

Elie Wiesel at Temple Israel Live Via Satellite

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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April 1, 2010 (MEMPHIS, TN)--Elie Wiesel, recipient of the Nobel Prize for Peace and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, will be giving a talk from New York that will be broadcast live at Temple Israel on Thursday, April 15 at 7:00pm.



Wiesel's presentation, *A World in Crisis: What Are Our Moral Obligations*, is part of the *Live from NY's 92nd Street Y* broadcast series. Through the generosity of the Hohenberg Scheidt Fund, Temple Israel has secured the exclusive Memphis-area rights to show, live via satellite, esteemed speakers in this highly regarded educational and cultural programming series. Participants have included President Bill Clinton, Robert Redford, Sandra Day O'Conner, Paul McCartney, Alan Dershowitz, and Mario Cuomo.

His talk on April 15, which is free and open to the public, will "explore the obligations of humans in general, and the Jewish community in particular, in responding to the crises around us—from the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to the looming threat of a nuclear-armed Iran, from an unstable Pakistan to genocide in Africa."

His words from his Nobel acceptance speech are as meaningful and relevant today as when he spoke them in 1986. "...I swore never to be silent whenever wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation," Wiesel said. "We must take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant. Wherever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must--at that moment--become the center of the universe."

Wiesel is a world-renowned and respected political and human rights activist, professor, and author of more than forty books, including the internationally acclaimed best seller *Night*, which details his experience in the concentration camps.

The *Live from NY's 92nd Street Y* series offers lectures, interviews, panels and readings featuring newsmakers, political figures, opinion-shapers and authors. With its involvement in this series, Temple Israel extends an invitation to the Jewish community and the Greater Memphis community to hear from some of the world's most fascinating people as they participate in compelling and thought-provoking interactive discussions regarding events and issues that affect our lives.

As its website indicates, New York's 92nd Street Y was founded in 1874 as the Young Men's Hebrew Association "where Jewish men could find harmony and good fellowship, the 92nd Street Y today has evolved into a world-renowned community and cultural center, an organization of exhilarating vitality and remarkable diversity, a proudly Jewish institution that reaches out to people of every race, ethnicity, religion, age and economic class."

Temple Israel is located in East Memphis at 1376 East Massey Rd and online at www.timemphis.org.

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