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Chicago Humanities Festival Presents Cookie Love with Mindy Segal

James Beard Award Winner and HotChocolate Founder Debuts New Cookbook

Wednesday, April 22 at Bottom Lounge



CHICAGO, IL—March 25, 2015—The **Chicago Humanities Festival (CHF)** presents Chicago pastry chef **Mindy Segal** on **Wednesday, April 22 at 7 p.m.** at the **Bottom Lounge (1375 W Lake St)**. The James Beard Foundation award winner will discuss her highly anticipated first cookbook *Cookie Love* with WBEZ *Chewing the Fat* podcasters **Louisa Chu** and **Monica Eng**. **Tickets** range from **\$8–18** and **book/ticket packages** range from **\$30–35** and are currently on sale at chicagohumanities.org or via the **CHF Box Office** at **312-494-9509**.

In a city where hot dogs and Italian beefs reign supreme and where foodies can enjoy a true gastronomic mecca, Segal looks to shine a greater light to the cookie and exalt it to be among Chicago's best culinary offerings. Segal's new cookbook, *Cookie Love*, explores the confectionary queen's ability to add a contemporary twist on classic deserts. The book is Segal's decadent and dazzling ode to the most satisfying of sweets.

"*Cookie Love* has some of the most inspiring forms and flavors we've seen in this genre for a generation," said **Chu**. "I'm excited to talk to Mindy about her stories behind her pastry craft, especially what may be the most emotionally charged American cookie: chocolate chip!"

[Continued]

Mindy Segal was awarded the James Beard Foundation award for Outstanding Pastry Chef in the Country in 2012 and was nominated for the category five years in a row, from 2007–2011. She has been featured in *The New York Times*, *GQ*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Food & Wine*, and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. She has made television appearances on *The Today Show*, *The Martha Stewart Show*, and *The Food Network*. Segal is the proprietor of Chicago's popular HotChocolate Restaurant and Dessert Bar. She lives in Chicago. *Cookie Love* is her first cookbook.

Segal will be joined in conversation by WBEZ *Chewing the Fat* podcasters **Louisa Chu** and **Monica Eng**. Eng is a producer and reporter with WBEZ, Chicago Public Radio and before that she covered food, culture, health, and food policy at the *Chicago Tribune* for 16 years, for which she was nominated for five James Beard awards. Chu is a chef, journalist, and adventurer. She has appeared on *Iron Chef America*, *Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations*, *Gourmet's Diary of a Foodie*, and *Big Ideas for a Small Planet*. Her writing has been published in *Gourmet* and *CHOW*. She has staged at El Bulli in Spain, Alain Ducasse in Paris, and Alinea and Moto in Chicago.

EVENT:

G=General Public, M=CHF Member, ST=Students & Teachers



[Cookie Love with Mindy Segal](#) | Wednesday, April 22 | 7 p.m.

Bottom Lounge (1375 W Lake St) | M=\$14 G=\$18 ST=\$8 | Book/ticket package: M/ST=\$30 G=\$35

Chicago is a mecca for foodies of all types, whether in search of our famed hot dogs, delicious tacos, or the latest in high-end gastronomy. But if **Mindy Segal** has her way, the city will soon be known for cookies! The intrepid founder of Bucktown's HotChocolate is already a confectionery queen. Her new cookbook, *Cookie Love*, is a decadent and dazzling ode to the most satisfying of sweets. In conversation with WBEZ *Chewing the Fat* podcasters **Monica Eng** and **Louisa Chu**, Segal will talk

Brown Butter with Hickory Smoked Bacon Chocolate Chip Cookies and Crème de Violet Snickerdoodles, among other delectables. And yes, there will be samples!

TICKETS:

Tickets to **Cookie Love with Mindy Segal** range from **\$8–18** and **book/ticket packages** range from **\$30–35** and are now on sale [online](#) or via the **CHF Box Office** at **312-494-9509**, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Discounted tickets are available for CHF members and students/teachers. To become a member, visit [supportchf.org](#). A \$6 per order processing fee is applied to all pre-event sales. CHF Box Office Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ADDITIONAL CHF SPRING PROGRAMS:



[Scott Simon](#) | Thursday, April 9 | 6 p.m.

First United Methodist Church (77 W Washington St) | M=\$14 G=\$18 ST=\$8

For NPR fans the name **Scott Simon** is practically a synonym for Saturday morning. The longtime host of *Weekend Edition* sets a more leisurely pace than his weekday compatriots with his warm and funny sensibility and sensitive, in-depth interviews and features. So when he began tweeting from his mother's hospital bedside in July 2013, was it any wonder his 1.2 million followers paid close attention? His new memoir, *Unforgettable: A Son, a Mother, and the Lessons of a Lifetime*, expands on those famous tweets to share a story that goes beyond his mother's death to explore her glamorous, *Mad Men*-era early days and her challenges as a single mother. Chicago son Simon will take to the CHF stage in a rare role—interviewee—to share this story of a lifetime. Simon is joined in conversation by **Alison Cuddy**, CHF's associate artistic director and former WBEZ 91.5 host.



[Amy Klobuchar: Joanne Alter Women in Government Lecture](#) | Friday, May 1 | 6 p.m.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago (126 E Chestnut St) | M=\$10 G=\$15 ST=\$5

Amy Klobuchar is a trailblazer. The first woman elected from Minnesota to serve in the United States Senate, the Democrat is known for her commitment to bringing together politicians from both sides of the aisle. A graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, Klobuchar worked to create a bipartisan debt commission and championed the most sweeping ethics reform since Watergate. Senator Klobuchar's name is on a number of shortlists of potential candidates for the 2016 presidential race, and the *American Prospect* named her "a woman to watch." Join Klobuchar for a wide-ranging program, as she reflects on her tenure in the US Senate, and the state of women in government today. *This annual lecture honors the late Joanne H. Alter's pioneering work on behalf of women interested in social action and public service.*



[Stages, Sights & Sounds](#) | International Performance Festival for Young Audiences

May 7–20, 2015 | Various Times

Victory Gardens Biograph Theater (2433 N Lincoln Ave) | Adults = \$14, Children (under 17) = \$7

Stages, Sights & Sounds is Chicago's only international performance festival for young audiences. Fresh, original performances from Canada, Europe, and even our hometown, Chicago, will delight children and adults alike. Join us for dozens of performances, hands-on workshops, readings, and screenings this May!



[Liminal Camera: Chicago](#) | Thursday, May 14 | 5:30 p.m.

DePaul Art Museum (935 W Fullerton Ave) | Opening is free to all attendees

We were thrilled to have the **Liminal Camera** in residence during last fall's Festival. Now the crew behind the world's largest fully functional camera returns with some of the extraordinary pictures they produced during their autumn journey around Chicago. The stunning twelve-foot-by-eight-foot prints of our hometown will be the focus of an exhibition at the DePaul Art Museum. Join the artists from **Metabolic Studio** for an opening evening as they recount their exploration of the city and how the

Midwest inspired them. *This opening is presented in partnership with the DePaul Art Museum.*



[Judy Blume](#) | Wednesday, June 17 | 7 p.m.

Francis W Parker School (2233 N Clark St) | M=\$10 G=\$15 ST=\$5

Judy Blume, literary icon and beloved author of *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*, *Forever*, and *Summer Sisters*, returns with a story that's preoccupied her for the past sixty years. When Blume was a teenager in the early 1950s, a series of passenger airplanes crashed in Elizabeth, New Jersey within a three-month period. "These events have lingered in my mind ever since. It was a crazy time. We were witnessing things that were incomprehensible to us as teenagers." *In the Unlikely Event* traces

the reverberations of these tragedies, through her own life and beyond. Blume returns to Chicago to discuss her new novel with one of the many readers she's inspired over the years, the *Chicago Tribune's Heidi Stevens*. *This program is presented in partnership with the Chicago Tribune's Printers Row series.*

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About the Chicago Humanities Festival

For 25 years, the Chicago Humanities Festival has celebrated the questions that shape and define us as individuals, communities, and cultures. For the curious at heart, CHF's vibrant **year-round programming** and robust **Fall Festival** offer the opportunity to engage with some of the world's most brilliant minds. Collaborating with leading arts, cultural, and educational organizations, it presents scholars, artists and architects, thinkers, theologians, and policy makers that change how we see the world, where we're from, and where we're going. CHF also presents the spring **Stages, Sights & Sounds**, Chicago's only international children's theater festival. Under the leadership of **Executive Director Phillip Bahar** and the newly appointed **Marilynn Thoma Artistic Director Jonathan Elmer**, CHF is one of Chicago's most vital presenting organizations.

The Chicago Humanities Festival has grown from **eight programs in one day at a single venue in 1990**, to **160 programs year-round at more than 25 venues** in and around Chicago. Over the past 25 years, CHF has put on more than 2,600 programs and performances, and presented more than 3,300 speakers and artists, including: 10 Nobel Prize winners, 70 Pulitzer Prize winners, 52 MacArthur Award recipients, 16 Tony Award winners, 10 Grammy Award winners, and seven Academy Award winners. Visit chicagohumanities.org for more information.