BOOK FESTIVAL CONTINUES. The Book Festival of the MJCCA, celebrating 27 years of bringing culture and conversation to the greater Atlanta community, continued through November 18. This year’s festival, with 45+ authors, had something to offer everyone; by the time it concluded, more than 13,000 people from across the Southeast had gathered to engage with and listen to their favorite local, national, and international authors. Most events were held at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody.

Authors that headlined the Festival included Academy Award-winning actor Tom Hanks; New York Times bestselling author and columnist Anna Quindlen; former diplomat and Ambassador Stuart Eizenstat; Senator Joe Lieberman; Tony Award-winning director Kenny Leon; Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Mike Luckovich; Pulitzer Prize-winning presidential historian Jon Meacham; international bestselling novelist Liane Moriarty; host of National Public Radio’s Wait…Don’t Tell Me! Peter Sagal; and Atlanta entrepreneur and business executive Michael Coles.

“We are thrilled about this year’s lineup,” said Book Festival Co-Chair Bea Grossman. “The 27th Edition of the Book Festival featured everyone from acclaimed actors to renowned political figures; from historians to award-winning novelists; from headliners utilizing multi-media presentations to authors presenting award-winning cookbooks and riveting memoirs. We truly had something for everyone — book lover or not.”

“Included in our exciting lineup were some of Atlanta’s best local authors presenting their work,” said Book Festival Co-Chair Susie Hyman. “Additionally, I am thrilled that we brought back our ‘In Conversation’ interviews between authors and local journalists, as well as various events with book clubs from throughout the city.”

TODDLER TUESDAY. Best Books for Babes takes place Tuesdays, November 20 and 27, and December 4, 11, and 18, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon, at MJCCA Zaban Park. The class is open to parents with children aged 18 months to 3 years; it is free and open to the community. Taking some of the classic toddler books and more current bestsellers, each class will focus on an author or story. The class will start with free play in the Sophie Hirsh Srochi Discovery Center, followed by circle time, a story, and a project. Advance registration is required. For more information or to RSVP, visit atlantajcc.org/booksbabes, or contact Jessica Dickson at 678-812-4173 or jessica.dickson@atlantajcc.org.

DIY STUDIO. Metal Stamped Jewelry is Tuesday, November 27, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park. In this class, for ages 21+, learn about metal gauges, practice stamping on different metals, learn proper filling techniques, texturize jewelry blanks to create a hammered effect, and more. Participants will create two pieces of jewelry by the end of the class. Supplies are provided. The fee is members/$30, community/$40. For more information or to RSVP, visit atlantajcc.org/metalstamped. Contact Howard Schreiber at 678-812-3993 or howard.schreiber@atlantajcc.org.

HONE YOUR SKILLS. Knife Skills 101 is Thursday, November 29, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park, for adults 21+. Do you know how to properly hold a knife? What’s the best way to chop an onion? Answer these questions and more as you learn knife skills that will last you a lifetime. Chef Howard will guide participants through a menu of black bean and mango salsa, garlic bread, tomato bruschetta, and spicy roasted sweet potatoes. Wine will be served. The fee is members/$45, community/$60. For more Information or to RSVP, visit atlantajcc.org/knifeskills. Contact: Howard Schreiber at 678-812-3993 or howard.schreiber@atlantajcc.org.

SPECIAL NIGHT. The Winter Daddy Daughter Dance is Sunday, December 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park. Fathers—or stepdads, grandpas, uncles, older brothers, etc.—are invited to come have fun and dance the night away with their little girls (pre-K through sixth grade). Dress up in semi-formal attire for prizes, dinner, and dancing. You’ll take home a keepsake from your special night together. In addition, we will be collecting winter coats, in all sizes, to donate to those in need. The fee is members/$35, community/$50. For more information or to RSVP, visit atlantajcc.org/dancewithdad. Contact Ilana Schlam at 678-812-3727 or ilana.schlam@atlantajcc.org.

LOVE CHOCOLATE. Back of the Chocolate Shop is Monday, December 10, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at MJCCA Zaban Park. This event is for ages 21+. Explore and taste different types of chocolate, and learn how to incorporate chocolate into a variety of delicious confections. Debbie Lewis will walk you through the steps of making sipping chocolate, chocolate ganache truffles, homemade Oreos, and creamy chocolate fondue. Wine will be served. The fee is members/$50, community/$65. For more information or to RSVP, visit atlantajcc.org/chocolateshop. Contact Howard Schreiber at 678-812-3993 or howard.schreiber@atlantajcc.org.