



UJA Federations Canada
מגבית הפדרציות היהודיות בקנדה

*Please join us for a
United Israel Appeal (UIA) Brunch & learn
With guest speaker*

*Eli Rubenstein
National Director, March of the Living Program,
Editor and Author*



speaking on:

*“The Slice of Bread that Saved the World:
Stories of Light from the Shoah, the Kingdom of Night”*

Sunday, June 21st at 11:00 a.m.
Erica Cherney's Home
99 Roper Drive

RSVP

Mark Siegel

Tel: 705-292-8349 or Email: m.siegel@sympatico.ca

ELI RUBENSTEIN - bio

Eli Rubenstein is National Director of the March of the Living, an annual educational program that gathers thousands of Jewish youth from around world in Poland and Israel to mark two of the most significant dates in the modern Jewish calendar.

In Poland, the students visit sites related both to the vibrant Jewish life that once was, and the numerous sites of resistance and martyrdom connected with the Holocaust. The program culminates with the "March of the Living" on Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. On this solemn day, students and Holocaust survivors march together the three kilometre distance separating Auschwitz from Birkenau. They march in memory of the hundreds of thousands of Jews and others forced by the Nazis to cross vast expanses of harsh Eastern European terrain - the infamous "death marches".

In Israel, the students visit the length and breadth of the promised land, taking part in important commemorative and celebratory events, including Yom Hazikaron (Israel's Remembrance Day for its fallen defenders) Yom Ha'atsmaut (Israel's Independence Day).

Eli Rubenstein is also the Director of Education for the March of Remembrance and Hope, an educational initiative for college and university students of diverse faiths and ethnic backgrounds designed to teach about the grave consequences of hatred and prejudice through the study of the Holocaust in Poland. Thousands of students, of Christian, Muslim, First Nations, Rwandan, Polish Catholic, Hindu & Buddhist backgrounds, have participated in this program since its inception in 2001.

Home

Eli is the editor of a collection of poetry, prose, and art on the Holocaust composed by North American participants in the March of the Living. The book, titled "For You Who Died I Must Live On...Reflections on the March of the Living", was the recipient of a Canadian Jewish Book Award.

He is also producer of "Songs for March of the Living", a collection of Holocaust songs recorded by the Habonim Youth Choir of Toronto and "Lay Down Your Arms", a music video on the theme of peace featuring footage of children from a wide variety of cultures and geographical regions.

Mr. Rubenstein is the religious leader of Congregation Habonim, a small liberal synagogue in Toronto founded by Holocaust survivors from Germany and other eastern European countries.

He is also a writer and storyteller - he authored a storytelling column for the Canadian Jewish News and is a frequent contributor to the newspaper.

His works have also been featured in a wide variety of publications and broadcast media including: The Montreal Gazette, The Ottawa Citizen, CBC Radio & Television and others.

In 2005, Mr. Rubenstein helped organize a March of the Living benefit dinner in California, hosted by Larry King (and attended by former Israeli PM Ehud Olmert), honoring Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for his commitment to Holocaust remembrance.

In 2006, Mr. Rubenstein assisted the Oprah Winfrey Show with the segment featuring Elie Wiesel's visit to Auschwitz, which was seen by tens millions of viewers around the world.

Most recently, Mr. Rubenstein was the guest speaker at the Yad Vashem Dinner of Miracles in Toronto, honoring Holocaust survivors, and appeared in a film profiling the lives of four Holocaust survivors, called "Journey of Miracles".

In addition to his work with Holocaust education, Mr. Rubenstein is a celebrated Jewish storyteller and an active volunteer with the Israel Guide Dog Centre for the Blind. He has contributed his assistance to Ve'ahavta, the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian Relief Organization, helping them organize their annual Passover Seder for the Homeless, and traveling on their behalf to Guyana and Zimbabwe to assist in their humanitarian work in these countries.