

# Anita Diamant Keynotes National Council of Jewish Women's Opening Program September 30

**World-renowned author of *The Red Tent*, *The Boston Girl*, others**

Anita Diamant, world-renowned author and former journalist, brings her charm, respected literary voice and love of Judaism to Cleveland on Wednesday, Sept. 30, as the keynote speaker of National Council of Jewish Women/Cleveland's (NCJW/Cleveland) Opening Meeting. The program, "Weaving Our Stories Together: An Afternoon with Anita Diamant," takes place at 1:00 pm at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple, 23737 Fairmount Boulevard, Beachwood. Cost is \$25, which includes a dessert reception.

Prior to Diamant's keynote address, a luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. at Fairmount Temple where the author will offer personal anecdotes and stories. The luncheon costs \$75 for patrons and \$125 for benefactors.

Diamant, a graduate of Washington University in comparative

literature with a Master's degree in American literature from Binghamton University, published her first work of fiction, *The Red Tent*, in 1977. Inspired by a few lines from Genesis, it tells the story of Jacob and Leah's only daughter, and became a world-wide best seller, award-winner and TV miniseries.

Her subsequent novels include *Good Harbor*, a contemporary story about women's friendships, a breast cancer diagnosis and a floundering marriage; *The Last Days of Dogtown*, describing poor, rural, small-town life in the early 1800s on Cape Ann; and *Day After Night*, the story of women who lived through the Holocaust and await the future in a British internment camp in pre-Israeli Palestine. Her newest work of fiction, *The Boston Girl*, explores the

generational and immigrant gap between parents and children in the first decades of the 1900s.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Newark and Denver, Diamant began her career in Boston writing for local publications and for national media on a wide range of subjects, such as prominent people, medical ethics and politics. She also wrote five guidebooks on Jewish living, from *How to Raise a Jewish Child*, to *Saying Kaddish: How to Comfort the Dying, Bury the Dead and Mourn as a Jew*.

She is the founding president of Mayyim Hayyim, Living Waters Community Mikveh and Education Center in Newton Massachusetts — a reinvention of the ancient Jewish tradition of mikveh, ritual immer-



sion in water.

Susan Ringel and Laura Halpert are co-chairs for the program. For more information, visit [www.ncjwcleveland.org](http://www.ncjwcleveland.org). To register, call

216.378.2204.

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