

National Council of Jewish Women
Bergen County Section
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NCJW REMEMBERS LATE CO-PRESIDENT, JANE ABRAHAM
Teaneck International Film Festival Presents Film *Ask for Jane*

TEANECK – National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section is remembering its much-loved late Co-President, Jane Abraham, by co-sponsoring *Ask for Jane*, a dramatic film presented by the Teaneck International Film Festival (TIFF). The movie will be shown on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Temple Emeth, 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck and will be followed by a talkback with a group of powerful women.

Ask for Jane is an historic drama that tells the story of a pregnant student at the University of Chicago in 1969 who attempts to take her own life. Fellow co-eds Rose and Janice find a doctor willing to perform an abortion in secret to save her and, sparked by this experience, they form the Jane Collective, a secret organization that helps other women obtain safe and illegal abortions. Operating like a spy network, complete with blindfolds and code names, the Janes help thousands of women - but they can't hide from the police forever.

Particularly relevant at a time when Roe vs. Wade is under attack, the film is co-sponsored by the National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section, a branch of a national volunteer organization (NCJW Inc.) that strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms; WOW, a loose association of Wise Older Women that supports the TIFF; and Stanton Strong, a non-partisan women's group dedicated to defending a woman's right to choose and protecting access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare for all women. Sandi Klein, formerly a WINS Radio anchor and currently the creator of the podcast, *Conversations with Creative Women*, will moderate a panel of four: director/writer Rachel Carey; producer/writer/actress Cait Cortelyou, an original "Jane"; activist Heather Booth; and award-winning author and journalist Angela Bonavoglia.

The program is dedicated to the memory of NCJW BCS Co-President Jane Abraham, who passed away in March 2019. WOW Women of the Year awards will be presented to Jane Abraham posthumously for her contributions to NCJW BCS, Bergen READS and Age-Friendly Teaneck; and to Eva Tobias, a dedicated activist and volunteer. "*Ask for Jane* is an especially relevant film by which to remember Jane Abraham," said Bari-Lynne Schwartz, Co-President of NCJW BCS, "as she was a passionate advocate for women's reproductive rights."

Interest is high for *Ask for Jane*. Over twenty advocacy and faith-based organizations, and the list keeps growing, have signed on as partners/supporters. *Ask for Jane* will be the closing film of the 2019 Teaneck International Film Festival, a project of the Puffin Foundation, Ltd. Please check the TIFF website -

www.teaneckfilmfestival.org - to learn full details of the film festival, which has the theme, *Activism: Making Change*, and for information about tickets, special guests, venues, talkbacks, sponsors and more. The Festival runs from November 14-17, 2019 when, for four days, Teaneck is the center of the film world. Advanced ticket purchase is recommended since space is limited.

NCJW BCS provides educational and stimulating programs and speakers throughout the year, including six general meetings and a myriad of study groups, book groups, trips and advocacy opportunities. For more information on NCJW BCS and its upcoming programs, please visit www.ncjwbcs.org or call 201-385-4847.

For more information on the Teaneck International Film Festival, please email tiff@teaneckfilmfestival.org or call 201-203-1723.

National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW): 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.

Teaneck International Film Festival (TIFF): With the support of the nonprofit organization Puffin Foundation, a small group of dedicated volunteers set out, more than a decade ago, to create an event that would present a collection of compelling and imaginative feature-length films, documentaries, and shorts from a variety of cultures that would lead audiences to question, debate, and become caring and involved citizens who recognize the need to institute positive change. TIFF has found its niche on the film festival circuit, and, having been dubbed by the Star-Ledger, “the film festival with a social conscience,” is growing in reputation as well as numbers.

Photo caption:

Jane Abraham, late Co-President of National Council of Jewish women Bergen County Section will be remembered through the showing of *Ask for Jane* at the Teaneck International Film Festival.