

Women of Reform Judaism

47th Assembly

Toronto, ON, Canada

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Don't Miss These Highlights of WRJ's 47th Assembly

Welcome to Toronto for WRJ's 47th Assembly: Sustaining Our World: Shmirat Olameinu. We hope that this assembly will be a special and meaningful time for you. In today's newsletter we'd like to highlight some of the events that will take place alongside our informative workshops and stirring services to round out our assembly.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Opening Plenary Session

6.45 - 9.15 P.M.

Grand Ballroom West

Join us for our keynote address from Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, a Palestinian physician, who became a symbol for hope and peace between the Israelis and Palestinian after three of his children were lost in an Israeli military attack in Gaza.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Plenary Session II

4.00 - 6.00 P.M.

Grand Ballroom West

Plenary Session II will include the presentation of the Dr. Jane Evans: Pursuit of Justice Award to Judy Feld Carr. Feld Carr secretly brought over 3,000 Jews prohibited from emigrating from Syria, to freedom. The plenary will also include the presentation of the Or Ami: Light of My People awards to honor sisterhoods' high quality and innovative programs of social justice, community service, and education.

WRJ Film Festival

8.30 - 10.00 P.M.

See program book for room assignments

The first-ever WRJ Film Festival will feature four diverse Jewish-themed films: *Blessed is the Match*, *Praying with Lior*, *The Longing*, and *The Gefilte Fish Chronicles*.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Plenary Session III

8.30 - 10.15 A.M.

Grand Ballroom West

Plenary Session III, on the theme of Israel, will feature guest speaker Reform Rabbi Miri Gold, whose case to receive official recognition as a rabbi by the State of Israel has been taken up by the Israel Religious Action Center amongst others.

In what is sure to be a moving ceremony, two torahs will also be donated: one from Temple Sinai in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to the Women of the Wall program, which supports the rights of women to pray at the Western Wall, and one from South Shore Reform Congregation Am Echad in Lynbrook, NY to Kehilat Bavat Ayin, a new progressive congregation near Tel Aviv.



WRJ:
Sustaining
Our World

שמירת עולמנו
Shmirat Olameinu

YES Fund Luncheon

12:00 - 2.45 P.M.

Grand Ballroom East

The always exciting YES Fund Luncheon will include addresses by: Rabbi David Saperstein, director, Religious Action Center; world-acclaimed author Anita Diamant; Rabbi Michael Mellen, URJ director of youth programs; and Rabbi Walter Homolka, executive director, Abraham Geiger College at the University of Potsdam.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Havdalah & Board Installation

4.30 - 6.00 P.M.

Grand Ballroom West

End Shabbat with other sisterhood women and be a part of WRJ history as the new board, led by incoming president, Lynn Magid Lazar, is installed.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Closing Plenary Session

9.30 - 10.45 A.M.

Grand Ballroom West

Bring your questions and comments to WRJ's Town Hall style plenary session and say goodbye to friends old and new. You'll also get a preview of WRJ's 48th assembly to be held in Washington D.C. in 2011.