

# Elie Wiesel "To Life!"

A Celebration of 180 Jewish Lectures at 92Y Thursday, November 20, 2014



### **ELIE WIESEL: AN APPRECIATION**

### "Whatever you do in life, remember: Think higher and feel deeper." -Elie Wiesel

There is no tradition we are more proud of than being the home of Elie Wiesel's lectures. For 47 years, Professor Wiesel has delighted, challenged and engaged our community. He represents—in fact he has defined—the greatest beliefs of our organization: the unparalleled capacity of civil dialogue to change minds, the unlimited potential of education and the arts to change lives, and the eternal Jewish values of learning, self-improvement, giving back, and repairing the world.

Elie teaches about pain and suffering, and about recovery. He teaches about despair, and about hope. He teaches about humanity's capacity for evil, but also about the possibility of courage and resistance, and about our capacity to sacrifice for a higher good. Ultimately, he teaches about renewal, joy, and life.

We could not be more blessed to be his students. Tonight is a celebration of Elie Wiesel, and a celebration of life.

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## special guest PERFORMERS

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHORUS OF NEW YORK CITY

B'SHANAH HABA'AH (In the Year to Come)



The **Young People's Chorus of New York City,** founded in 1988 by artistic director **Francisco J. Núñez**, a MacArthur "genius" fellow, harnesses the power of music to fulfill the potential of children of any cultural or economic background, while heightening an awareness of the potential of young people to rise to unforeseen levels of artistry. Each year almost 1,400 children ages 7 to 18 benefit musically, academically and socially through their participation in YPC's after-school and in-school programs. YPC has been recognized with America's highest honor for youth programs, a National Medal of Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. Its website is YPC.org



### **SPEAKERS**

Gary Rosenblatt Joe Lieberman Jeff Greenfield Eric Kandel

### **PERFORMANCE**

### **ZUKERMAN TRIO**

Pinchas Zukerman, violin Amanda Forsyth, cello Angela Cheng, piano

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847)

Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49
Molto allegro ed agitato
Andante con moto tranquillo
Scherzo: Leggiero e vivace
Finale: Allegro assai appassionato

This event is underwrtten by Cheryl and Michael Minikes.

### Steinway Piano

In consideration of artists and audience members, please turn off all cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices before entering the hall. The taking of photographs and the use of recording equipment are strictly prohibited.



### ELIE WIESEL'S RELATIONSHIP WITH 92Y BEGAN ON FEBRUARY 19, 1967

at a reading at the Unterberg Poetry Center of his book *The Jews of Silence*. Since then, he has enlightened audiences here with readings and commentaries on some of his own works—sometimes giving them their first public airing. He has discussed Bible stories and Hasidic stories, and illuminated the teachings of the great Talmu-

dic masters. He has given the Annual State of World Jewry Lecture and paid tribute to Isaac Babel and Martin Luther King, Jr. He has shared the stage with such luminaries as Eric Kandel, Malvin Kalb and David Axelrod. His first and only concert appearance at 92Y was Elie Wiesel in Concert: Memories & Melodies of My Childhood.

Professor Elie Wiesel was born in 1928 in Sighet, Transylvania, now a part of Romania. He was 15 years old when he and his family were deported to Auschwitz. His mother and younger sister perished; his two older sisters survived. Elie and his father were later transported to Buchenwald, where his father died shortly before the camp was liberated in April 1945.

After the war, Elie Wiesel studied in Paris and later became a journalist. During an interview with the distinguished French writer François Mauriac, he was persuaded to write about his experiences in the death camps. The result was his internationally acclaimed memoir, *Night*, which has since been translated into more than 30 languages.

In 1978 President Jimmy Carter appointed Elie Wiesel as chairman of the President's Commission on the Holocaust. In 1980 he became the founding chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Teaching has always been central to his work. Since 1976 he has been the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University, where he also holds the title of University Professor.

His numerous awards include the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the US Congressional Gold Medal and the Medal of Liberty, as well as the rank of Grand Officer in the French Legion of Honor. In 1986 he won the Nobel Peace Prize. A few months later Marion and Elie Wiesel established The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.



### Meet the ARTISTS

### & SPEAKERS

**Pinchas Zukerman** has been a phenomenon in the world of music for decades. His 2014/15 season as a soloist includes more than 100 worldwide performances.

He completes his 16th and final season as music director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra of Ottawa, with whom he toured the UK last month. In his sixth season as principal guest conductor of the Royal Philharmonic in London, he leads the ensemble in concerts at home as well as on a January 2015 tour of Florida.

As a soloist, Mr. Zukerman appears in the US with the Colorado, San Diego, Kansas City and Tucson symphonies. Overseas he visits the Camerata Salzburg, the Berlin Staatskapelle, the Philharmoniker Hamburg, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and the Korean Chamber

Orchestra, and he returns to Australia for appearances with the Queensland and West Australian symphonies. His recital appearances this season include Berlin, Istanbul, Seattle, San Diego and Ottawa, and he tours with the Zukerman ChamberPlayers to Italy, Spain, Australia, China, Japan and Korea.

Mr. Zukerman's extensive discography contains over 100 titles and has earned him two Grammy Awards and 21 nominations.

His enthusiasm for teaching has resulted

in innovative programs in the US, Canada, the UK, Israel

Cellist **Amanda Forsyth**has been principal cello of
Canada's National Arts
Centre Orchestra since 1998.

This past January she toured the US with the Royal Philharmonic, and last March she made her Carnegie Hall solo debut, appearing with the Israel

Philharmonic. She has also performed and toured with the

> Orchestre de Radio France, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Moscow Virtuosi and the Dallas Symphony, among many others. As a founding member of the Zukerman ChamberPlayers she has toured

the world, and she has appeared regularly at Japan's Miyazaki Festival. Ms. Forsyth's recordings appear on numerous labels. Her website is amandaforsyth.com



PINCHAS ZUKERMAN

AMANDA FORSYTH

**Angela Cheng** won the gold medal at the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition and was the first Canadian to win the Montreal International Piano Competition. She has since appeared with orchestras in Canada, the US, the UK. Israel and Brazil, among others. In 2012 she made her Carnegie Hall debut with the Edmonton Symphony and appeared at the Salzburg Festival in a recital with Pinchas Zukerman Last vear, Ms. Cheng gave a recital at London's Wigmore Hall and made her debuts at the Verbier and Edinburgh festivals with Mr. Zukerman and cellist Amanda Forsyth. Her website is pianistangelacheng.com

Gary Rosenblatt has been editor and publisher of The *Iewish Week of New York* for 20 vears. His weekly column. "Between the Lines," has won first-place awards from the New York Press Association and is syndicated each week by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to Jewish newspapers throughout the country.

Mr. Rosenblatt has been editor of the Baltimore Jewish Times, the Detroit Jewish News and The Atlanta Jewish Times. He has won numerous awards for his writing from secular and Jewish organizations. His analysis of the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Los Angeles was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in the category of special reporting in 1985. The honor marked the first time an article in a Jewish publication was cited in the Pulitzer competition.

Mr. Rosenblatt has been a contributor to the Los Angeles Times op-ed page and has served on the boards of the American Jewish Press Association and the Iewish Student Press Service. He is also a founder of the Gralla Fellows Program at Brandeis University

> for journalists in the Jewish press and is chairman of the Fund for lewish Investigative Journalism.

Eric R. Kandel is University Professor and Kayli Professor at Columbia University and a senior investigator at the Howard

Hughes Medical Institute. He is the founding director of the Center for Neurobiology and Behavior at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University.

> In 2000, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on memory storage in the brain.

By probing the synaptic connections between nerve cells in the humble sea slug, Eric Kandel uncovered some of the basic molecular mechanisms

underlying learning and memory

in animals ranging from snails to flies to mice and even in humans. His groundbreaking studies have demonstrated the fundamental ways that nerve cells alter their response to chemical signals to produce coordinated changes in behavior. This

work is central to understanding not only normal memory but also dementia and other mental illnesses that affect memory.

Mr. Kandel went on to determine the biochemical changes that accompany memory formation, showing that short-term memory



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ERIC R. KANDEL

involves a functional modulation of the synapses, while long-term memory requires the activation of genes and the synthesis of proteins to grow new synaptic connections.

He is the author of *In Search of Memory*, a memoir, and co-author of *Principles of Neural Science*, the standard textbook in the field.

**Ieff Greenfield**, a veteran political, media and culture reporter and analyst, has spent more than 30 years on network television. He most recently served as CBS senior political correspondent and is currently working as a columnist for Yahoo! News and an anchor for PBS'"Need to Know." He has won five Emmy Awards, was twice named to TV Guide's all-star team as best political commentator and was cited by the Washington Journalism Review as "the best in the business" for his media analysis.

Prior to his return to CBS News, Mr. Greenfield had been senior analyst for CNN since 1998. During that time, he served as its lead analyst for its coverage of the primaries, conventions, presidential debates and election nights, as well as presidential funerals and Supreme Court confirmation hearings.

Before joining CNN, Mr. Greenfield was a political and media analyst for ABC News (1983-97), appearing primarily on "Nightline" and delivering weekly commentaries for "World News Sunday."

Since 2002, Jeff Greenfield has moderated 92Y's *In the News with Jeff Greenfield*, the popular series of discussions with leaders in

politics and journalism. He is the author or co-author of 13 books. His latest, *If Kennedy Lived*, has been optioned for development as a mini-series. He is now at work on a novel.

Joe Lieberman has served four terms as the representative of Connecticut in the United States Senate, and was the Democratic candidate for vice president in 2000.

He was the Senate's leading champion of legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security to better protect the nation from terrorist attacks. He

JEFF GREENFIELD

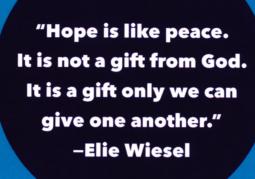
JOE LIEBERMAN

has been at the forefront of efforts not only to increase our investment in

defense, but to transform our armed forces to better meet the needs of the 21st century. He supported economic policies that spark business growth, encourage innovation and expand markets for American products. He has been a champion

for consumers' rights, and led the successful legislative effort to repeal the military's discriminatory "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Throughout his more than 20 years in the United States Senate, Senator Lieberman has proved himself a true environmental champion. From helping to negotiate the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, to consistently working to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska from oil and gas drilling and exploration, to authoring several bills to combat climate change, Senator Lieberman has committed himself tirelessly to the preservation of our air, land and water.



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