

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FALL PUBLIC PROGRAMS AT THE**  
**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY**

Fall is upon us and the National Museum of American Jewish History continues its vibrant assortment of programs, including events associated with its special exhibition, *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile & Friends: The Art of Bernard Waber*. The exhibition, open until November 1, tells the story of the life and career of children's book writer and illustrator, Bernard Waber (1921-2013). Please see below for programs related to this whimsical, family-friendly exhibition, and for many other public programs to enrich your fall season.



*Lyle, Illustration © 1969 by Bernard Waber*

*Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile & Friends: the Art of Bernard Waber*, organized by the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, Massachusetts and created with the generous support of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Major support for this exhibition at NMAJH has been provided by Hallee and David Adelman, Jen Mendel and Fred Fox, the Louis and Bessie Stein Foundation Fund #2 Audrey Merves, Trustee, and the Solomon and Sylvia Bronstein Foundation. Additional support by Lee Meyerhoff Hendler, Elaine L. Lindy, and The Rittenhouse Foundation.

## **Second Sunday: Croctober**

Sunday, October 11 from 10 am - 5:30 pm

Free with admission

Children 12 and under are always free

Find your inner crocodile with face paint, *Lyle*-inspired crafts, performances, story time, and more on this special *Lyle*-themed Second Sunday. You may even catch a glimpse of *Lyle* himself....

*In partnership with Jewish Learning Venture, Old City Fest, and Please Touch Museum.*

## **Lyle, Lyle Curator and Friends: A Conversation**

Sunday, October 25 at 2 pm

\$8/Free for NMAJH and Rosenbach Members

**Leonard S. Marcus**, curator of *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile and Friends: The Art of Bernard Waber* and leading writer about children's books and the people who create them, joins illustrator **Paulis Waber**, Bernard Waber's daughter, for an intimate conversation filled with firsthand insights into Bernard Waber's life and work. Moderated by: **Patrick J. Rodgers**, curator at the Rosenbach of the Free Library of Philadelphia and former curator of the Maurice Sendak Collection.

*In partnership with the Rosenbach of the Free Library of Philadelphia.*

## **Young Friends Curated Cocktails: Wine and Watercolors**

Tuesday, October 13 from 6 pm – 8 pm

\$12/Free for Young Friends Members

Join the Young Friends of NMAJH for the quarterly Curated Cocktails series. This edition includes a tour of *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile and Friends: The Art of Bernard Waber*, followed by cocktails and the opportunity to make your own *Lyle*-themed painting. Artist Jessica Eldredge will create custom artwork for the event and be on hand to teach watercolor techniques ([jessicaeldredge.com](http://jessicaeldredge.com)).

**Additional Programming Includes:**

**LGBT Rabbis: A Cross-movement Conversation**

Wednesday, October 7 at 7 pm

\$12/\$10 Members

From the first woman and lesbian heading a Jewish seminary to the first openly gay Orthodox rabbi, five cross-generational leaders will share firsthand insights into their pioneering work at the intersections of religious and LGBT communities.

Featuring:

**Rebecca T. Alpert**, Ph.D., Professor of Religion at Temple University, one of the first women in America ordained as a rabbi, co-author of *Exploring Judaism: A Reconstructionist Approach*, and co-editor of *Lesbian Rabbis: The First Generation*

**Sue Levi Elwell**, Ph.D., Scholar in Residence, Washington Hebrew Congregation, and editor of *The Open Door Haggadah, Chapters of the Heart: Jewish Women Sharing the Torah of Our Lives*, and, with Rebecca Alpert, *Lesbian Rabbis: The First Generation*

**Steven Greenberg**, Senior Teaching Fellow at The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership (CLAL), founder and co-director of Eshel, an Orthodox LGBT support, education, and advocacy organization, and the first openly gay Orthodox rabbi

**Deborah Waxman**, Ph.D., President, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and Jewish Reconstructionist Communities, the first woman to head a Jewish congregational organization, and the first gay rabbi in such a senior leadership position

**Aaron S. Weininger**, Associate Rabbi and Berman Family Chair in Jewish Learning at Adath Jeshurun Congregation (MN), and the first openly gay person accepted to a rabbinical school in the Conservative movement

Supported by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

In conjunction with *The Pursuit of Happiness: Jewish Voices for LGBT Rights*, supported by the Allen A. Stein Family Foundation, Inc.

### **Young Friends C-Suite Speaker Series**

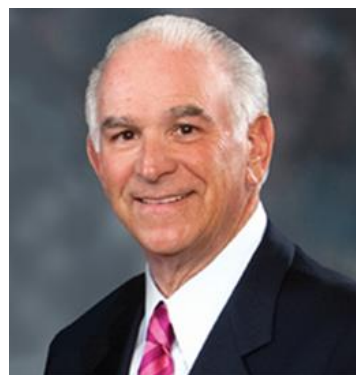
Tuesday, October 20 from 12pm-1pm

\$36 per session, Young Friends Members Only

\$118: 4 session package

See website for more information

The first in the inaugural Young Friends of NMAJH C-Suite Speaker Series features **Stephen A. Cozen**, founder and chairman of Cozen O'Connor, a Philadelphia law firm with 24 offices throughout the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada.



Stephen Cozen, Chairman of Cozen O'Connor

### **Salute to Educators**

Wednesday, October 21 from 4 pm

Free, RSVP required

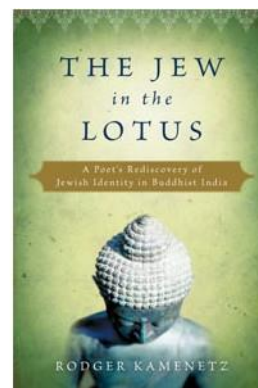
Current and retired educators and librarians are invited to the special viewing of the exhibition *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile and Friends: The Art of Bernard Waber* (on view through November 1). Chuck Bennett, aka Mr. Malcolm, an engaging and humorous and storyteller, will present a selection from a Bernard Waber book followed by a talk on effective storytelling performances. Refreshments will be served.

### **The Jew in the Lotus – 25 Years after the Journey**

Wednesday, October 28 at 7 pm

\$12/\$10 Members

Award-winning poet, author, and teacher **Rodger Kamenetz** joins us 25 years after the historic Jewish-



Buddhist dialogue he chronicled in *The Jew in the Lotus*, the story of rabbis making a holy pilgrimage to meet with the Dalai Lama.

In conversation with **Dr. Jay Michaelson**, columnist for the *Forward* and author of *The Gate of Tears: Sadness and the Spiritual Path* and *Evolving Dharma: Meditation, Buddhism, and the Next Generation of Enlightenment*.

Dessert reception with book sale and signing to follow.

*In partnership with the Jewish Book Council.*

## **NOVEMBER**

### **Young Friends Ryes of the Bootlegger: An Evening with Author Dan Okrent & WhistlePig Whiskey**

Wednesday, November 4 from 6 pm - 8:30 pm

\$55/\$50 Young Friends Members

Young Friends will have the opportunity to learn about Prohibition from the man who wrote the book, literally. **Daniel Okrent's** *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* served as the major source for Ken Burns's Prohibition documentary series, as well as the National Constitution Center's 2012 special exhibition, *American Spirits*. Hear from Okrent and sample a variety of WhistlePig's award-winning 100% rye whiskeys.

### **Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival**

November 7-21

The Museum is proud to co-sponsor the 35<sup>th</sup> season of the Gershman Y's **Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival**. The films hosted by the Museum and their show times are as follows:

*Projections of America* – November 11 at 5 pm

*The Free Voice of Labor: The Jewish Anarchists* – November 11 at 8 pm

*The Outrageous Sophie Tucker* – November 15 at 11 am

For more information and tickets, visit [pjff.org](http://pjff.org)

### **Second Sunday Family Corner**

Sunday, November 8 from 10 am – 3 pm

Free with admission and for children 12 and under.

November's Second Sunday will feature family-friendly and friend-friendly activities that celebrate our gratefulness for friendship in this Thanksgiving season. Discover the ties between early Jewish settlers and Native American traders and participate in friendship-filled arts and crafts activities suited for kids of all ages!

### **Members' Trip to View Contemporary Israeli Art**

Sunday, November 8 from 2 pm - 4 pm

\$36/Member

NMAJH Members will visit the Rutgers-Camden Center for the Arts to view *Visions of Place: Complex Geographies in Contemporary Israeli Art*. This exhibition explores Israel's history, society, and culture through the diverse works of its contemporary artists.

*Curators Dr. Martin Rosenberg and Dr. J. Susan Isaacs. Light reception to follow.*

### **Courageous Choices with General Robert Magnus, USMC (Retired)**

Thursday, November 12 from 1:30 pm – 3 pm

Free with admission.

General Robert Magnus will highlight the roles Jews have played in America's history and discuss his views on Jews in the diaspora, the Middle East, and globally. General Magnus served as the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps from 2005-2008. He is a recipient of the Navy Distinguished Service Medal.

### **Dreamers and Doers: Dr. Ruth**

Monday, November 16 at 6 pm

\$18 Members/\$25 General Public

General Public tickets on sale beginning October 9

**Dr. Ruth** will share her incredible story of survival and success, from fleeing Nazi Germany as a young girl to serving as a sharpshooter in the Haganah, (Israel's Freedom Fighters) to becoming the pioneering psychosexual therapist, educator, and cultural icon adored and respected around the world today. Program attendees will learn firsthand how her background, identity, fearlessness, and tenacity inform her work and have helped her to achieve success through helping others.



Moderated by WHYY's Behavioral Health Reporter and Host of *The Pulse*, **Maiken Scott**.

Dr. Ruth's new book, *The Doctor Is In: Dr. Ruth on Love, Life, and Joie de Vivre* (June 2015), will be available for sale and signing at the program.

Media sponsor: WHYY

### **Tree of Life: the 2015 *Only in America* Gala**

Wednesday, November 18 at 6pm

Gala Chairs : Gennifer and Elijah Dornstreich

Each year, the Museum takes this opportunity to honor the “Dream, Dare, Do” spirit of Jews who have made their homes in America with the annual *Only in America* Gala. This year, we will gather as a community to celebrate five years on Independence Mall, the Museum's growth, and our future.

***Liesl's Ocean Rescue – with Author Barbara Krasner***

Sunday, November 22 from 11 am-1pm

Free with admission

Ronnie Breslow, a local Holocaust survivor originally from Germany, will speak of her experiences before, during, and after the Holocaust, including her time on the MS St. Louis. Barbara Krasner will describe her process for writing *Liesl's Ocean Rescue* which recounts the experiences of Liesl, a 10-year-old girl aboard the MS St. Louis. Following the presentations, a docent led tour focusing on selected third floor Museum galleries including the story of the MS St. Louis will be available for program participants.

*In partnership with the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center.*

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The National Museum of American Jewish History, located on historic Independence Mall in Philadelphia, brings to life the 350-year history of Jews in America. Tracing the stories of how Jewish immigrants became Jewish Americans, the Museum invites visitors of all backgrounds to share their own stories and reflect on how their histories and identities shape and are shaped by the American experience. An open door for all, NMAJH honors the past and contributes to a better future by sharing the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, leadership and service, in ways that turn inspiration into action.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 101 South Independence Mall East at the corner of Fifth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. Museum hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm. NMAJH is closed most Mondays, including federal holidays and some Jewish holidays. Museum admission is \$12.00 for adults, \$11.00 for senior citizens and youth, free for children 12 and under, Museum Members, and active military with ID. On Wednesdays from May 7 through the end of October, the Museum will stay open until 8:00 pm. For more information, visit [NMAJH.org](http://NMAJH.org) or call 215.923.3811.