

# LIFE LONG LEARNING

SPRING 2023  
FEBRUARY 22 - JUNE 21

## Stephen Sondheim: Worlds to Change Wednesday, May 24 • 1:00pm

From the groundbreaking *West Side Story* to the beloved *Into the Woods*, this innovative songwriter redefined the Broadway musical. Why was Sondheim so unhappy with some of his most popular lyrics? And what does the phrase “send in the clowns” mean? Musical theater historian John Kenrick pulls back the curtain with behind the scenes stories and rare performance videos.

**John Kenrick** is the author of Musical101.com, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Amateur Theatricals*, and the textbook *Musical Theatre: A History*. He has taught at New York University's Steinhardt School, The New School University, Marymount College Manhattan, The Philadelphia University of Arts, Wagner College, Molloy College, and Pace University.  
Free for NCJW/JCC Members; \$15 Guest

## Day Trip to The Museum of Broadway Wednesday, May 31st • 8:30am - 4:30pm

Spend the day in New York City touring the Museum of Broadway, an interactive and experiential museum that celebrates Broadway's rich history, the behind-the-scenes and its game changers. Price includes coach bus transportation, admission, and lunch.  
\$120 member/\$135 non-member

## Ben Shahn: The People's Painter Wednesdays, June 7th & June 21st • 1:00pm

Ben Shahn is celebrated for his bold, anguished imagery, which he deployed in order to protest against social injustice. His paintings, photographs, graphic art, and public murals were his way to practice tikkun olam, repairing the world.

**Janet Mandel** retired after teaching for 32 years in the New Jersey public schools. She now presents illustrated lectures on art history at museums, adult schools, libraries, senior centers and similar venues.  
Free for NCJW/JCC Members; \$30 Guest

A Learning Center sponsored by  
JCC MetroWest Center for Adult Enrichment  
and  
The National Council of Jewish Women,  
Essex County Section   
National Council of Jewish Women

Advance registration is strongly encouraged  
Register today by calling 973-530-3474,  
online at [www.jccmw.us/LLL2023](http://www.jccmw.us/LLL2023) or scan the QR



All lectures will be IN-PERSON ONLY  
at the Leon & Toby Cooperman JCC, West Orange

Life Long Learning is generously supported by

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Clair Nierenberg • Gaye Olin • Ruth Ross • Cynthia Weisbard

Michele Bernstein, LCSW, Center for Adult Enrichment Program Coordinator  
973-530-3447 or [mbernstein@jccmetrowest.org](mailto:mbernstein@jccmetrowest.org)



Leon & Toby Cooperman JCC  
760 Northfield Avenue  
West Orange, NJ 07052  
[www.jccmetrowest.org](http://www.jccmetrowest.org)

JCC MetroWest is a beneficiary agency of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.  
We strive to ensure access and meaningful participation by all members of the community.

## Flashback and Memory in Film

### Wednesday, February 22 • 1:00pm

As film storytelling evolved over decades, flashbacks and other visual representations of memory have become increasingly subjective, often representing a character's perception rather than objective reality. This lecture will examine clips from films such as *Annie Hall*, *The Pawnbroker*, and *Two for the Road*. There is no required viewing ahead of this lecture.

**Stuart Weinstock** is the Director of the NJ Jewish Film Festival and the year-round J-Films programmer at JCC MetroWest. He earned his BA and MFA from Columbia University, where he programs public film events for their Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies. Stuart is a filmmaker and adjunct professor at Ramapo College of NJ and Columbia University.

Free for NCJW/JCC Members; \$15 Guest

## Yom HaShoah

### Eleanor Reissa, "The Letters Project"

### Tuesday, April 18 • 1:00pm



In partnership with the Jewish Book Council and the Holocaust Council of Greater MetroWest

Join us in-person to commemorate Yom HaShoah, as Eleanor Reissa presents via zoom, on her second-generation Holocaust memoir, *The Letter's Project*. In 1986, upon the death of her mother, she was stunned to discover a stash of 56 letters written in German, hidden inside an old leather purse she had never seen before. It was not until 2018-thirty years later- that she had the letters translated.

**Eleanor Reissa** is a Tony Award-nominated director, a Broadway/television actress, a prize-winning playwright, and currently shares the audio guide duties with Juliana Margulies at the Museum of Jewish Heritage's latest exhibition *The Holocaust: What Hate Can Do*.

Free to All - Reservations strongly encouraged

## A Cooperman Barnabas Medical Center Lecture

### The Hearing Loss Experience: Its Stigmas, Challenges, & Successes

### Wednesday, April 19 • 1:00pm

Judy Levitan, AuD, CCC-A, an audiologist at the Audio Services Hearing Center at the Barnabas Ambulatory Care Center will be speaking about the cognitive and social effects of untreated hearing loss.

**Judy Levitan** received her Doctorate of Audiology at Salus University. She received her Masters of Science at Hunter College-City University of New York and her Bachelors of Arts at Yeshiva University Stern College for Women. She has New Jersey Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Licenses.

Free to All - Reservations strongly encouraged

## How Do American Political Institutions Govern in an Era of Divisive Partisanship?

### Wednesday, May 3 • 1:00pm

The American political system presents challenges to governing in the best of circumstances. Separation of powers and federalism create a system of multiple veto points making it difficult to build support for policies. At some points, the two-party system helped overcome these inherent obstacles, but now, they make the task far more difficult. Is it possible to govern effectively in this current era?

**Phil Mundo** has been a professor in the Drew University Department of Political Science since 1986. His teaching and research interests include American political institutions, political participation, and public policy. Mundo earned a Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley, and worked at the Brookings Institution and the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment in Washington, DC.

Free for NCJW/JCC Members; \$15 Guest

## Molly Burack Annual Lecture

### "More After the Break: A Reporter Returns to Ten Unforgettable News Stories"

### Wednesday, May 10 • 1:00pm



Based on her two-decade career as a local TV news reporter in New York City, Jen Maxfield will discuss stories from her recently published book, which takes readers on dramatic ride-alongs with her.

**Jen Maxfield** is an Emmy® Award winning correspondent for NBC 4 New York. Since April 2013, she has covered breaking news, general assignment stories in NJ and serves as a fill-in anchor. She received a B.A. in Political Science from Columbia College of Columbia University and a M.S. from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, where she now serves as an adjunct professor.

Free to All - Refreshments to follow

This program is in memory of Molly Burak and is made possible through the generosity of her children.

## "The Spy Who Knew Too Much"

### Wednesday, May 17 • 1:00pm



Howard Blum will speak about his latest novel, *The Spy Who Knew Too Much*. A story about an ex-CIA officer's quest through a legacy of betrayal.

**Howard Blum** is the author of New York Times bestsellers including *Night of the Assassins*, *In the Enemy's House*, *The Last Goodnight* and *Dark Invasion*. Blum is a contributing editor at Vanity Fair. While at the New York Times, he was twice nominated for a Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting.

Free to All - Reservations strongly encouraged