**

Melting Point Family, Memory, and the Search for a Promised Land

In 1907, a ship packed with Russian Jews set sail for a promised land—not New York or Palestine, but Galveston, Texas. Rachel Cockerell's great-grandfather, David Jochelmann, along with Israel Zangwill, led the now forgotten Galveston movement to provide an alternate port of entry for Jewish refugees. Churchill, Roosevelt, Hemingway, and other memorable figures feature in this innovative retelling of a failed Zionist enterprise. Cockerell lets her sources—interviews, letters, diaries, and newspaper articles—speak for themselves as she asks what it means to belong and whether a promised land can live up to its promises.

Melting Point is historian Rachel Cockerell's first book. She has presented her research in the US and Israel on CNN, the BBC, TEDx, and at the Texas Jewish Historical Society.



#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29 | 7:00 P.M. | ON ZOOM



## **BETINA ANTON**

**Hiding Mengele** How a Nazi Network Harbored the Angel of Death

In 1985, six-year-old Betina Anton's kindergarten teacher was arrested by Brazilian authorities for helping hide Dr. Josef Mengele. After World War II, Mengele evaded capture for 34 years in South America with the support of a network of sympathizers. Anton, now an investigative journalist, draws on extensive interviews and never-before-seen letters and photos in this suspenseful and revelatory portrait of Mengele and the motivations of the community that shielded him.

Betina Anton, an investigative journalist with over 20 years of experience, is an international news editor at Globo TV, the largest channel in Latin America, and has received the Vladimir Herzog Award, Brazil's highest honor in journalism. *Hiding Mengele* has been translated into nine languages.



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2 | 10:00 AM | TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL OF HIGHLAND PARK & EAGLE ROCK

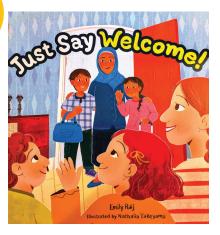


**EMILY RAIJ**Just Say Welcome!

FAMILY EVENT

At the center of this heartfelt story is the Jewish tradition of welcoming the stranger. In her book *Just Say Welcome!*, children's author Emily Raij tells the story of a Jewish family who invites an immigrant family from Iraq to stay with them until their new apartment in the community is available. Tilly, her brother Adam, and her mom personify the famous quote from Leviticus, which reminds us to love the stranger as ourselves, because "...you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Emily will read and discuss her book, *Just Say Welcome!*, with families. The event is best suited for families with children ages 4-9.





#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 | 11:00 A.M. | BRUNCH AT A PRIVATE HOME | \$36 PER PERSON

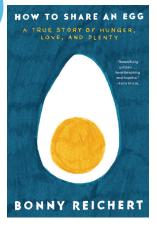


# **BONNY REICHERT**

How to Share an Egg A True Story of Hunger, Love, and Plenty MUST RSVP BY 10/24

Canadian journalist Bonny Reichert grew up with a love of food from her family's restaurant business—and her father's stories of starvation and survival in Auschwitz and Birkenau. In this dual memoir, she recalls moments of both scarcity and abundance, her reluctance to examine the horrors behind her father's childhood, and the shared meal in a Warsaw restaurant that finally helped her face her fears about writing his life story. Reichert shares her family's legacy, both personal and culinary, her struggles as a child of Holocaust survivors, and how she found the courage and joy her father wished for her.





#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 | 4:00 P.M. | UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE | RECEPTION



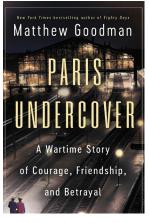
## **MATTHEW GOODMAN**

Paris Undercover A Wartime Story of Courage, Friendship, and Betrayal

Two unlikely heroines risked everything in Nazi-occupied Paris to smuggle Allied soldiers to safety. Captured by the Gestapo, Kate Bonnefous was imprisoned for the remainder of the war, while Etta Shiber returned to the US in a prisoner exchange and published a bestselling memoir of their exploits that became a Hollywood film. As Goodman now reveals, Shiber's story was built on fabrications and omissions—chief among them her Jewish identity. Drawing on uncovered military records and personal testimonies, Goodman reconstructs the true story of their friendship, courage, deceptions, and buried truths.

Matthew Goodman is a *New York Times* bestselling nonfiction author. His work has received the New York City Book Award and was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award.

#### KRISTALLNACHT MEMORIAL EVENT



#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15 | 7:00 P.M. | TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL OF POMONA | DESSERT RECEPTION



JANE EISNER
Carole King
She Made the Earth Move

The legendary singer-songwriter Carole King has shaped American popular music since the early 1960s. Her 1971 album, *Tapestry*, won a record four Grammys, and she's still performing today. Drawing on numerous interviews and contemporary sources, biographer Jane Eisner reveals King's musical genius and cultural influences as she traces her life from humble Brooklyn beginnings to musical stardom, from personal strife to her recent years as a political activist and the subject of a Tony Award-winning musical.

Jane Eisner is the former editor-in-chief of *The Forward*, Director of Academic Affairs at Columbia Journalism School, and author of *Taking Back the Vote*: Getting American Youth Involved in Our Democracy.



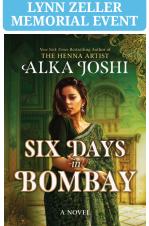
#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16 | 4:00 P.M. | TEMPLE AMI SHALOM | DESSERT RECEPTION



#### ALKA JOSHI Six Days in Bombay A Novel

Inspired by the life of painter Amrita Sher-Gil, *Six Days in Bombay* opens in 1937, in the hospital where Jewish Indian painter Mira Novak is recovering from a miscarriage. Novak dies under suspicious circumstances after giving her nurse Sona three paintings and a cryptic note begging her to deliver them to Mira's former lovers in Europe, where anti-fascist resistance mirrors India's independence movement. Under suspicion for Mira's death, Sona sets out on a journey of adventure and finds a life she could never have anticipated.

Alka Joshi is a *New York Times* bestselling author. Her debut novel, *The Henna Artist*, was a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick and has been translated into 29 languages.



#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18 | 10:00 A.M. | ON ZOOM



## **RABBI ANGELA BUCHDAHL**

Heart of a Stranger An Unlikely Rabbi's Story of Faith, Identity, and Belonging

Join us for a very special conversation with the Senior Rabbi of Central Synagogue in New York City. Born to a Jewish-American father and a Korean-Buddhist mother, and raised Jewish, Angela Warnick Buchdahl is the first Asian American to be ordained as a rabbi in North America. She has become a highly respected and sought-after speaker among both Jews and non-Jews, particularly during some of the most challenging moments in recent history. Her memoir shares her calling to the spiritual life from a young age, her invigorating approach to faith and community, and the challenges she has faced in becoming accepted not only as a rabbi, but also a Jew.

This is a nationwide online event hosted by the Jewish Book Council.



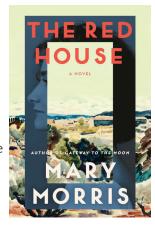
#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 | 7:00 P.M. | TEMPLE BETH DAVID | RECEPTION



MARY MORRIS
The Red House
A Novel

Mary Morris draws on a little-known episode in the persecution of Italian Jews during World War II to tell this story of suspense and revelation. An artist searches for her Italian-born mother who had disappeared 30 years earlier without explanation, leaving behind only her purse, keys, and paintings of a red house. Now grown, the artist returns to Italy to find the red house that may solve the riddle of her mother's early life and, with it, reveal her own identity.

Award-winning novelist Mary Morris is an essayist and travel writer. She received the Rome Prize in Literature and the 2016 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for her novel *The Jazz Palace*.



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 | 4:00 P.M. | TEMPLE SINAI OF GLENDALE | RECEPTION



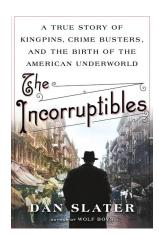
# **DAN SLATER**

The Incorruptibles

A True Story of Kingpins, Crime Busters, and the Birth of the American Underworld

Meet the "Guys and Dolls" of the Jewish Gilded Age—the gamblers, con men, gangsters and molls of the teeming Lower East Side—and the uptown, mostly German-Jewish philanthropists who tried to reform them before antisemitic officials could blame the entire Jewish community for their crimes. The Incorruptibles resurrects figures as varied as the politically savvy gambler Arnold Rothstein, the powerful reformer Rabbi Judah Magnes, and anti-crime crusader Abe Schoenfeld. Dan Slater imbues these characters and many more with vigor and wry humor in a book that The New York Times has called "unrivaled."

Dan Slater is a former reporter for *The Wall Street Journal* and has written for *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, and more.



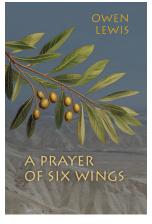
#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3 | 7:00 P.M. | ON ZOOM



# **OWEN LEWIS**A Prayer of Six Wings

In A Prayer of Six Wings, poet Owen Lewis explores his grief and shock in the wake of the October 7<sup>th</sup> attacks in Israel and during the following year. His poems intersperse newspaper headlines with his reactions and those of his family in Israel, as they grapple with the complex emotions so many of us share—horror at the suffering of both Israeli and Gazan victims, helplessness, dismay at the rise in antisemitism, and our desire for an elusive peace.

Owen Lewis is a psychiatry professor at Columbia University and the award-winning author of four poetry collections. He has received the E.E. Cummings Prize, the Guernsey International Poetry Prize, and the 2023 Rumi Prize for Poetry, among others.



### 27th ANNUAL JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

JOIN #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

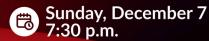
# LEIGH BARDUGO

Award-winning fantasy author Leigh Bardugo is best known for her young adult *Shadow and Bone* trilogy, now a popular Netflix original series. In *The Familiar*, Bardugo delves into her own Sephardic ancestry to craft a powerful story of finding one's true voice. During the Spanish Inquisition, a kitchen maid and hidden Jew has a dangerous secret: she can perform miracles by chanting in Ladino, the language of her people. Will this power allow ruthless men to use her, or will she master the forces within her to achieve freedom and immortal love?

Leigh Bardugo is the New York Times #1 bestselling author of numerous young adult and adult fantasy novels and short stories.

Amazon Studios is adapting her acclaimed adult fantasy novel,

Ninth House into an Amazon Prime series.









Most of our authors appear in conjunction with the Jewish Book Council Network.



We appreciate the support of our community partners who are hosting Jewish Book Festival events this year.





a novel

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



















FED

**PROUDLY PRESENT:** 



MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN SONDHEIM **BOOK BY GEORGE FURTH** 

> October 4-19, 2025 Pasadena, CA

For tickets and details, visit: www.jewishsgpv.org/jfedplayers







For more info visit: www.jewishsgpv.org

DERATION





# 2025 JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL VENUES

PASADENA JEWISH TEMPLE AND CENTER
Event location to be announced

PRIVATE HOME IN ARCADIA
Complete address details will be provided after registration.

TEMPLE AMI SHALOM 3508 E. Temple Way, West Covina, 91791

TEMPLE BETH DAVID 9677 E. Longden Ave., Temple City, 91780

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL
OF HIGHLAND PARK AND EAGLE ROCK
5711 Monte Vista St., Highland Park, 90042

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL OF POMONA 3033 N. Towne Ave., Pomona, 91767

TEMPLE SHOLOM OF ONTARIO 963 W. 6th St., Ontario, 91762

TEMPLE SINAI OF GLENDALE 1212 N. Pacific Ave., Glendale, 91202

UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE Sara and Michael Abraham Center 2000 2<sup>nd</sup> St., La Verne, 91750

#### **RESERVATION FORM**

RSVP online at www.jewishsgpv.org/JBF, by mailing this form, or by calling 626.445.0810.

For security purposes, reservations are appreciated for in-person events, and an RSVP is required to receive the Zoom link

EVENT	# OF PEOPLE IN-PERSONION ZOOM		TICKET PRICE	TOTAL	
10/26 RACHEL COCKERELL Bagel Brunch			No charge		
10/29 BETINA ANTON on Zoom			No charge		
11/2 EMILY RAIJ Family Friendly event			No charge		
11/5 BONNY REICHERT Brunch   Must RSVP by 10/24			\$36 per person		
11/9 MATTHEW GOODMAN Reception			No charge		
11/15 JANE EISNER Dessert Reception			No charge		
11/16 ALKA JOSHI Dessert Reception			No charge		
11/18 RABBI ANGELA BUCHDAHL On Zoom			No charge		
11/19 MARY MORRIS Reception			No charge		
11/23 DAN SLATER Reception			No charge		
12/3 OWEN LEWIS on Zoom			No charge		
12/7 LEIGH BARDUGO Dessert Reception			No charge		
I would like to help our Jewish Federation continue the work it does to strengthen and enhance Jewish life in our local community through programs such as this by making an additional contribution.					
 	Grand Total				
Name:					
Guest(s):					
Phone:					
Email:					
Please make checks payable to: <b>Jewish Federation</b> or complete credit card form below and mail this form to:  Jewish Federation  114A W. Lime Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016					
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27th Annual Jewish Book Festival | www.jewishsgpv.org

# TOGETHER, WE KEEP JEWISH LIFE STRONG

For over 30 years, your Jewish Federation has strengthed Jewish life in the greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

#### With your support, we:

- Keep our community connected in times of crisis
- Enhance security through law enforcement partnerships
- Confront antisemitism and hate head-on
- Provide care during disasters such as the Eaton Fire
- Uplift Jewish life through Camp Gan Shalom, PJ Library, and cultural programs

YOUR GIFT ENSURES THAT WE CONTINUE TO BE PRESENT FOR EACH OTHER, FOR OUR VALUES, AND FOR OUR FUTURE.



GIVE TODAY AT
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