Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being

JTC
JEWISH THEATRE COLLABORATIVE

Challenging times require strength of character.

100 years ago, ***Lillian Wald*** *changed the world.*

Let her story inspire you.

jewishtheatrecollaborative.org
503-512-0582

Community Health Priorities
Join the Conversation
CHP
A Project of the Northwest Health Foundation
www.CommunityHealthPriorities.org

NCJW
National Council of Jewish Women

Design by Trina Baucom

"Over broken asphalt, over dirty mattresses and heaps of refuse we went... There were two rooms and a family of seven not only lived here but shared their quarters with boarders... [I felt] ashamed of being a part of society that permitted such conditions to exist... What I had seen had shown me where my path lay." -Lillian Wald, 1893

Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being

Some of the most important institutions we take for granted today were created by a woman you may never have heard of. The inspiring story of this Jewish American Hero and public health pioneer, Lillian Wald, is brought to life in Jewish Theatre Collaborative's 45 minute biographical play ***Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being.***

Description

Lillian Wald (1867-1940) A Jewish girl born into privilege became a nurse and champion of the poor. She was the force behind Public school nurses, union movement for worker safety and the Institution of Public Health Nursing. From her early days in the trenches of lower east side tenements in New York City, Wald piloted creative solutions first hand and then mobilized community and policy makers to institutionalize them. Wald's example offers powerful testimony that one person can bring about tremendous change in the world.

Wald's story serves as a catalyst for conversations about the public health today.

Public Performances

Jewish Community Celebration of Women's Heritage Month
March 29th, 2011 MJCC **www.jewishtheatrecollaborative.org**

Bringing together Jewish community leaders, philanthropists, professionals and their sons and daughters, this evening will open a community conversation about the capacity we have to heal our world.

Launch Performance/Town Halls **Free to the Public**

These events will celebrate Public Health pioneer Lillian Wald and open conversations seeking to foster a better understanding of Public Health and the role it can play in the challenges we face today.

These Performance/Town Halls will bring together government, agencies on the front lines of public health and the communities in greatest need around a story of vision and progress. Lillian Wald's first hand experience exposed her to the profound and pervasive health challenges immigrants faced on the lower east side of NY. The system seemed broken. Wald's insight and creativity offered local solutions that went national and continue to impact the public health sector today. Her ability to bring together the key players to effect change was the key to her success.

The play, town halls and talk backs will be developed with participation of the aforementioned target constituencies by working with our community partners and through our outreach to Community sponsors.

Performances /Conversation throughout region

Once launched, the performance will tour through the spring to hospitals, nursing associations, government organizations, prisons and high and middle schools, energizing and informing the conversation around public, inspiring hope and inviting action.

Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being
BRINGING IT TO YOU

You can book a performance of *Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being* by calling (503) 512-0582 or emailing info@jewishtheatrecollaborative.org

Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being is available for performances ongoing from **April 1stst, 2011**. A single performance is $500. Block bookings can also receive significant discounts.

Run time is approximately 45 minutes.

Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Well-Being can be performed in venues as small as a classroom or as large as an auditorium.

In-depth study guides and post-performance discussions complete the learning experience.

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Lillian Wald
1867 – 1940

Lillian D. Wald was a practical idealist who worked to create a more just society. Her goal was to ensure that women and children, immigrants and the poor, and members of all ethnic and religious groups would realize America's promise of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

As a young nurse, Wald hoped to provide decent health care to residents of New York's Lower East Side tenements. Her work as the founder of the Henry Street Settlement and the Visiting Nurse Service demonstrated her masterful administrative talents, deep regard for humanity and skill at fundraising and publicizing. Championing the causes of public health nursing, housing reform, suffrage, world peace, and the rights of women, children, immigrants and working people, Wald became an influential leader in city, state, and national politics. Her tireless efforts to link the health of children with the health of nations made her a model of achievement, caring, and integrity throughout her lifetime. Although Wald achieved international recognition, her efforts were always grounded in the belief that the world was simply an expanded version of the culturally diverse neighborhood.

Lillian Wald was a pioneering force behind

The Traveling Nurses
Public School Nurses
Federal Children's Bureau
Special Education in Schools
Union Movement for Workers' Safety
Women's Trade Union League
Outdoor Recreation league

Wald was there at the founding of the NAACP, the American Civil Liberties Union and deeply involved in the Women's Suffrage Movement.

Lillian Wald, 1867 – 1940

1867 Born on March 10, in Cincinnati, Ohio

1891 Graduates New York Hospital Training School as a nurse

1893 Coins term "public health nurse" for nurses who worked outside hospitals in poor and middle-class communities.

1895 Founds Henry Street Settlement House

1900 Convinces NYC Board of Education to hire first special education instructor for children with mental disabilities and physical handicaps.

1903 Helps found Women's Trade Union League.

Eighteen district nursing service centers now treating 4500 patients a year.

1908 Travels 1286 miles in 14 days to investigate working conditions among immigrant laborers at highway and canal project camps.

1909 Henry Street partners with Metropolitan Life to provide quality health care to employed workers.

1910 Six-month tour of Hawaii, Japan, China, Russia to talk about her ideas and methods, and to learn about other cultures.

1912 Visits striking mill workings in Lawrence, MA, and offers Henry Street's support.

Federal Children's Burean, for which she had been advocating since 1905, established.

Wald joins NAACP coalition to protest release of *The Birth of a Nation*

Elected president of American Union Against Militarism and lobbies President Wilson to keep US out of war.

1915 Publishes *The House on Hentry Street*. In this year alone, 100 nurses care for more than 26,575 patients and make more than 227,000 home visits.

Campaigns for women's suffrage, even as she fights anti-immigrant fears of suffragists, until right is passed in 1917.

1918 Organizes volunteers to fight Spanish flu outbreak, notes that epidemic demonstrates "the desperate need for trained nurses."

1919 Represents Federal Children's Bureau at Red Cross conference in Cannes, France; then the 2nd Int'l Conf. on Women for Peace, Zurich, Switzerland where she co-founds Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

1924 Visits USSR.

1933 After suffering stroke, retires to her "house on the pond" in Westport, CT.

1940 Dies on Sept 1, 1940.

Partners

National Council for Jewish Women

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

www.ncjwportland.org

Northwest Health Foundation

The goal of Community Health Priorities is to engage people all over the state to articulate a vision of a healthier life for everyone, and then develop policies that help us achieve that vision.

On the CHP site you can participate in surveys, share feedback, read news stories about related issues, learn about grant opportunities for your neighborhood organizations, get more information on how to become involved or help mobilize your community and ensure that its voice will be heard.

www.communityhealthpriorities.org

Created with resources & guidance from Jewish Women's Archive

Building on the drama of Wald's life, this play does justice to her wide-ranging activism and impact on the world. I am so pleased that her story is getting this much-deserved recognition. Thank you, Jewish Theater Collaborative! *Judith Rosenbaum, PhD, Jewish Women's Archive*

The mission of the Jewish Women's Archive (JWA) is to uncover, chronicle, and transmit to a broad public the rich history of American Jewish women.

www.jwa.org

WHAT IS JEWISH THEATRE COLLABORATIVE?

JTC engages people in Jewish Stories from the past and present exploring values, traditions and history in order to better comprehend the diversity of contemporary human experience. Central to our work are values of participation, depth and learning. JTC events, performed at both traditional and non-traditional theatre venues, bring together Jewish and non-Jewish audiences to explore the complex legacy of the Jewish existence in the modern world. Our performances provide an ideal environment for exploration, awakening curiosity, opening minds, and challenging stereotypes. We use collaborative strategies to help partner organizations achieve social goals through the power of theatre to inform and engage.

After the show, we invite our audience to ask questions, opening complex conversations about the content and its reverberation in our lives. JTC identifies and ***partners*** with organizations that connect over mission and bring to table content expertise to achieve the depth and scope of conceived projects. JTC develops alliances with a broad circle of ***community sponsors*** to target outreach, provide additional resources and financial support for programming and bring on guest speakers for talkbacks. Together with these sponsors we get at the personal relevance of the material and the core of what bridges our communities. Diversity of alliances makes for diversity of audiences which makes for more meaningful conversations between individuals and communities. *Examples of* ***17 past partners*** *are* the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center and the Judaic Studies Department of PSU. *Examples of community sponsors*: Africa House, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Congregation Beth Israel were among **30 community sponsors** of our mainstage production Kindertransport last winter at ART.

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The Performers

Jamie M. Rea

It's all about the Journey. Jamie was raised in San Fransisco, got her BA in Theatre Arts at Reed College here in Portland, studied the work Sanford Meisner & Robert Ravan with Barry Hunt and the Sowelu Theatre Ensemble, Suzuki Technique and Anne Bogart's Viewpoints with the SITI company in New York as well as Seattle's own Theatre Simple, Kelmanworks & Mindfulness Based Improvisation with Scott Kelman of the Group & the Open Theatres out of NY, Devised Performance with Ping Chong and Germany's own Grotest Maru, as well as Rhythm Tap with Savion Glover's teacher Lady Diane Walker & Lane Alexander of the National Tap Dance Festival in Chicago. She is an Associate Artist with Sojourn Theatre Company with and a founding ensemble member of the Brooklyn Bay with Scott Kelman and Melanya Helene. As an Artistic Associate with Jewish Theatre Collaborative, she participated in the development and recent presentation of the world premiere of Sacha Reich's adaptation of Charlotte Salomon's *Life or Theatre?*

Jason Glick

Jason has been a professional actor, director and teacher for over 20 years. Born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, his exposure to the vibrant professional theatre in Chicago sparked his interest in the profession at an early age. He earned a B.F.A. in theatre arts from Millikin University in Decatur, IL., and then spent time in Illinois, Wisconsin and Nashville, TN., where he founded his own theatre company and worked extensively with the other companies in the area.
Jason spent 3 years at Valparaiso University School of Law, where he earned his Juris Doctor degree. Jason worked as a law clerk with various district attorneys' offices, ultimately returning to theatre. Jason has taught acting to students ranging from 6 years old to college and young professionals and worked in corporate training. Jason moved to Portland in October of 2009. Since then, he has been seen in shows with Fertile Ground Festival, Fuse Theatre Company, and Clackamas Repertory Theatre. Jason dedicates this show and all his shows to his son, Ethan, who is his 5 year old inspiration. Stay true to yourself.