Lively Talk to Show Giving is ‘Quintessentially American’ April 3

The Ocean Reef Community Foundation presents a complimentary talk by The Almanac of American Philanthropy author and former White House domestic policy advisor Karl Zinsmeister on Monday, April 3 at the Cultural Center Theater.

According to The Boston Globe’s review last year, “The Almanac of American Philanthropy” is something new under the sun: a sweeping reference guide to one of the most remarkable institutions of American life – private charity. It is the first definitive work on the history, variety, and impact of private giving in the United States.”

As Zinsmeister asserts in the book’s introduction, “philanthropy is a huge part of what makes America America.” He goes on to illustrate his point with more than 1,300 pages of tale after riveting tale. It’s tempting to divulge the sometimes surprising, overwhelming evidence of American exceptionalism presented in the book, but it will be better told by Zinsmeister than spoiled for you here! Suffice to say the lecture will demonstrate, as Globe reviewer Jeff Jacoby states, that “the scope of American philanthropy is unparalleled anywhere on Earth.”

Zinsmeister is Vice President of Publications at The Philanthropy Roundtable in Washington, D.C. He has written 12 books, including his most recent title, What Comes Next? How Private Givers Can Rescue America in an Era of Political Frustration. Earlier in his career, Zinsmeister was a Senate aid to Daniel Patrick Moynihan and editor in chief for The American Enterprise magazine for more than a dozen years. From 2006 to 2009 he served as the President Bush’s chief domestic policy advisor in the West Wing and director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. He is a graduate of Yale University.

The April 3rd talk entitled “Indispensable: How Philanthropy Fuels American Success” promises to include “rich images, fascinating biographies and rare historical details.” Please plan to gather for coffee, tea and Danish at 10 a.m. before the 10:30 a.m. talk at the Cultural Center. Inquire or let us know that you plan to attend at foundation@oceanreef or (305) 367-4707.

This Week’s Featured Charity: Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition. “The Staff and Board, but mostly the clients, of the Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition are grateful to the Ocean Reef Community for helping us empower families to keep children safe. It is because of you babies have a safe place to sleep at night, children are traveling safely in their cars and on their bikes, and families are living in safe homes. In addition to providing safety education and equipment, we were able to offer infant CPR and choking prevention classes to over 40 caregivers. ORCF’s generosity ensured any family needing education or safety equipment received help. Together, we provide Florida Keys babies with the healthy start and safe future they deserve. Thank you for being part of our team.” - Arianna Nesbitt, CEO