



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR
TO SPEAK AT
APRIL 12
MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

Leon Rubinstein
Author of
As I am Presently Known

Bedford Embraces Diversity has announced that author and holocaust survivor Leon Rubinstein will speak at the Bedford Multicultural Festival this spring on Sunday, April 12, 2015. Mr. Rubinstein, one of the few remaining holocaust survivors, will be reading passages from his book, *As I am Presently Known*, as well as participating in panel discussion about facing historical wrongs against minority groups. Signed copies of his book will be available for sale.

Mr. Rubenstein was born in Poland in 1930 and lost most of his family during the Holocaust. At the end of the war, he emigrated to British Palestine and fought in the Israeli War of Independence. Eventually, he emmigrated to the United States where he raised a family and became an inventor.

“We are honored that Mr. Rubinstein has graciously accepted our invitation to participate in Bedford’s First Multicultural Festival” said Marilou Barsam, Chair, Bedford Embraces Diversity. “Mr. Rubinstein is particularly looking forward to talking to the young people who attend the festival and sharing his personal stories from a very difficult time. As he experienced the war as a child, he hopes to pass his story and legacy on to today’s youth, so that they may protect it and prevent the world from allowing hateful acts to repeat themselves. We hope that many people young and old take advantage of this special opportunity to hear him speak.”

Area residents, students, businesses, and performing artists can also participate in the festival through sponsorship, food service, performing, or volunteering at the event. Those interested should contact barsammarilou@gmail.com.

About Bedford Embraces Diversity

Bedford Embraces Diversity’s mission is to educate the Bedford community about the diverse groups that make up its complexion and population as well as to celebrate the differences these cultures bring to our community. This committee formed from the task force of concerned citizens created by Superintendent of Schools Jon Sills in response to incidents of anti-Semitism. Echoing the values of our community, the organization strongly advocates for the respectful treatment of every Bedford resident, student, and employee, and denounces all acts of bullying, hate and violence towards any individual or group with differences such as racial, religious, cultural, military, or LGBT status. More information is available at www.bedfordembracesdiversity.com and <https://www.facebook.com/bedfordembracesdiversity>.