

NEWS

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ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF ST. LOUIS 15th ANNUAL AUTHORS BRUNCH FEATURES BEST-SELLING WRITER OF HISTORICAL NOVELS MELANIE BENJAMIN

The 2020 Assistance League Authors Brunch set from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25 features Melanie Benjamin—the author of the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling historical novels, the *Swans of Fifth Avenue*, about Truman Capote and his society swans, and *The Aviator's Wife* about Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

The brunch will be held at The Atrium at Edward Jones, 12555 Manchester Road, Des Peres, MO, where guests will enjoy delicious food, drawings for beautiful opportunity baskets, and a lively and informative discussion from acclaimed author Melanie Benjamin. Her novels have been translated in over 15 languages, featured in national magazines such as *Good Housekeeping*, *People*, and *Entertainment Weekly*, and optioned for film.

Reserve by March 31 at \$70 per reservation—www.alstl.org. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Melanie Benjamin's most recent novel, *Mistress of the Ritz*, published in May 2019, tells the compelling story of the extraordinary real-life American woman who secretly worked for the French Resistance during World War II—while playing hostess to the invading Germans at the iconic Hôtel Ritz in Paris. Previous historical novels include *The Girls in the Picture*, about the friendship and creative partnership between two of Hollywood's earliest female legends; the national bestseller *Alice I Have Been*, about Alice Liddell, the inspiration for Alice in Wonderland; and *The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb*, the story of 32-inch-tall Lavinia Warren Stratton, a star during the Gilded Age.

ABOUT ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF ST. LOUIS. Assistance League of St. Louis is run by an all-volunteer group of more than 500 volunteers. The organization's mission is to identify, develop, fund and implement ongoing philanthropic programs to serve specific needs of children and adults in the St. Louis community. In 2018 alone, Assistance League members and friends donated nearly 80,000 volunteer hours through eight philanthropic programs, touching more than 50,000 lives. Each program has a special focus from providing new school uniforms to shoes and socks and from personal care items for crisis shelter clients to teddy bears for comfort. All funds raised are returned to the St. Louis community. Assistance League of St. Louis is an accredited charity of the Better Business Bureau and has achieved a Platinum Transparency Rating from GuideStar.