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Annual Eat.Bid.Laugh! Celebration Set to Deliver Big Laughs and Bigger Community Impact

Award-Winning Entertainer Alex Edelman to Headline Signature Fundraiser on May 8 at Garden City Hotel

East Hills, N.Y. (May 5, 2025) – On Thursday, May 8, 6:30pm, Sid Jacobson JCC's most anticipated event of the year—*Eat.Bid.Laugh!*—takes center stage at The Garden City Hotel for Long Island's premier night of fine cuisine, coveted auction prizes, and world-class comedy, headlined by Emmy and Tony Award-winning humorist, **Alex Edelman.**

For over 25 years, *Eat.Bid.Laugh!* has generated millions of dollars to fuel more than 80 transformational programs developed by Sid Jacobson JCC in direct response to community needs.

From Camp Kehilla—SJJCC's pioneering summer camp for neurodivergent children, teens, and young adults ages 5-21—to our Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center, Irene & Ronald Cohen Life Skills Training Center for neurodivergent adults 21+, Nikki Schwartz Memorial Community Needs Bank for those facing food insecurity, and the HERO Project for grieving teens, the funds raised help ensure these essential services remain accessible to families and individuals in need.

"Eat.Bid.Laugh! isn't just a fundraiser. It's a celebration of the generosity that defines our community," said **David Black**, Sid Jacobson JCC's Executive Director. "There is no event more exciting or more dynamic on Long Island, and we are proud to stand alongside those we serve to make a lasting impact."

This year's headliner, **Alex Edelman**, is one of the most critically hailed comedians of his generation, best known for solo shows that blur the line between stand-up comedy and

narrative-driven storytelling. His hit show *Just for Us* played more than 500 performances worldwide, including a Broadway run, before premiering as an HBO comedy special in 2024—earning him a place on the *TIME100* list, a Tony Award, and an Emmy Award.

Adding to the evening's excitement is a curated tasting tour featuring over 20 of Long Island's most sought-after culinary destinations. A silent auction—opening to the public on May 2—invites guests to bid on dream getaways, VIP concert experiences, exclusive fashion finds, sports packages, and so much more.

"Eat.Bid.Laugh! is an amazing night that brings our entire community together to raise vital funds for programs that change lives," **Nicole Buslik**, *Eat.Bid.Laugh!* co-chair, stated. "The JCC is a lifeline for so many. My involvement truly fills me with purpose and pride. There is no better feeling than knowing you've made a difference."

From its humble beginnings as a small fundraiser in a gymnasium to becoming a marquee event drawing hundreds each year, *Eat.Bid.Laugh!* has evolved into Long Island's signature night of giving. The heart behind it remains unchanged: lifting others in their time of need and ensuring everyone has a place where they belong.

To inquire about remaining availability, contact **Lauren Melone Silverberg**, Senior Manager of Special Events, at <u>Imelonesilverberg@sijcc.org</u>.

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About Sid Jacobson JCC

Sid Jacobson JCC (<u>sijcc.org</u>) in East Hills provides a full range of cutting-edge recreational, health, fitness, educational, cultural arts, and social service programs. SJJCC promotes Jewish identity and provides a comprehensive program based on Jewish values, traditions, heritage, and culture, and is committed to enriching the lives of all individuals and families in its community. Where life flourishes.

"Like" the JCC on Facebook (<u>facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc</u>) and "Follow Us" on Instagram (<u>instagram.com/sidjacobsonjcc</u>).

Sid Jacobson JCC is a beneficiary agency of the UJA Federation of New York.