

# 2024 LIBRARY LUMINARIES

**TAMA & BRAD BERNSTEIN**

host

**ANDREW BLAUNER**

**Tama & Brad Bernstein** have been in Litchfield County for over 20 years. They became full-time residents during the construction of their new farm property in South Kent. Brad is the Managing Partner of FTV Capital, a growth equity investment firm specializing in Enterprise Technology and Financial Services. Tama is an interior designer who has completed residential and commercial projects throughout the East Coast. They are excited to host their Luminary and guests at their recently completed Silver Fox Farm. Chef Paige Loonan DeFeo will be serving up a delicious meal and guests will get to sample an array of Bridgewater Chocolates.

**Andrew Blauner** is Co-Founder and CEO of Bridgewater Chocolate. Bridgewater Chocolate was created in 1999 to manufacture and sell premium handmade chocolate confections directly to consumers. Since its inception, the company has grown 1,200%. Although small in terms of revenue, Bridgewater Chocolate is known as the best in class and has accumulated an impressive customer list based solely on the quality of the product and organic growth. Andrew is a native New Yorker who graduated from New York University Tisch School of the Arts with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Film and Television. After graduating from NYU, Andrew made a career for himself as a freelance Chief Lighting Technician on feature films, television advertisements, documentaries, and corporate marketing films. In 1997 Andrew began working at Mediaworks, Inc., where he focused on marketing and brand recognition. Andrew comes from a philanthropic family whose support ranges across many different causes including the Mount Sinai Health System in New York City and JBFCs, which are two organizations that his wife, Leslie, is a board member.

## SEAN KREBS & MICHAEL DEL NIN

host

### DAVE KARGER

**Michael Del Nin & Sean Krebs** discovered Washington while visiting Dave Karger (our Luminary this year) for the weekend and began searching for a house in town on the drive back to the city. During the nearly two decades that followed, other than during a seven-year stint in Prague, they have spent as much time as possible in Washington (including probably hundreds of hours with their two children at Gunn Memorial Library). Michael has been a film and television executive for much of his career and is now the Head of Media Partnerships and Investments at Soros Fund Management in New York. Sean comes from the fashion world and was, most recently, International Editor of *Vogue Czech Republic & Slovakia*. Sean also serves on the board of Gunn Memorial Library.

**Dave Karger** is an award-winning TV host, interviewer, journalist, and film expert. He is a host on Turner Classic Movies and has been the Oscars expert on NBC's "Today" since 2000. He also spent over 15 years writing about the Oscars for Entertainment Weekly, has cohosted ABC's "Live from the Red Carpet" pre-show, and served as the Academy's official red-carpet greeter on Oscar night. In 2015, Dave received the Publicist's Guild Press Award, honoring the year's outstanding entertainment journalist. His first book, "50 Oscar Nights: Iconic Stars and Filmmakers on Their Career-Defining Wins," was published in 2024. Dave was a part-time resident of Washington, CT from 2001 to 2010 and loved living right down Wykeham Road from the Gunn Memorial Library.

## ADAM & SYLVANA DURRETT

host

### ROSANA DESOTO

**Adam & Sylvana Durrett** live in Brooklyn but have been part-time residents of Washington since 2018. Along with their three young kids and two large dogs, they spend weekends and summers in the area. Sylvana founded and runs a children's e-commerce business called Maisonette and Adam has spent his career in private equity investing.

**Rosana DeSoto** is an American actress who has performed in films and television. She is best known for her roles in "Stand and Deliver", for which she won an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Female, "Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country" as Azetbur, the daughter of Klingon Chancellor Gorkon, and "La Bamba" as Ritchie Valens' mother Connie Valenzuela. DeSoto was born in San Jose, California. Both of her parents were Mexican immigrants from Michoacán. DeSoto had four brothers and four sisters, making her one of nine siblings. DeSoto graduated from San Jose State University, double majoring in Spanish literature and drama before making her film debut in 1979 with "The In-Laws." DeSoto is also Sylvana Durrett's mother and a frequent visitor to Washington.

## AMANDA SALLES & GORDON EDELSTEIN

host

### JENNIFER SENIOR

**Amanda Salles & Gordon Edelstein** have been residents of Washington since the summer of 2020 and split their time between CT and NYC with a strong preference for as much time in CT as possible. Amanda is co-owner, with her sister Jessie, of Salles Interiors specializing in interior design and staging of homes and apartments. Gordon spent nearly four decades as a director/producer of theatre and opera in NY, Europe, and throughout the country garnering numerous awards and nominations. He served as Artistic Director of Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, ACT Theatre in Seattle, and Associate Director of the Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge, MA. He has produced and/or directed premieres of plays by Arthur Miller, Paula Vogel, Athol Fugard, Steve Martin, Martin McDonagh, James Lapine, Elaine May, Alan Arkin and directed plays starring Mia Farrow, Jane Alexander, Gillian Anderson, Julie Harris, Sam Waterston, Brian Dennehy, Rosemary Harris, Susan Sarandon, Judith Ivey, Colman Domingo, Jenna Fischer, as well as others. He is currently writing a limited series for television.

**Jennifer Senior** is a staff writer at *The Atlantic* and winner of the 2022 Pulitzer for Feature Writing. Prior to joining *The Atlantic*, she spent five years at *The New York Times*, first as one of its three daily book critics, then as a columnist for the Opinion page. Before that, she spent eighteen years as a staff writer for *New York Magazine*. Her first book, "All Joy and No Fun: The Paradox of Modern Parenthood", spent eight weeks on the *New York Times* Best Seller List, was named one of *Slate's* Top 10 Books of 2014, and has been translated into 12 languages. In addition to the Pulitzer, Senior has won a variety of journalism prizes, including two National Magazine Awards and two Front Page Awards; her work has also been featured in many anthologies, including *The Best American Political Writing* (four times), *The Best American Science and Nature Writing*, and *The Best American Essays*. Her Pulitzer-Prize winning feature, "What Bobby McIlvaine Left Behind," was published as a stand-alone book in the spring of 2023. Oprah called it "striking and haunting." Cheryl Strayed deemed it "absolutely extraordinary." John Green wrote it was "one of the most moving and brilliantly constructed works of nonfiction I've ever read." Senior has been a frequent guest on NPR, which she enjoys; she has appeared on many television programs too—"Morning Joe", "Amanpour and Company", "PBS Newshour", "Dateline: White House", "Reliable Sources", "Anderson Cooper 360", "Today", "Good Morning America"—but she enjoys that a lot less. She has spoken at the Sydney Opera House, the Aspen Ideas Festival, the main stage at TED, and many other venues here and abroad. She graduated from Princeton University in 1991. She currently lives in Brooklyn with her husband and son.

## **ANNE SUTHERLAND FUCHS**

hosts

## **KATHRYN RUEMMLER**

**Anne Sutherland Fuchs** serves on the board of Gartner Inc. and was formerly on the board of Pitney Bowes. Mainly focused on the media business, she held senior executive positions at the Hearst Corporation, Condé Nast, Hachette, and CBS and oversaw the launches of *O, the Oprah Magazine*, *Elle* and *Marie Claire*, plus managed well-known titles including *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Redbook*, and *Town & Country*. After publishing, she served in executive positions at LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton and JCPenney. Anne has always been active in civic affairs, having served as Trustee of the Whitney Museum and chaired the NYC Commission on Women's Issues (CWI) for Mayor Michael Bloomberg 2002-2013. She also founded and chaired the first Women's Board for the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club. Anne continues to serve on the board of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation and Common Ground with Jane Whitney. Anne has received several recognitions, including the Matrix Award for Magazine Publishing, NY Advertising Woman of the Year, and she was named one of the 21 Leaders for the 21st Century.

**Kathryn Ruemmler** is Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel of Goldman Sachs. She was previously Global Head of Regulatory Affairs. She serves on the firmwide Management Committee and is Chair of the Firmwide Conduct Committee. Ms. Ruemmler is also Co-Vice Chair of the Firmwide Reputational Risk Committee and Co-Chair of the Regulatory Reform Steering Group, and is a member of the Firmwide Client and Business Standards Committee, Firmwide Enterprise Risk Committee and Global Inclusion & Diversity Committee. She joined Goldman Sachs in 2020 as a Partner. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Ruemmler was a Litigation Partner at Latham & Watkins LLP where she was Global Chair of the White Collar Defense and Investigations practice. Previously, she served as counsel to President Barack H. Obama and was his longest-serving White House counsel. She also served in the Department of Justice, including as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, Deputy Director of the Enron Task Force, and Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. Earlier in her career, Ms. Ruemmler served as Associate Counsel to President William J. Clinton. She began her career as a law clerk to Judge Timothy K. Lewis of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Ms. Ruemmler is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. She serves on the Board of Trustees of the German Marshall Fund.

## **DANIEL & DEBORAH GLASS**

host

**HAYES WARNER**

**Daniel Glass** is the founder and president of Glassnote Records. Launched in 2007, the acclaimed, Grammy-winning independent label has been the home to genre-bending visionaries including Mumford & Sons, Phoenix, Childish Gambino, CHVRCHES, Two Door Cinema Club, The Temper Trap, Hamilton Leithauser, Jade Bird, Silvana Estrada, and many more. Before starting his own company, Glass was an executive at major labels including Chrysalis, EMI, Universal, and Artemis, where he shaped the careers of icons such as Pat Benatar, Huey Lewis & The News, Billy Idol, Erykah Badu, Warren Zevon, and Sinéad O'Connor, to name a few. Although Daniel has technically been a part-time resident of Washington since 1987, he and Deborah have always felt it is their true home and community. Daniel will be joined by a **Special Guest Artist from Glassnote**.

**Hayes Warner** was named one of *People's* "Emerging Artists to Watch" in 2023. Hayes describes her sound as "high-octane and in-your-face." Born and raised in New York City, her music combines her hometown's gritty energy with a determined spirit. Hayes has been writing songs since she was 14 years old and has no plans of stopping. At 16, she began recording her music and honing her craft. In 2022, she graduated from Northwestern University's musical theatre program. Her hard work has paid off. In 2023, Hayes inked a worldwide representation deal with Creative Artists Agency and signed her first worldwide publishing deal with music industry icon Daniel Glass at Connection Music Publishing, the publishing branch of Glassnote Records. Hayes recently appeared on Good Day New York. Her songs include "Shut Up," "Dead To Me," "Breadcrumbs," and her latest single "Just A Girl, which has just broken into the top 40 charts.

## **CAROLINE VANDERLIP & MARK KRENTZMAN**

host

**DANNY MEYER**

**Caroline Vanderlip** came to Washington in 1987 and Mark joined her 8 years later. Caroline is the CEO of Re:Dish, a sustainability company started in the height of the pandemic to replace single use packaging used in institutional food service with a reusable product and the service to collect, wash, sanitize, and re-deliver that product to Re:Dish's Fortune 500 and K-12 customer base. **Mark Krentzman** sits on several boards and is most actively involved with life sciences tech company, Phizzle, and the Norman Rockwell Museum. Caroline and Mark split their time between Washington, CT and NY.

**Danny Meyer** is the Founder of Union Square Hospitality Group and the Founder and Chairman of Shake Shack. USHG comprises some of New York's most beloved restaurants, including Union Square Cafe, Gramercy Tavern, The Modern, Ci Siamo, Manhatta, Daily Provisions, and more. Danny and his team have earned an unprecedented 28 James Beard Awards, including Outstanding Restaurateur in America and Humanitarian of the Year. His business book, "Setting The Table", a *New York Times* best seller, reveals the power of hospitality in restaurants, business, and life. A sought-after speaker and educator, Danny has set industry standards for innovative hiring practices, building culture, corporate responsibility, and leading change.

**CAROLYN MACDONALD and SARAH LEE MARTIN**

co-host

**PATRICIA BEARD**

**Carolyn MacDonald** moved to Washington in 2023 after having visited over the past decade. Prior to her arrival she lived in England, The Bahamas, Utah, and New York City. She retired from a Wall Street career in 1989 and moved to England with her husband, Robert. She currently serves on the board of the National Theatre in London as an Associate of the American Board and is a Trustee Emerita of the American Museum in Britain. She is a Director of The Bransford Land Company in Park City, Utah. She and her corgi, Mister Flash, are delighted to be living in Washington and supporting the Gunn Memorial Library with Luminary Patricia Beard. **Sarah Lee Martin** has enjoyed the Litchfield Hills since the 1960s when she was a summer camper at Po-Ne-Mah in Kent, CT. She and her husband live in New Preston. A graduate of Johns Hopkins University and Columbia University, she was an investment banker for over 20 years. She and her sister Claudia own Hays Worthington in New Preston Village specializing in fine and period jewelry. Sarah Lee is honored to support the Gunn Memorial Library with Luminary Patricia Beard.

**Patricia Beard** is the author of 12 non-fiction books, one novel, and selected private commissions. Her subjects combine social history—the portrait of eras from the Gilded Age to the present—with dramatic stories of men and women who influenced or were influenced by their times. Ms. Beard is a former features editor at *Town & Country* and *Mirabella*, and a former Contributing Editor at *Elle*. She was born and raised in New York City and graduated from Bryn Mawr College. She and her husband live on a former dairy farm in Dutchess County, NY with their two dogs. Her published works include: “Face the Music,” A Memoir of Peter Duchin; “A Certain Summer”, a novel of secrets and espionage set on a private island in 1948; “Newsmaker, Roy W. Howard”, the electrifying story of the mastermind of the Scripps-Howard Empire; “Blue Blood and Mutiny: The Fight for the Soul of Morgan Stanley”; and “After The Ball: Gilded Age Secrets, Boardroom Betrayals & the Party That Ignited the Great Wall Street Scandal of 1905”. Currently, she is working on “Soundings”, a novel set in 1936 about a young journalist who risks her life when she reveals the truth about the Nazi-indoctrination Camp Siegfried on Long Island; and investigates such prominent American companies as Standard Oil and GM, who helped the Nazis develop their military machine. Based on facts.

**ALESSANDRA & ALAN MNUCHIN**  
host  
**ALEXIS ROCKMAN & DOROTHY SPEARS**

**Alessandra & Alan Mnuchin** have been part-time Washington residents since 2008. Alan is a private equity executive who focuses on companies primarily in the media content and technology industries. Prior to this, Alan was the founding partner of a merchant banking firm, and previously was an investment banker with various Wall Street firms. He serves on the boards of UJA-Federation, the International Tennis Hall of Fame, and the Steep Rock Association. Alessandra was born in Italy and came to the U.S. over twenty years ago. She is a former executive at Sanford Bernstein, an institutional research firm, and now works in interior design while also keeping busy with their children, Arielle and Liam. They love being a part of the Washington community and have been regular supporters of the Gunn Memorial Library.

For more than 20 years, **Alexis Rockman**, a painter and environmental activist, and his wife, **Dorothy Spears**, an arts journalist and writer, have embarked on expeditions led by professional naturalists to biodiverse locations like Tasmania, Antarctica, Madagascar, and Ecuador. Rockman's paintings and watercolors have appeared alongside Spears' texts in magazines like *Departures*, and in the *New York Times*. They are currently working on a museum project in Naples. Alexis began making paintings and works on paper focusing on the biodiversity crisis and global warming starting in the mid-1980s. His work has been exhibited around the world, including at the Venice Biennale, Carnegie Museum of Art, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Serpentine Galleries, and many more. He also worked on the 2012 movie "Life of Pi" with Ang Lee, as "Inspirational Artist" *Alexis Rockman: Oceanus*, a major exhibition premiered at Mystic Seaport Museum and *Mark Dion and Alexis Rockman: Journey to Nature's Underworld*, which opens at the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College in July 2024, the first two-person exhibition of these closely allied artists. Dorothy has written regularly for the *New York Times* for years, as well as many other magazines including *Art in America*, *ArtNews*, *Elle*, *Architectural Digest*, and *Gagosian Quarterly*. An anthology she edited, "Flight Patterns: A Century of Stories about Flying" was published by Open City Books/Grove Press in 2009. Her personal essays have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, and her essay, "Labor Day Weekend," first published by *Epiphany Magazine*, received notice in Best American Essays in 2017. She has recently finished a memoir, "Art Tarts", about coming of age in the late-1980s when she worked for the renowned late art dealer Leo Castelli. Alexis and Dorothy have been full-time residents of Warren, CT for the past several years.

## **INES DE SEROUX & MATIAS SANTA CRUZ**

host

### **AMY CAPPELLAZZO**

**Ines de Seroux & Matias Santa Cruz** have been full-time Washington residents since 2020. They were both born and raised in Europe before moving to NYC over 20 years ago. Ines came to pursue a career in the contemporary art world while Matias is an investment banker. They have two kids at Washington Montessori and two very spoiled dogs.

**Amy Cappellazzo** has spent nearly three-decades working at the highest level of the global fine art market. In October 2021, she founded Art Intelligence Global, a private art services and advisory firm with her partner, Yuki Terasa, dual-headquartered in New York and Hong Kong. Previously, she was Chairman of the Fine Art Division of Sotheby's. She came to Sotheby's when her advisory firm, Art Agency Partners, was acquired by the auction house in 2016. Amy previously served as a leader in the field of contemporary art at Christie's, where she rose to the position of Chairman of Post-War & Contemporary Development over thirteen years. Cappellazzo began her career as an art advisor and curator, and was instrumental in the establishment of Art Basel in Miami Beach. A proud Buffalo native, Amy sits on the board of the Buffalo AKG Art Museum where she was integral in the institution's recent 3-year expansion and renovation. In addition, Amy serves on the board of New York University's Institute of Fine Arts and Bard College's Center for Curatorial Studies. In 2023, she was appointed to the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Property Advisory Committee, working with international government agencies around the world to protect and preserve cultural heritage.