

263 Congressional Lane, #708
Rockville, MD 20852
240-354-3554 (phone)
468-6923 (fax)
siegelz@aol.com
www.dannysiegel.com

Danny Siegel

Danny Siegel is a well-known author, lecturer, and poet who has spoken in more than 500 North American Jewish communities, to synagogues, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish Federations, day schools and afternoon schools, and other communal organizations on Tzedakah and Jewish values, besides reading from his own poetry. He is the author of 29 1/2 books on such topics as Mitzvah heroes and practical and personalized Tzedakah, and has produced *Where Heaven and Earth Touch*, an anthology of 500 selections of Talmudic quotes about living the Jewish life well.

Siegel is sometimes referred to as “The Most Famous Unknown Jewish Poet in America” — among his not-well-enough-known poetry books are *A Hearing Heart* and *Unlocked Doors* — as well as, “Mitzvah Maniac”, “The World’s Greatest Expert on Microphilanthropy”, “The Feeling Person’s Thinker”, and “The Pied Piper of Tzedakah”. His volume *Healing: Readings and Meditations* combines poetry and prose and classical Jewish texts for those in need of healing words.

His recent books in prose include *Danny Siegel’s Bar and Bat Mitzvah Mitzvah Book: A Practical Guide For Changing the World Through Your Simcha, 1 + 1 = 3 and 37 Other Mitzvah Principles For a Meaningful Life*, and *Heroes and Miracle Workers*, a collection of essays about everyday people who are Mitzvah heroes and great Menschen; *Mitzvah Magic — What Kids Can Do To Change the World*. Tzedakah stories for children ages 7-12, and *The Humongous Pushka in the Sky*, a story book for little children.

The very latest are *Who, Me? Yes, You! — Danny Siegel’s Workbook To Help You Decide Where, When, Why, and How You Can Do Your Best Tikkun Olam*, and *Giving Your Money Away — How Much, How to, Why, When, and to Whom: Danny Siegel’s Practical Guide to Personalized Tzedakah*.

Ziv Tzedakah Fund, the non-profit Mitzvah organization he founded in 1981, distributed more than \$13,000,000 to worthy individuals and projects until it ceased operations in 2008.

He has served as the Tzedakah Resource Person on the United Synagogue Youth Israel Pilgrimage for 36 years, from 1976-2011.

Danny has a B.S. in Comparative Literature from Columbia University’s School of General Studies, and a Bachelor’s and Master’s of Hebrew Literature from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

He is one of three recipients of the prestigious 1993 Covenant Award for Exceptional Jewish Educators.

LECTURES AND PROGRAMS

1. 1 + 1 = 3 and Many Other Mitzvah Principles For a Meaningful Jewish Life
2. Where, When, Why, and How You Can Do Your Own Best Tikkun Olam
3. How To Solve All the World's Problems by Making Just One Phone Call, Sending One E-mail, Or Surfing One Website
4. What do Bruce Springsteen, Steven Spielberg, Paul Newman, David Copperfield, Ben & Jerry, and Liz Taylor Know About Mitzvahs That We Don't Know? — How To Be a Mitzvah Hero
5. My Parents Say They Want Me To Be Happy, Healthy, a Mensch, and a Jew, But All They Really Want From Me Is For Me to Get Good Grades
6. Kid Mitzvah Power: Amazing Tikkun Olam Done By Our Young, Medium-Young and Very Young Kinderlach
7. Giving Your Money Away — How Much, How to, Why, When, and to Whom
8. Mitzvah Man and Mitzvah Woman: Every Possible Thing You Need to Know About to Make a Bar or Bat Mitzvah A True and Meaningful Mitzvah Event.
9. Mitzvah DVD Extravaganza: DVD's and Discussions about Mitzvah Heroes and What We Have in Common with Them
10. Is It Enough That They Are Doing Good Things? — What You Need to Know Before You Donate to Any Tzedakah Organization.
11. Just Exactly What Do We Want to Be When We Grow Up?
12. Everyday Miracles: Using Your Mitzvah Power
13. 116 Practical Mitzvah Suggestions: Variety in Your Personal Mitzvah Work
14. 45 Ways to Choose the Kind of Tikkun Olam that Is Best for You
15. *Jewish* Jewish Values for Ourselves, Our Families, and Our Communities
16. Girl Scout Cookies™ and Jewish Tradition
17. What's Jewish About Jewish Leadership: Jewish Texts For Professionals, Lay People, or for Professionals and Lay People
18. Women Mitzvah Heroes: One From The Old Old Days and A Few From Nowadays (Some of Whom You Might Have Wanted as a Grandmother-Mother-Sister-Aunt-Daughter): The Great Ones It Would Be good, Wise, Useful, and Uplifting to Know About
29. So You Fell Asleep During Services — Do You Still Count For a Minyan? (And Other Little-Studied Jewish Laws and Customs)
20. The (Unknown) Famous Five-Minute Speech That Changed Thousands of Lives
21. Retirement — Now Is the Time for Big-Time Tikkun Olam
22. Mitzvahs Are Real Life: Near-Life and Real-Life Experiences
23. It's Already 2012 And Time To Get Out of the 20th Century — Mitzvah Agenda for the North American Jewish Community
24. Practical Menschlichkeit: Jewish Values and Character Education
 - B. The Awesomeness of Being Human: Where Heaven and Earth Touch
 - C. Menschlichkeit, Edelkeit, Ziesskeit, Shaynkeit, Feinheit, and Ehrlichkeit: Human Qualities in Jewish Tradition
25. Torah Study
 1. Gutsy Torah (2-hour, 4-hour, 6-hour, all-day or all-night study marathons)
 2. Unusual Texts: Judaism with Emotion, Yiddishkeit from the Gut — Rarely Taught, Often Ignored, Often Distinctly Off-beat Torah From the Great Rabbis
26. What It Feels Like to Have \$6,543.99/Day to Give Away to Tzedakah
27. Readings from the Author's Poetry and Prose

BOOKS

1. *From the Heart – Love Poems* (Town House Press, 2012)
2. *Who, Me? Yes, You! – Danny Siegel's Workbook To Help You Decide Where, When, Why, and How You Can Do Your Best Tikkun Olam* (Town House Press, 2006)
3. *Giving Your Money Away – How Much, How to, Why, When, and to Whom: Danny Siegel's Practical Guide to Personalized Tzedakah* (Town House Press, 2006)
4. *Danny Siegel's Bar and Bat Mitzvah Mitzvah Book: A Practical Guide For Changing the World Through Your Simcha* (Town House, 2004)
5. *Mitzvah Magic: What Kids Can Do to Change the World* (Karben/Lerner, 2002)
6. *1 + 1 = 3 and 37 Other Mitzvah Principles For a Meaningful Life* (2000)
7. *Healing: Readings and Meditations* (1999)
8. *Heroes and Miracle Workers* (1997)
9. *Good People* (1995)
10. *The Humongous Pushka in the Sky* (Children's Story, 1993)
11. *After the Rain* (Children's Story for Adults), 1993
12. *Tell Me a Mitzvah* (Children's stories, Karben Copies, Inc., 1993)
13. *A Hearing Heart* (poetry, 1992)
14. *The Meadow Beyond the Meadow* (poetry, 1991)
15. *Mitzvahs*, 1990
16. *Family Reunion: Making Peace in the Jewish Community*, 1989
17. *Munbaz II and Other Mitzvah Heroes*, 1988
18. *Gym Shoes and Irises: Personalized Tzedakah*, 1981
Book Two, 1987
19. *Angels* (essays), 1980
20. *Where Heaven and Earth Touch: An Anthology of Midrash and Halachah*
Book One, 1983; *Large Print Edition*, 1985, *Book Two*, 1984,
Book Three, 1985, *Combined Books One-Three*, 1988,
Hardback edition, 1989; *Soft cover*, 1995 (Jason Aronson publishers),
Source Book: Selected Hebrew and Aramaic Sources, 1985
21. *The Unorthodox Book of Jewish Records and Lists* (humor, co-authored with Allan Gould), 1982
22. *The Lord Is A Whisper at Midnight: Psalms and Prayers*, 1985
23. *The Garden, Where Wolves and Lions Do No Harm to the Sheep and Deer* (poetry), 1985
24. *Unlocked Doors: The Selected Poems of Danny Siegel 1969-1983*, 1983
25. *Before Our Very Eyes: Readings for a Journey Through Israel*, 1986
26. *Nine Entered Paradise Alive* (poetry), 1980
27. *Between Dust and Dance* (poetry and prose), 1978
28. *And God Braided Eve's Hair* (poetry), 1976
29. *Soulstoned* (poetry), 1969

TZEDAKAH WORK

1. Founder and chairman of Ziv Tzedakah Fund (U.S.) and Ziv Tzedakah Foundation (Canada)
2. Tzedakah Resource Person, United Synagogue Youth Israel Pilgrimage, 1976-2012

EDUCATION

1. Bachelor of Science in Comparative Literature, Columbia University School of General Studies, 1967
2. Bachelor of Hebrew Literature in Bible and Talmud, Teacher's Institute, Jewish Theological Seminary, 1967
3. Master of Hebrew Literature, Rabbinical School, Jewish Theological Seminary, 1969

TEACHING, LECTURING, LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE TYPES OF PROGRAMS

1. Winner of 1993 Covenant Award for Exceptional Jewish Educators
2. Lecturing, teaching, giving poetry readings at retreats, synagogue week-ends, seminars, teacher seminars, Federation/UJA retreats, JCC staff and lay leadership seminars, Jewish communal professionals seminars, campus programs in 500+ communities, 1962-2012

TYPES OF PROGRAMS

Forums/Audiences:

synagogues,
dayschools, afternoon schools, pre- and post- Bar and Bat Mitzvah groups,
Federations (fundraising and education events),
JCC's,
adult and family education groups
lay and/or Jewish professional leaders
Jewish educators
secular high schools

Formats:

Individual, lectures, seminars, lecture series

- A. Week-ends (4 talks between Friday night and Sunday noon or so)
- B. Mid-week
- C. Kick-off events (e.g., for Mitzvah Day)