

Virtual Arlene Solomon Visions Event Coming to a Screen Near You – April 29, 2021

Linda Waltzman | Chair, Women’s Philanthropy, Jewish Long Beach



A full year has passed since we last hugged, laughed, and recognized our special honorees at the 2020 Arlene Solomon Visions dinner. I can still conjure up the excitement and energy of that event. Ours was one of the last local, in-person events before the

pandemic shut down our world.

This year will be different, as is true with many things that we previously took for granted. As much as our entire community of Jewish women has looked forward to this annual celebration, Jewish Long Beach Women’s Philanthropy Cabinet has vowed to persevere with an exciting new approach and to do our utmost to keep the Visions tradition alive. This year’s virtual event will take place on Thursday, April 29 at 6:30 pm.

There will be no admission charge this year. There will, however, be the opportunity for each of you to make your pledge to Jewish Long Beach for 2021. Through your yearly pledge you support Jewish life and those in need, locally, in Israel and around the globe through impact grants.

In 2020, a year that created urgent and unprecedented needs throughout our Jewish community, your investment fueled:

- Nearly \$500,000 in Impact Grants to Jewish agencies, congregations, and organizations for collaborative programs enhancing Jewish education, engagement, and expansion of access to Jewish life.
- More than \$75,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grants, providing food, medication, and basic supplies to isolated seniors and the unemployed; remote learning tools and technologies for Jewish educational institutions; counseling services for Jewish high school and college students through Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Long Beach and West Orange County; programming for Jewish college students through Long Beach Hillel; lunches for frontline medical workers; food aid for needy Jews in India, and more.

In 2021, we count on you to continue your investment. The amount you pledge does not need to be paid all at once. You can pay in installments throughout the year via check or credit card. We encourage donors to think in terms of what they can contribute each month.

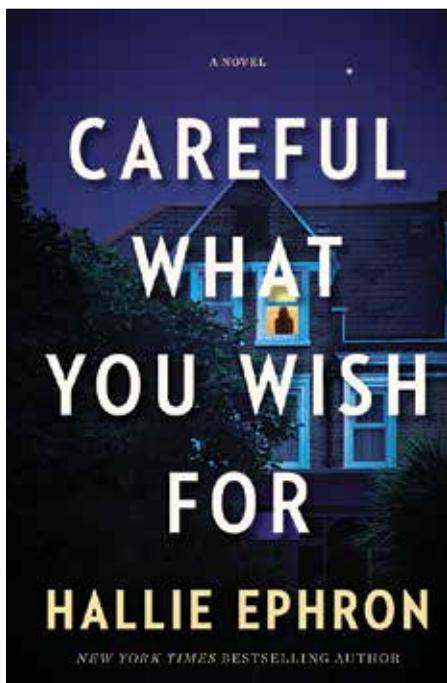
Watch your email for more details on how to register and receive your link. You can also visit jewishlongbeach.org/visions2021 for more details.

Guest Speaker Hallie Ephron

We are most thrilled to announce that the guest speaker will be New York Times bestselling author Hallie Ephron. Hallie is an Edgar Award finalist and five-time finalist for the Mary Higgins Clark Award and writes books that readers just can’t put down.

Shari Nemirow, Jewish Long Beach Board member and former National Women’s Philanthropy Board member, heard Hallie speak in October at a joint conference of the National Women’s Philanthropy and the Jewish Book Council, and was impressed with her presentation.

“Hallie Ephron was the first author to participate in the Zoom conversation. She spoke about her family and her life growing up, as well as how she came to write her newest suspense novel, “Careful What You Wish For.” This book is an easy read with a delightful story.



I thoroughly enjoyed her presentation last October and I’m looking forward to her conversation with us at our Visions event.”

With its echoes of Marie Kondo’s life-changing decluttering tips, Ephron explores the relationships built by professional

organizers and their clients – showing just how easily the lines between professional and personal can be blurred. The main character, Emily Harlow, is a professional organizer who helps people declutter their lives, yet she is married to a man who can’t drive past a yard sale without stopping. Sometimes she finds herself wondering if he sparks joy.

In a review, Publisher’s Weekly called it “outstanding.” Reviewing it for TIME magazine, Jamie Lee Curtis wrote, “Careful What You Wish For” is not scary—it’s thrilling and suspenseful . . . And I found a compelling companion to Emily, a modern-day

grown-up Nancy Drew in a s***y car and a ponytail, as she searches for her own purpose while hunting down the perpetrator of the emerging crime. She is a friend we would all want to keep – messes included.”

The author of 16 books, Hallie was born in Los Angeles to a family of writers (her parents were Hollywood screenwriters Phoebe and Henry Ephron, along with her sisters, Nora and Delia) and currently lives near Boston. She blogs daily on Jungle Red Writers (www.jungleredwriters.com), and offers writing workshops.



Photograph by J.S. Touger

Author and Visions guest speaker, Hallie Ephron

Women Make a Difference

The Arlene Solomon Visions event, organized by Jewish Long Beach Women’s Philanthropy Cabinet, draws women from across our community. Our accomplishments, as noted in the beginning of this article, illustrate the power of women to make a difference.

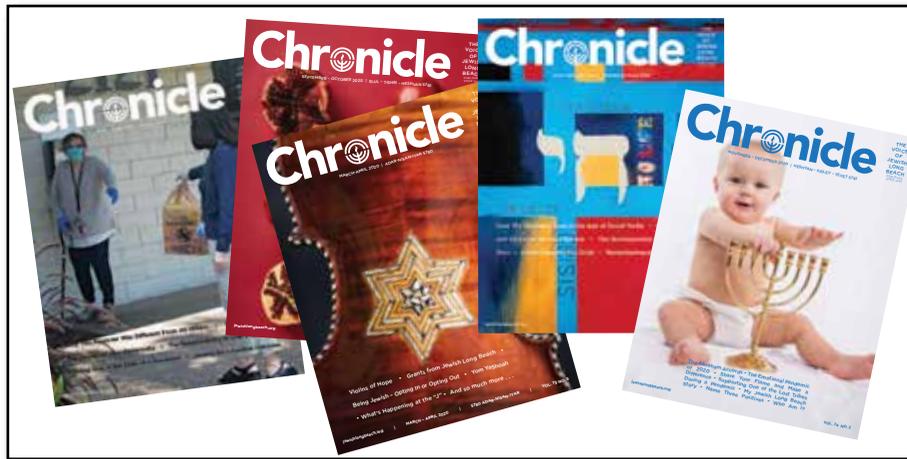


Arlene Solomon of blessed memory

Each year, the collective gifts given by the women in our community – including those given at this event – account for more than half the total dollars raised in support of our community’s needs. For many years, Arlene Solomon, of blessed memory, was an integral part of Women’s Philanthropy. She recognized the importance of having women of all ages around the table and was inspired to endow this yearly event.

The Arlene Solomon Visions Dinner is always an inspiring and uplifting time to gather with hundreds of women in our community who are committed to the shared values of tzedakah and tikkun olam. And so it shall be this year, as well. We shall do our very best to welcome and inspire everyone who joins us on April 29. We are *Lighting the Way Forward* with our strength and dedication shining through. I look forward to “seeing” you soon.

For more information please call Yolanda Placencio at 562.426.7601 ext. 1314 or by email at yplacencio@jewishlongbeach.org



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