



Centro Primo Levi



Consulate General of Italy  
Wagner College  
Columbus Citizens Foundation  
Key Tre Viaggi under the auspices  
of the Jewish Community of Trieste  
National Organization of  
Italian American Women  
Fiorello H. La Guardia Foundation  
Remember the Women Institute



LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, LaGuardia Community College and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives at New York University.

# *Fiorello's Sister; Gemma's Brother*

**Tue. April 24 6:30 pm**

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## FIORELLO'S SISTER; GEMMA'S BROTHER.

On the occasion of the publication of **Fiorello's Sister: Gemma La Guardia Gluck's Story**, the memoir by Gemma La Guardia Gluck, edited by Rochelle G. Saidel (Syracuse University Press).

Opening remarks by **Marjorie B. Tiven**, Commissioner, City of New York. Speakers: **Matilda Raffa Cuomo**, **Katherine LaGuardia**, **Rochelle G. Saidel**. And a special appearance by **Tony Lo Bianco** presenting excerpts from the show *Fiorello*.

Public conversation, slide show, film, and radio clips exploring the early years of the La Guardia family; the political career of Fiorello La Guardia and his public and personal involvement with the American Anti-Nazi-Fascist campaigns, the Jewish Labor Committee, and civilian relief during and after World War II; and Gemma's experiences in Nazi Europe and afterward.

Mayor La Guardia's "Talks to the People" and "Comic Readings" on WNYC are a well-known part of New York City history. However, few people know that in July 1945 the "Little Flower" also used his public passion with the radio to connect to Berlin and speak with his sister Gemma, who had survived Ravensbrück concentration camp with her daughter and baby grandson.

At the core of Gemma's memoir is her recollection of deportation as a political hostage of the Nazis, because of her famous brother. Her story is set against the backdrop of the Italian and Jewish stories of their parents, Triestine Irene Luzzatto Coen and Sicilian Achille La Guardia, their coming to the United States in 1880, the family's return to Trieste in 1898, and Fiorello's pursuit of his passion for politics.

**Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 pm** (sharp) - Reception to follow.  
**Center for Jewish History - 15 West 16 Street, New York**  
Admission: \$20 - Box Office: 917-606-8200 or [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com).  
Information: [www.primolevicenter.org](http://www.primolevicenter.org)



**Centro Primo Levi**  
Italian Studies at the  
Center for Jewish History  
15 West 16 Street  
New York City

*The evening will be enriched by visual and audio documents from the Jewish community of Trieste, WNYC/New York City Archives, the Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives at New York University, Yad Vashem, Mahn- und Gedenkstätte Ravensbrück, Sharlot Hall Museum, Remember the Women Institute, La Guardia family members, The LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, LaGuardia Community College.*