



February 25, 2021

Holocaust Memorial Center Presents 'A Call to Spy' March 1

The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus in Farmington Hills, in partnership with IFC Films and Tamar Simon from Mean Streets Management, will present "A Call to Spy," a program about women spies in World War II on March 1.

The program will take place online as a live Zoom webinar at 7 p.m.

"A Call to Spy" will feature a discussion between Sarah Megan Thomas, who wrote the 2019 movie screenplay of the same name, plays Virginia Hall, and produced the film; Craig Gralley, author of "Hall of Mirrors: Virginia Hall: America's Greatest Spy of WWII;" and moderator Nancy Kaffer of the *Detroit Free Press*.

In the beginning of WWII, with Britain becoming desperate, Prime Minister Winston Churchill ordered his new spy agency — SOE — to recruit and train women as spies. Their mission: conduct sabotage and build a resistance. SOE's "spymistress," Vera Atkins (Stana Katic) recruits two unusual candidates: Virginia Hall (Sarah Megan Thomas), an ambitious American with a wooden leg, and Noor Inayat Khan (Radhika Apte), a Muslim pacifist. Together, these women help to undermine the Nazi regime in France, leaving an unmistakable legacy in their wake. Vera Atkins was Jewish and faced antisemitism in London while working for the SOE. Inspired by true stories, this original screenplay draws upon SOE and CIA (and its pre-cursor OSS) files, as well as interviews with living relatives.

To register for the program, visit [here](#). Registrants will receive a link to the webinar. The film can be watched on-demand on digital or cable platforms. Visit [here](#) for more information.

“Virginia Hall and Noor Inayat Khan were great spies not because they were women, but because they were smart, tenacious and accomplished,” says Sarah Saltzman, director of events at the Holocaust Memorial Center. “‘A Call to Spy’ shows how the perseverance and individual choices people make can create a tremendous impact. This timeless lesson resonates today as it relates to our mission to stand up for injustice and to be an upstander, not a bystander. We are honored to have such distinguished participants for this discussion.”

Community partners for this event are the Detroit Jewish Film Festival and the Greater Farmington Film Festival.