

Vista Hill Council on Mental Health and The Epstein & Bronstein Families

PRESENT

# WALKING THE SIBLING PATH

A Brother's Journey with Autism



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

## WALTER SUSKIND

Walter Suskind is a star of the 2017 Academy Award-nominated documentary, *Life, Animated* which follows the twenty-year journey of his family with autism. He is also the founder of SibStrong, a national organization that helps siblings join together to support their differently-abled brothers and sisters. The movie, based on the 2014 best-selling book by his father, Pulitzer Prize winner Ron Suskind, details how Walter and his younger brother with autism, Owen, formed an extraordinary rapport and mutual support system across two decades.



Drawing from the hit movie, *Life, Animated*, Walter Suskind tells a story of lessons learned as the sibling of a person with autism. He talks about how a brother like Owen has shaped him into the man he is, and provides stirring insights into what characterizes the life of a sibling of someone with autism. These siblings, with an estimated population of more than 10 million in the U.S., are central actors in a many decade life-drama: they both shape, and are shaped by, the affected individual, as the neurotypical who lives the most similar life, in the same cultural present-tense and within the same family. No one, including the parents, often knows the person on the spectrum with the intimacy and kinship to match the sibling. Research and activism, by, for and about siblings, is becoming a national focus – a movement Walter is helping to lead. With a long way yet to go, walking by Owen’s side on the path of life, he will speak about his work and plans to provide support for other siblings and the power and potential that bringing siblings together holds for the entire autism community.

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**FRIENDS OF VISTA HILL FOUNDATION**  
and  
**THE EPSTEIN & BRONSTEIN FAMILIES**

present

**WALKING THE SIBLING PATH:  
A BROTHER'S JOURNEY WITH AUTISM**

With speaker

**WALTER SUSKIND**

Founder of SibStrong, a national organization that helps siblings join together to support their differently-abled brothers and sisters.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018**

11:00 am ~ Registration

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm ~ Luncheon & Program



**HILTON SAN DIEGO RESORT**

1775 East Mission Bay Drive  
San Diego, CA 92109



**INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS**

Jenny Cairncross at **858-514-5155**

Email: **[jcairncross@vistahill.org](mailto:jcairncross@vistahill.org)**

[www.vistahill.org](http://www.vistahill.org)



# VHCMH LUNCHEON PROGRAM, FEATURING **WALTER SUSKIND**

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\*In Memoriam



VISTA HILL COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH  
OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Increase awareness and knowledge of mental health disorders and the effects they have on families;
- Remove the stigma of mental illness through education and outreach; and
- Provide help and positive support to those in need thereby improving their quality of life.

The invitation cover art was created by Vista Hill employee Olivia N. Jimenez. Ms. Jimenez is the Site Coordinator at the Stein Education Center Adult Program, San Diego.

Vista Hill's Stein Education Center is dedicated to creating opportunities that challenge and empower children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through our creative programs, we focus on improving our clients' quality of life by maximizing independence and advocating for community inclusion.

# LIFE, ANIMATED - MOVIE SCREENING



Thursday, September 6, 2018

Stein Education Center • 6145 Decena Drive • San Diego, CA 92120

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Q&A with **Walter Suskind**

\$10 per Adult Ticket(s) • \$5 per Child Ticket(s)

To reserve seats call **Jenny Cairncross**  
at **858.514.5155** or email **[jcairncross@vistahill.org](mailto:jcairncross@vistahill.org)**

[www.vistahill.org](http://www.vistahill.org)

Supervision will be provided.

# WALKING THE SIBLING PATH: A Brother's Journey with Autism

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$1,250 (VIP Table of 10)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$850 (Table of 10)



## NON-MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$125 (VIP Seating)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$85 (Individual Seating)

## MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$100 (VIP Seating)

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$68 (Individual Seating)

My total number of tickets is \_\_\_\_\_. Total amount due \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please list guests on reverse side.

Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to attend, but wish to make a gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed (payable to Vista Hill)     Visa     MasterCard     American Express     Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**RSVP DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018.**

*All seating is assigned on first-received paid status. Luncheon value is \$50, the remainder is a tax-deductible contribution. For more information, please contact Jenny Cairncross at 858-514-5155 or email [jcairncross@vistahill.org](mailto:jcairncross@vistahill.org).*