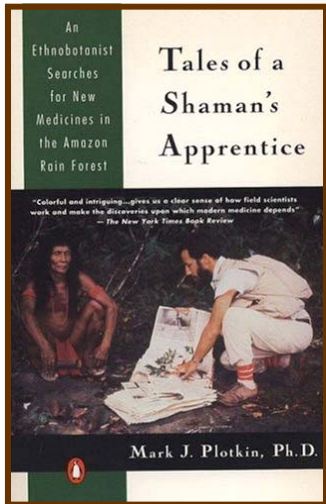


## Mark J. Plotkin, Ph.D

Native New Orleanian, Dr. Mark Plotkin, leads and synthesizes the growing world-wide movements to protect our planet as a refuge for all life, with the corresponding drive to discover, save and utilize plant life, before the knowledge of their ancient medicinal purposes is lost. The world-renowned explorer and spell binding story-teller is a *Time* magazine “Hero for the Planet,” star of the Academy Award nominated IMAX documentary, *Amazon*, and the author of four fascinating books, including *Tales of a Shaman’s Apprentice: An Ethnobotanist Searches for New Medicines in the Amazon Rain Forest* and *The Killer’s Within: The Deadly Rise of Drug-Resistant Bacteria*.

Respected and revered for his work in the Amazon rainforests, Plotkin’s fascinating adventures inspire audiences to dream big, take risks, overcome adversity, and look beyond the obvious or expected, pushing the limits of commonly accepted concepts. Over the course of his 20 year journey deep in the jungles, Plotkin has endured some of the most bizarre encounters with nature. Whether sleeping in a tiny thatched hut, suffering from vampire-bat bites, eating delicacies like boiled rat, or nearly being electrocuted by a giant eel, Plotkin continues to race against time in saving the rainforest, the ancient knowledge of its shamans and its enchanted and endangered existence.



Plotkin currently serves as President of the Amazon Conservation Team, an organization he co-founded with spouse and fellow conservationist, Liliana Madrigal and Canadian environmentalist, Adrian Forsyth. The organization works to not only save rainforests around the world, but also to compensate the indigenous tribes who depend on the rainforest, and who are sharing their knowledge of plant life with the world.



Plotkin holds a bachelors degree in botany from Harvard; a masters degree from Yale University School of Forestry, and he earned his Ph.D. at Tufts University. He is a former executive with the World Wildlife Fund.

He is a 1973 graduate of the Isidore Newman School. While an undergraduate student at Harvard University, Mark received financial aid from the Jewish Children’s Regional Service and is the second generation of his family with a relationship to the 155 year-old Jewish children’s social service organization. His late father, George Plotkin, was a resident of the Jewish Children’s Home, the institution that preceded the current Jewish Children’s Regional Service.



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Presentation by Dr. Mark Plotkin, Sunday March 21, 2010  
Temple Sinai Social Hall, 6227 St. Charles Ave. New Orleans, LA



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