

Cultural Council of
The Jewish Federation
of Grand Rapids

2727 Michigan Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506



Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids

*Jewish Cultural
Council
2019-2020
Spectrum Series*

**Presents:
Dr. Alon Tal
September 22, 2019**

**Benji Lovitt
February 22, 2020**

**Nadine Epstein
March 22, 2020**



Mission Statement

The Jewish Cultural Council of Grand Rapids aims to foster greater awareness of Jewish culture in West Michigan by providing a vast range of quality programs with Jewish content. These programs highlight the arts, learning, current events, Jewish traditions and ideas and their impact on universal values. The programs are intended to appeal to Jews and non-Jews alike. The Jewish Cultural Council committee would like to thank our supporters listed below, for underwriting the 2019-2020 Spectrum Series. If you are interested in helping the Cultural Council in the future, please see the enclosed registration form.

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Cultural Council Members for 2019-2020

Benefactor

The Rosenzweig-Coopersmith
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Membership Benefits and Privileges

_____ **Underwriter** \$500 and or more: Free admission to all programs for five adults and admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults.

_____ **Patron** \$250 -\$499: Free admission to all programs for four adults and admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults.

_____ **Sponsor**, \$125-\$249: Free admission to all programs for three adults and admission to all private receptions and special events for two adults.

_____ **Family** \$100: Free admission to all programs for two adults.

_____ **Individual** \$60: Free admission to all programs for one adult.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Payable to **The Jewish Cultural Council**
Please mail this form with payment to:
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
Spectrum Series
2727 Michigan Street NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

As an added bonus this year, the first 15 households who sign up for membership will receive a complimentary 1 year subscription to Moment Magazine

Any questions please call the Jewish Federation office at **616.942.5553**

Admission to individual events are generally \$15 for adults, \$5 for college students, and children up to 18 are free.

**Admission prices may vary for some events*

Please note that an event may be cancelled last-minute, due to unforeseen circumstances.

We appreciate your understanding.



Are you interested in bringing fascinating, enlightening, and entertaining Jewish programming to Grand Rapids?

We are currently looking for more people to join our Jewish Cultural Council Committee! This Committee meets about four to six times a year at the Federation office with the Director of Programming to give input and ideas for upcoming Cultural Council events! If interested, please contact Marisa Krishef, Director of Programming at Markay@jfg.org or 616-942-5553, ext. 205



Dr. Alon Tal

A leading Israeli environmental activist and academic, Dr. Tal will speak on *Enduring Technological Optimism: Israeli Water Resources at the Crossroads.*

On Sunday, September 22, 2019, Dr. Tal spoke to an audience of 40 people at Congregation Ahavas Israel. His presentation was engaging and informative on the water issue in Israel. The audience had the opportunity to interact with Dr. Tal and ask him for further explanations on his discussion. It was a wonderful kick-off event to our Cultural Council Spectrum Series!



BENJI LOVITT

STAND-UP COMIC FROM TEL AVIV, ISRAEL



SATURDAY,
February 22,
2020
at 8:00 PM,
venue TBD



Since making aliyah in 2006, comedian/educator Benji Lovitt has performed for audiences around the world including Hillels, Birthright Israel, Jewish Federations, JCCs, Masa Israel Journey, and more. His perspectives on Israel have been featured on TV and radio and in publications such as USA Today, Time Magazine, The Atlantic, BBC Radio, the Times of Israel, and more. During 2014's Operation Protective Edge, his humorous observations on the war led to his being called in Israel "the only reason to go on Facebook." His annual Yom Ha'atzmaut list of things he loves about Israel has developed a huge following and he works regularly with Jewish organizations to promote Israel.

Nadine Epstein

Editor-in-Chief of
Moment Magazine

Sunday

March 22, 2020

time and venue TBD



Nadine Epstein, Editor-in-Chief of *Moment Magazine*, is the founder and executive director of the Center for Creative Change, founder of the Daniel Pearl Investigative Journalism Initiative and an award-winning journalist and editor of MomentBooks. She reported for the *City News Bureau* of Chicago and the Chicago Bureau of the *New York Times* and covered the U.S.-Mexico border. She was a Knight-Wallace Fellow at the University of Michigan, where she also taught journalism. She reported on rural America during the 1990s. She holds a B.A. and M.A. in International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania, and was a University Fellow in the political science doctoral program at Columbia University. Epstein has written and edited several books including the recent "Elie Wiesel: An Extraordinary Life and Legacy," contributed to anthology collections and co-written a documentary film. She speaks widely about anti-Semitism and other issues pertinent to the American Jewish community. She is also an artist and the creator of the iShadow Project. Epstein will present a multi-media presentation based on her new book about Elie Wiesel which will highlight reflections of Wiesel's friends, colleagues, and family and provide a multifaceted portrait of this great Nobel Prize winner, author, Holocaust survivor, and humanitarian.