

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 30, 2015

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN JEWISH
HISTORY
A Smithsonian Institution Affiliate

Media Contacts:

Yael Eytan
215.923.5978
773.551.6956 (c)
yeytan@nmajh.org

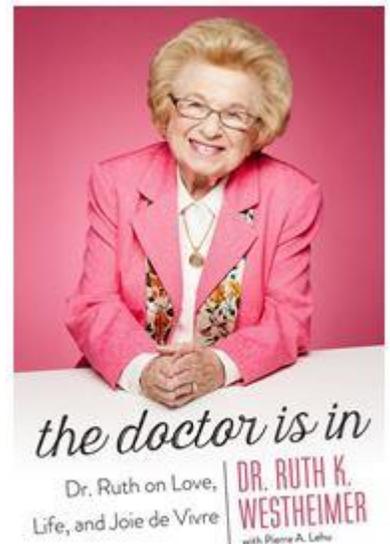
Ilana Blumenthal
215.391.4662
267.294.8425 (c)
iblumenthal@nmajh.org

DR. RUTH NAMED *DREAMER AND DOER* FOR
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY'S
ANNUAL SPEAKER SERIES

Cultural icon to be interviewed live by WHYY's Maiken Scott November 16 at 6pm

On **Monday, November 16 at 6 pm**, **Dr. Ruth Westheimer**, a pioneer in psychosexual therapy and cultural icon, will speak at the National Museum of American Jewish History's third annual ***Dreamers and Doers*** speaker series program.

"It's chutzpah that has helped me to succeed – some of it is European, some, my Jewish upbringing, and some, the American spirit," said **Dr. Ruth Westheimer**. **Dr. Ruth**, as she is lovingly known, will share her incredible and moving story of survival and success, from fleeing Nazi Germany as a young girl to serving as a sharpshooter in the *Haganah* (Israel's Freedom Fighters) to becoming the pioneering psychosexual therapist, educator, and cultural icon adored and respected around the world today.



Program attendees will learn firsthand how her background, identity, fearlessness, and tenacity inform her work and have helped her to achieve success through helping others.

Dr. Ruth's new book, *The Doctor Is In: Dr. Ruth on Love, Life, and Joie de Vivre* (June 2015), will be available for sale and signing at the program and is available through the Museum store.

Ivy L. Barsky, the Museum's CEO and Gwen Goodman Director notes, "I've known Dr. Ruth for many years and have the utmost admiration for her and for her story of survival after fleeing Europe during WWII. Dr. Ruth is clearly a perfect fit for our Dreamers and Doers speaker series. She embodies the stories of courage, vision, spirit, and leadership that the Museum tells. We are thrilled to have her share her fascinating life story—from immigrating to America to becoming the icon she is today."

In describing her latest book, Dr. Ruth, now 87, says she uses "examples of how despite all the tragedies that I faced, I always try to have a positive attitude. And that is the core of the American ideal. I'm proud to be a citizen and we Americans always have hope that no matter what is going on today, tomorrow will be a better day. And to put a Jewish spin to it, in this getting ahead you also have to think of the rest of the world and work in the spirit of Tikkun Olam, to repair the world."

This event will be moderated by WHYY's Behavioral Health Reporter and Host of *The Pulse*, **Maiken Scott**.

Media sponsor: **WHYY**

About Dr. Ruth

Dr. Ruth K. Westheimer is a psychosexual therapist who sprang to national attention in the early 1980s with her live radio program, *Sexually Speaking*. She went on to have her own TV program, appeared on the cover of *People* magazine and *TV Guide*, and is the author of thirty-seven books. A one-woman show about her life, Dr. Ruth, *All The Way*, is currently touring. Dr. Ruth teaches at Columbia's Teachers College.

About the *Dreamers and Doers Speaker Series*

The National Museum of American Jewish History's annual *Dreamers and Doers Speaker Series* features individuals who embody a uniquely American spirit and whose stories are characterized by the values critical to the success achieved by immigrants who came to America in search of opportunity and a better life—courage and imagination, aspiration and hard work, leadership and service. Previous *Dreamers and Doers* include renowned shoe designer Stuart Weitzman and the most senior female executive with Major League Baseball, Kim Ng.

This series has been anonymously endowed by a friend of the Museum and admirer of all *Dreamers and Doers*.

###

The National Museum of American Jewish History, located on historic Independence Mall in Philadelphia, brings to life the 350-year history of Jews in America. Tracing the stories of how Jewish immigrants became Jewish Americans, the Museum invites visitors of all backgrounds to share their own stories and reflect on how their histories and identities shape and are shaped by the American experience. An open door for all, NMAJH honors the past and contributes to a better future by sharing the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, leadership and service, in ways that turn inspiration into action.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 101 South Independence Mall East at the corner of Fifth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. Museum hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm. NMAJH is closed most Mondays, including federal holidays and some Jewish holidays. Museum admission is \$12.00 for adults, \$11.00 for senior citizens and youth, free for children 12 and under, Museum Members, and active military with ID. For more information, visit NMAJH.org or call 215.923.3811.