



PRESS RELEASE

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MAJOR CELEBRITIES AND THEATER INDUSTRY LEADERS LINE UP TO HONOR JOE PAPP, CREATOR OF NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AND THE PUBLIC THEATER, AT HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATION

***Celebrating 'Yosl': Joe Papp at 100* Will Feature Renowned Actor/Singer Mandy Patinkin, The Public Theater Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Papp Biographer Helen Epstein, among others on June 22, 2021**

CORAL SPRINGS, FL/NEW YORK, NY – Actor/Singer Mandy Patinkin, Public Theater Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Papp biographer Helen Epstein will be among the many celebrities and theater industry leaders confirmed for the 100th birthday commemoration of legendary theatre producer Joe Papp on June 22, 2021.

Born “Yosl Papirofsky,” Papp will be the subject of *Celebrating 'Yosl' – Joe Papp at 100*, hosted by YI Love Jewish and featuring a full day of events, including virtual and in-person celebrity broadcasts. The schedule will include musical performances, plays, monologues, scenes, lectures and testimonials culminating in the celebrity-studded signature Gala event and Exclusive VIP Reception, celebrating the life of the renowned producer who created “Shakespeare in the Park” and The Public Theater in New York City.

“YI Love Jewish is proud to confirm the participation of many celebrities and entertainment professionals who want to honor the man who gave so much to enhance their lives and

careers,” said Avi Hoffman, YI Love Jewish Founder and CEO, world renowned actor and Jewish cultural activist who was mentored by Joe Papp in the 1980’s.

Participants will be joining the festivities to varying degrees, from short video testimonials to videotaped interviews to in-person virtual participation.

A few of the currently confirmed participants include:

- Superstar actors/social media celebrities: Mandy Patinkin and his wife Kathryn Grody
- Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director of The Public Theater
- Actor F. Murray Abraham
- Playwright David Henry Hwang
- Stage and Screen star Rex Smith
- Author and Joe Papp biographer Helen Epstein
- Actress, Producer and Director Morgan Jenness
- Actor and Director Mark Linn Baker
- Chair of the Public Theatre Board of Trustees Arielle Tepper

Celebrating ‘Yosl’: Joe Papp at 100 will feature live, virtual and pre-recorded performances starting at 11 a.m. and continuing into the evening. In the spirit of Papp’s visionary FREE Shakespeare in the Park, MOST of the day’s events will be free of charge with the exception of an exclusive, celebrity-filled LIVE and VIRTUAL Gala and Reception, starting at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$36 for the Virtual Gala at 7 p.m.; \$100 for the Virtual Gala at 7 p.m. AND an Exclusive Celebrity Virtual VIP Reception at 9 p.m. (A very limited number of the \$100 in-person tickets may be made available due to CDC Guidelines.)

FULL SCHEDULE OF CONFIRMED EVENTS:

11:00am EST - The Miracle of Joe Papp - A Lecture

1:00 pm EST - Avi Hoffman in "Joe Papp at the Ballroom"

5:00 pm EST - CELEBRATING ‘YOSL’: The Legacy of Joe Papp;
A Musical Celebration

7:00 pm EST - CELEBRATING ‘YOSL’: JOE PAPP @ 100 - THE GALA
Live Broadcast featuring celebrity performances and testimonials in honor of 'Yosl'

9:00 pm EST - EXCLUSIVE VIP Virtual Reception

To sponsor these events or make a tribute in our virtual tribute book, please visit:

www.yilovejewish.org/papp100.

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ABOUT YI LOVE JEWISH: YI Love Jewish is a division of Yiddishkayt Initiative (YI), a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization that builds Jewish engagement and forges multi-cultural connections through an immersive and varied range of programming for audiences around the globe. From performing arts, publishing and education to language, philosophy and literature, YI offers a global clearinghouse of Jewish culture and entertainment staffed by experts in subject matter and production. The organization works with a wide range of organizations, including the University of Miami's Sue and Leonard Miller Center and the George Feldenkreis Program in Contemporary Judaic Studies and Federations, JCCs, synagogues, Hadassah chapters, Hillel chapters, men's groups, women's guilds, special interest clubs, youth groups, summer camp programs and educational institutions.