

# BRANDEIS BLAST

April 1, 2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS

4/5 Book & Author on Zoom – Hiding in Plain Sight, 1pm

4/7 Chapter Meeting-ELECTIONS, 11am

4/8 BRUNCH AND LEARN, 10:30am – flyer p 9

“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Theater”

4/8 Brandeis-UNIVERSITY ON WHEELS Zoom, 2pm

5/3 Book & Author on Zoom – Girl With the Louding Voice, 11am

5/12 Installation and Spring “Lunch”, 1pm

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

4/16 Study Guide, 10:30am

5/5 Meeting of Elected Officers, 11am

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Important Chapter Meeting  
Wednesday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

**You are invited to attend the Annual Chapter Meeting  
for the election of officers for 2021-2022**

**A Zoom Link will be sent to EVERYONE via email closer to the date.**

**If you do not receive it, please call Sue R**

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND**

### **PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

As I sit here looking out my window, I see a rainy gray day. However, through the misty rain I see lots more greenery than I saw before. I see hope! A hope that for all of us in the months to come we will, once again, be able to hug our family members, greet our friends and renew casual acquaintances in person.

Through our always supportive members our chapter continues to renew itself each year with the help of our Nominating Committees. This year kudos go to Rita W, chairperson, and committee members: Janet B, Judy B, Etta D, Honey E, Cathy F, Susan F, Elaine M, Margot R and Beth S for the time and effort they expended in presenting us with a new slate of Officers and Directors.

This slate will officially be elected with your votes at our Chapter Zoom meeting on April 7 at 11:00am. We value your input and ask that each of you attend this very short meeting.

We look forward to seeing you all then!

Livia & Linda



# BNC Greater Washington Chapter Book & Author Series

April 5, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

May 3, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

## **Book and Author Series - April 5, 2021**

Julia Sweig, who wrote "Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight" will be our April 5, 2021 speaker. In the March 1, 2021 Metro section of *The Washington Post*, Michael S. Rosenwald wrote an article about Julia Sweig and "Lady Bird Johnson's audio diaries: A first lady narrates her powerful role in history." Recorded in the White House, the revealing 123 hours of tape is the basis of a new podcast that begins airing on the first day of Women's History Month. By Michael S. Rosenwald

Please click on the link below to read the article.

We think it will pique your interest to hear her speak at our next program.

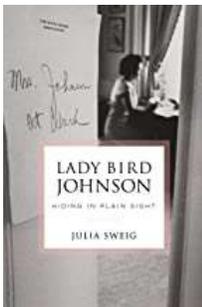
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2021/03/01/lady-bird-johnson-audio-diaries/>

## **Meet the Author on Zoom**

Meet the Author has now become a monthly event on BNC National Webinar. Our chapter continues to plan and sponsor the talks. We are honored to have Leslie Milk continue as our moderator for these events. Our chapter will receive credit from all BNC members throughout the US who participate in our Book and Author programs.

**Cost per person: \$18 per author (100% tax deductible)**

**Registration will be by charge card to Brandeis National Committee.**



**Julia Sweig**  
***Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight***  
**Monday, April 5, 2021**

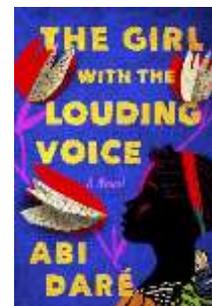
[Register Here](#)



**Abi Daré**  
***The Girl with the Louding Voice***  
**May 3, 2021**

**Note: This event will be at 11:00 a.m.**

**Registration information forthcoming**



## SLATE OF OFFICERS – 2021-2022

**Co-Presidents** - Linda R and Beth S

**Membership V Ps** - Marlene G, Beverly A

**Special Events V Ps**- Ellen K and Susan L

**Study Guide V Ps** - Ilene H and Judy G

**Treasurers** - *Accounts Payable* - Linda C, *Accounts Receivable* - Sue R

**Communications Secretary** - Marilyn W

**Administrative Secretary** - Margot R

**Membership Secretary** - Vickie W

**Recording Secretary** - Julia M

**Registrar** - Gail R

**Nominating Committee Chair** - Livia W

**Nominating Committee Members** - Bobbye H, Joy S, Joni S,  
Rita W, Alternates - Barbara F, Roberta F

### **Directors- 2021-2022**

Abbey B

Barbara F

Cathy F

Linda G

Bonnie L

Sandy L

Nina K

Florence P

Sharon R

Lorraine R

Sara R

Linda S

MaryEllen S

Libby W S

Myrna W

### **Directors- 2021-2023**

Janet B

Lynn B

Linda E

Mitzi E

Barbara E

Joyce F

Theodora F

Susan F

Vivian G

Debra G

Judy K

Emily K

Margie L

Pam P

Marsha R

Elinor T

## STUDY GUIDE

**Registration Information:** Only paid-up current members may register for study groups. Dues may be paid online at [giving.brandeis.edu/BNCmembership](http://giving.brandeis.edu/BNCmembership)

**Registrations must be received at least 3 days before the study group.** Please make a list of the study groups in which you want to register and send the list with your name, phone number, email address, and **check payable to BNC** to the Registrar:

*Roz A, Gaithersburg, MD 20878*

You will be sent an email confirmation when your registration is processed. If you don't receive a confirmation, please contact Roz before the date of the program. **An email with the Zoom link will be sent before each Study Group.**

### **Directions for using Zoom to connect to site.**

As we will be checking names for registration, please have your name shown on your Zoom account. **Admission will be delayed for "iPad 1234" or "mom" as your identity is unknown.** Here are directions if you need them:

1. Go to **zoom.us** You will need your email address and zoom password, as it will be requested.
2. Go to **My Account**
3. Find **Personal** and highlight **Profile**
4. Find Name: **Edit** will be on the right side of the screen
5. Enter your first and last name; if desired and appropriate, you can enter your partner's name also

**Questions or issues should be directed to Barbara E or  
Beth S, Co-Vice Presidents of Study Guide.**

### **Welcome to our Zoom Room**

Join Ellen K as she facilitates discussion among our members.  
Please contact Ellen

**April 14<sup>th</sup> Zoom chat at 11am**

**Topic: Ask Your Brandeis Friends:** We all have problems, so let us turn to our Brandeis Friends for the answers. Ask any question you like, whether it be a personal or a health question or just to know if it's safe to travel by plane this summer.



Come and join the  
**Study Guide Committee for 2021-2022**  
**Zoom Meeting on Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

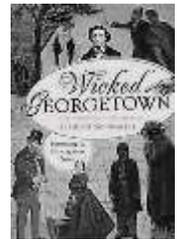
Contact: Judy G or  
Ilene H

## STUDY GROUPS APRIL

### **Wicked Georgetown**

The tragedy of Georgetown's darker side encompasses the oldest neighborhood in DC with local legends and true crime events from its past. Come with us on a virtual tour of the historic streets to learn about long ago tales of tragedy, romance, and lore.

**Tuesday, April 13, 11:00 a.m., \$20**



### **I'm Not As Young As I Was: What's the Scoop for My Diet? NOTE correct date**



How do your diet and nutrient needs change as you age? How can you address these needs in ways that are tasty and healthy? Patsy M. Brannon, PhD, RD, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, will answer those questions while sharing information about protein, vitamin B-12 and energy.

**Thursday, April 15, 1:00 p.m., \$15**

### **Fun With Words - Memory Booster**



Would you like to build your vocabulary and expand your memory at the same time? Mentally stimulating activities such as learning new words and their meanings, help boost your brain power. In this course you will practice various techniques through fun and interactive games, that will enhance your reading and writing and improve overall memory skills.

**Tuesday, April 20, 11:00 a.m., \$15**

### **Keeping the United States, a Nation for Religious Freedom**

You will not believe how often people have tried to add religious components into the US Constitution. Did you know that the Constitution does not mention God, other than in the date? That does not mean that everyone has been content with that idea. In this talk, you will learn about the attempts to add Jesus to the Constitution in the 1940s and 1950s by Katharine B, PhD in Religion. In this era, Jewish organizations led the opposition to this potential constitutional change and prevailed. Though these amendment attempts have ended for now, the debate about the US as a Christian nation or not still continues.

**Thursday April 22, 11:00 a.m., \$15**



## STUDY GROUPS MAY



### **Cucina Di Livia**

Cook along with Livia as you travel through her recipe file.

**Thursday, May 20, 1:00 p.m., \$10**

### **North Carolina Museum of Art Judaica Collection**



This month we're off to North Carolina for a docent-led virtual tour of The North Carolina Museum of Art, one of only two general art museums in the country with a permanent gallery devoted to Jewish ceremonial art. The Judaic art collection spans three centuries and four continents, embracing a wide variety of forms and artistic styles. It features objects associated with most aspects of Jewish ceremonial life: synagogue worship, observance of the Sabbath and other holidays and festivals, rituals marking the life

cycle, and the sanctifying of a Jewish home.

**Tuesday, May 25, 1:00 p.m., \$18**

## STUDY GROUPS JUNE

### **A Special Visit to the United Nations Building**

This tour offers an exciting opportunity to explore the U.N. from the comfort of your home. One of the U.N.'s multilingual tour guides will take you on a virtual journey through the history of the United Nations and will speak about the Organization's work in addressing global challenges. Through an interactive experience, the tour provides an opportunity to learn about how the U.N. addresses issues such as disarmament, peace and security and human rights.

**June 3, 11:00 a.m., \$18**



### **Remains of the Jewish Presence in Poland**



While in Poland, Myrna T went to visit Goniadz, the village that her grandmother left to come to America in 1906. The entire cemetery was overgrown, but she was able to find one gravestone with her family name, Tekotsky. After Hitler's murder of almost all the Jews in Poland, including all the Jews in Goniadz, the cemeteries are the only evidence of the long Jewish presence in Poland. Unless the Jewish cemeteries are restored, there will be no memorial to the generations of Polish Jews. Myrna will discuss the International Jewish Cemetery Project's mission to catalogue every Jewish burial site throughout the world and her effort in Poland.

**Thursday, June 10, 11:00 a.m., \$15**



The story of Passover has been told and celebrated for centuries. It is a remembrance that slavery existed long before minds could remember and without the written word this story of freedom would not exist today.

Jewish people and others who were deemed different from those in power, suffered discrimination throughout history. They are stories that must be told again and again with the hope that injustices will never happen again. Passover is exactly the right time to understand the importance of preserving and sharing the written word.

The Honoring Our History campaign strives to fulfill the principles of access, inclusivity and tolerance by digitizing social justice collections that are in the archives at the Brandeis Library. For the past few months we have highlighted many collections such as the Leo Frank letters and newspaper articles, The Helmut Hirsch Collection, The Spitzer Family Papers, The Jewish Feminism Collection and the University Photography Collection. They are stories about injustices to be told and shared worldwide.

We may not be the youngest in our families to ask the four questions that are asked at Passover year after year, however, here is our version of Honoring Our History four questions.

Q: Why is this campaign different from all other campaigns?

A: This is the first attempt to digitize collections that are deteriorating.

Q: Why is it so important to preserve historical collections?

A: No other campaign provides insight into narratives of 20<sup>th</sup> century men and women living in a time of overt anti-Semitism, racism and institutionalized sexism.

Q: What will digitization do?

A: It ensures the discoverability of social justice collection outside the Brandeis Community so they can be used in schools and for international research.

Q: How can we support this endeavor?

A: By donating to Honoring Our History. Let's not pass over our commitment to support Brandeis University and the founding principles that are so important to us. For more information please [click here](#).

Have a Happy and Safe Passover!

Best regards,

*Carol Kern and Judy Levine, HOH Chairs*

### **UNIVERSITY ON WHEELS – Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2pm**

Please save the date for our first-ever virtual BNC University on Wheels.

We are excited to welcome Hadassah Lieberman, wife of former U.S. Senator and Vice-Presidential nominee Joe Lieberman, and an author who has dedicated herself to promoting healthcare issues, assisting nonprofit organizations, improving educational standards, and advancing international understanding, particularly in the area of women's health.

She will be joined in conversation by Sylvia Fishman, the Joseph and Esther Foster Professor in Judaic Studies, Emerita.

Hadassah is appearing on the occasion of the publication of her new book, *Hadassah, An American Story*, published by Brandeis University Press on the 14th of April. This event is a special pre-publication event exclusive for BNC members. The ticket price will be a charitable contribution to BNC's Honoring Our History campaign.

*RSVP info coming soon.*

## Save the Date

*Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm  
Brandeis National Committee  
Greater Washington Chapter  
Installation of 2021-2022 Officers*

### **BOOK FUND**



*Are you celebrating a special event, such as a wedding?* Please support Brandeis' Library by sending celebratory cards. A gift, through the Book Fund, enriches the libraries of Brandeis University. Please include \$1 with your donation to cover the cost of postage and the envelope.

**Cards will be mailed when the donation is received.**

*Linda H*

### **SUSTAINING THE MIND**

Gail L is accepting donations from \$10-\$25.

Heather G is handling donations starting at \$25.

NOTE: Please add \$1 to your donation to cover postage.

*Gail L*

*Heather G*

### **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

If you know of any member of our Brandeis community who has had a death or illness in the family BNC will send a complimentary card to that person from the chapter. If you would like to share a simcha in your family, we will be happy to include your good news in our **Simcha Gram** published biweekly in the Brandeis Blast.

*Lois F*

*See Brunch & Learn flyer below:*

Brandeis National Committee Greater Washington Chapter  
The Bette Aschkenasy Brunch and Learn

Presents

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON  
THE WAY TO THE THEATER**



Thursday – April 8, 2021

10:30 – 12:00

Cost of \$20 is a charitable contribution to  
Brandeis National Committee's Honoring Our History Campaign

**Speakers**



**Jason Loewith**

Artistic Director  
Olney Theatre Center



**Alan Paul**

Associate Artistic Director  
Shakespeare Theatre Company

Moderator – Stan Levin

Co-Presidents: Livia W and Linda R  
Co-Chairs: Margie L, Tina L, and Barbara L