

GPC Members Meeting 2018: Building Trust for Philanthropic Impact

Asia Society, 725 Park Avenue, New York, NY

Wednesday, May 9, 2018

9:00 am – 4:30 pm



Jeannie Blaustein, GPC Member, is deeply committed to issues related to End of Life care and practices in this country. She is the founding board chair of Re:Imagine, a non-profit organization dedicated to creating evocative citywide community-driven events about end-of-life designed to transform our thinking, our living and our dying.

End of Life has been a long-standing interest of Jeannie's. She has served as a hospice volunteer at Beth Israel Hospital, Zicklin Residential Hospice in Riverdale, NY, and as a hospice visitor in people's homes. Jeannie completed the Art of Dying Institute's End of Life doula course (to accompany the dying) taught by Henry Fersko-Weiss, and she currently sits on the Steering Committee of "What Matters: Caring Conversations About End of Life", which was initiated through a partnership between leaders in NYC's Jewish community with the nationally recognized advance care planning program 'Respecting Choices' developed in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Jeannie is a certified What Matters/Respecting Choices Facilitator, Instructor and Supervisor, has co-created and teaches ongoing continuing education for the program's facilitation team, and regularly facilitates ACP conversations with individuals and their loved ones through the What Matters program.

Jeannie is an Executive Producer of *Defining Hope*, a film by noted photographer Carolyn Jones, highlighting the critical role that nurses play in hospice care. Jeannie and her husband Peter Bokor are also Executive Producers of *Wrestling Jerusalem The Film*, by Aaron Davidman, following her successful effort to produce a 5-week Off Broadway run of the stage production of *Wrestling Jerusalem*, a remarkable one-man show which depicts the complexity of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict through empathy-driven portrayals of 17 different individual stakeholders in the situation.

Jeannie is the board president of The Morton K. and Jane Blaustein Foundation, a family foundation based in Baltimore, MD which works to advance racial, environmental and immigrant/refugee justice. She has served on numerous not-for-profit boards, including the Berman Bioethics Institute of Johns Hopkins University and Congregation B'nai Jeshurun's Board of Trustees (President, then Chair). She was a founding director of LitWorld in 2007, currently serving on its Advisory Council, and is an active member of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, serving on its board since 2010.

Jeannie is a graduate of Brown University (A.B. History) and NYU University (M.A. History). She is a licensed clinical psychologist (City University of NY) and holds a Doctor of Ministry degree in pastoral care and counseling (Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion). She is currently a chaplaincy student at the Jewish Theological Seminary, working on the Geriatric and Palliative Care service at Mt. Sinai Hospital in NYC.

Jeannie lives in NYC with her husband Peter Bokor, and happily welcomes home their two college-age daughters when vacations allow!