

# THE PROGRESSIVE FORUM®

Great Minds, Great Answers®

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## Jared Diamond at The Progressive Forum May 12



One of the deepest thinkers of our time, Pulitzer Prize winner Jared Diamond returns to The Progressive Forum on Sunday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Emanu El. Diamond will discuss his upcoming book, *Upheaval: Turning Points for Nations in Crisis*.

In his earlier monumental bestsellers, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Diamond transformed our understanding of what makes civilizations rise and fall. Now in the final book of his epic trilogy, he reveals how successful nations recover from crisis, including answers for the United States and the world. The book features Diamond's dazzling comparative approach, embracing psychology, history, geography, ecology, economics, and anthropology.

All ticket buyers attending will receive a free copy of Diamond's hardback book, *Upheaval*, a retail value of \$35.

Tickets are available at [ProgressiveForumHouston.org](http://ProgressiveForumHouston.org) and at 800-514-3849 (Monday – Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.). General admission tickets are available at \$70 and \$45 each for middle and side sections, respectively. Tickets for reserved seats and reception with the speaker are \$150. Tickets will also be available at the door on event night.

“This book is timely and urgent, with answers on how both nations and individuals can become more resilient,” said Randall Morton, founder and president of The Progressive Forum. “Ranked ninth among the world’s top 100 public intellectuals in a 2005 poll by *Foreign Policy* and *Prospect*, the return of Jared Diamond to The Progressive Forum represents the epitome of our motto, ‘Great Minds, Great Answers.’”

Diamond won the Pulitzer Prize for *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, which has sold more than 2 million copies. Among his many awards are a MacArthur “genius” fellowship, U.S. National Medal of Science, Japan’s Cosmos Prize, the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, and election to the U.S. National Academy of Science.

He has published more than 600 articles and several books, including *The World Until Yesterday: What Can We Learn from Traditional Societies* (2012); *Why Is Sex Fun: The Evolution of Human Sexuality* (1997); and *The Third Chimpanzee: The Evolution and Future of the Human Animal* (1991). His books *Guns, Germs, and Steel* and *Collapse* were translated into dozens of languages and turned into landmark television documentaries produced by the National Geographic Society.

Jared Diamond earned a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and history from Harvard College and a doctorate in physiology and biophysics of membranes in the gall bladder from Trinity College, University of Cambridge. He is professor of geography at UCLA.

His last appearance at The Progressive Forum was February 24, 2006, for his book *Collapse*, launching the Forum’s first full season.

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### **About The Progressive Forum**

The Progressive Forum is the nation's only lecture series expressly dedicated to progressive values. The Progressive Forum served the community for its first nine years as the city's largest speaker organization, averaging a thousand people per event. After a hiatus of three-and-a-half years, The Progressive Forum relaunched in the fall of 2017 by presenting Anthony Romero, executive director of the ACLU; one of the world's leading climate scientists, Katharine Hayhoe, in the spring of 2018; and the 68<sup>th</sup> Secretary of State, John Kerry, in the fall of 2018.

The history of The Progressive Forum includes national book launches for Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*, climatologist James Hansen's *Storms of My Grandchildren*, Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor's *My Beloved World*, and the autobiography of Lester Brown, *Breaking New Ground*. The Progressive Forum provided the film premiere of *Fighting Goliath: Texas Coal Wars*, introduced by Robert Redford, who commissioned and narrated the documentary. Gloria Steinem celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Women's Conference in Houston. From government, The Progressive Forum presented U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and two Supreme Court justices, Sonia Sotomayor and retired John Paul Stevens.

For more background on The Progressive Forum, go to [ProgressiveForumHouston.org/about-us](http://ProgressiveForumHouston.org/about-us).