

Bookstock 2018

8th Annual Memphis Area Authors' Festival

Saturday, April 28th

11AM - 3PM

Emily Yellin

A reporter, author and producer, currently, Emily Yellin is the head of a multimedia journalism project called, Striking Voices which showcases video interviews with some of the Memphis sanitation workers who went on strike in 1968, and their families.

She and her team have produced a series of video stories, based on those interviews, working with TheRoot.com, where the videos will debut in the spring, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the Memphis sanitation strike.

Emily has written for The New York Times, Time, The Washington Post, The International Herald Tribune, Newsweek, Smithsonian Magazine, and other publications. She focuses mainly on the South, race and women's issues. She's authored two books: *Your Call Is (Not That) Important to Us* and *Our Mothers' War*.

Born in White Plains, New York, Emily grew up in Memphis. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Madison with a



degree in English literature, and received a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University. She has lived in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and London, but now resides in Memphis.

Exhibit: Striking Voices

Over the past three years, journalist Emily Yellin and the Striking Voices crew have conducted a series of in-depth video interviews with the 1968 sanitation strikers. "So often, the sanitation strikers are seen as a chapter in another story — the life of Dr. King, the Civil Rights Movement, the labor movement or Memphis history. The goal of Striking Voices is to flip that script and treat those events and people as chapters in the lives of the strikers and their families," Yellin said.

After each interview, photographer Darius B. Williams created dynamic portraits of everyone who talked on video. Richard Copley, Striking Voices director of photography, also included original photos he took from the 1968 Sanitation Strike.

"We aim to celebrate the work, honor the men and their families, and give credit to everyone who supported the Striking Voices project - all of whom are Memphians."

