



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY

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For Immediate Release

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October 15, 2019

***Spy Pilot: Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 Incident,
and a Controversial Cold War Legacy***
A Sunday Lecture with Francis Gary Powers, Jr.

WHAT: *Spy Pilot: Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 Incident, and a Controversial Cold War Legacy* | A Sunday Afternoon Lecture with Francis Gary Powers, Jr.

DATE: Sunday, October 27, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

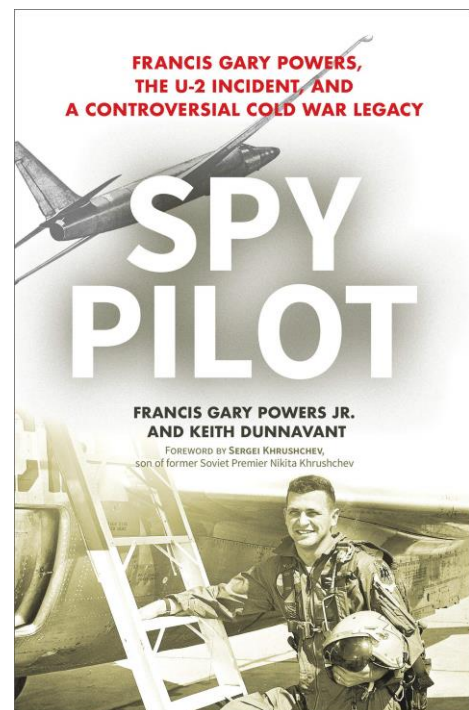
LOCATION: East Tennessee History Center
601 South Gay Street
Knoxville, TN 37902

ADMISSION: FREE!

(Knoxville, TN) – One of the most-talked-about events of the Cold War was the 1960 downing of the American U-2 spy plane piloted by Francis Gary Powers over the Soviet Union. Powers was captured by the KGB, subjected to a show trial, imprisoned, and later exchanged for a captured Russian spy and returned to the U.S., where he was exonerated of any wrongdoing while imprisoned in Russia. Though cleared by the U.S. government, Powers nevertheless found himself under a cloud of controversy due to bad press and the government's unwillingness to heartedly defend him. In a Sunday afternoon lecture on October 27, his son, Francis Gary Powers, Jr., will discuss his family's efforts to set the record straight through research into old audio tapes, letters to and from his father in prison, the transcript of his father's CIA debriefing, and interviews with the spy pilot's contemporaries.

In addition to Francis Gary Powers, Jr.'s new book, on which this talk is based, he is the author of *Letters from a Soviet Prison: The Personal Journal and Correspondence of CIA U-2 Pilot Francis Gary Powers*. Books will be available for purchase and signing following the program.

The lecture is free and open to the public and presented in partnership by the East Tennessee Historical Society and the Center for the Study of War and Society, University of Tennessee.



The program will be held on Sunday, October 27, at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. For more information on ETHS exhibitions, programs, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at www.EastTNHistory.org.

End Release