

# ***A Better House, an Exhibit by Dana Shavin, Opens January 12***

**Opening reception Thursday, Jan. 15,  
5:30-7:00 p.m.; Exhibit runs through Feb. 20**

An exhibit of mixed media photo transparencies by local writer and artist Dana Shavin will be on display at the Jewish Cultural Center this month. Dana, an Atlanta native who has lived in the Chattanooga area for 22 years, has made her name both as a writer and a painter. In an exploration of new technique, *A Better House* combines painting with photo transparencies, and combines these with excerpts from her manuscript-in-progress about home and healing.

Dana is a monthly columnist for *The Chattanooga Times Free Press* and has had essays published in numerous publications including the literary magazines, *Oxford American*, *Puerto del Sol*, and *The Sun*. Her essay, *Imagine a Baby Now*, was recently selected for the upcoming anthology, *Blank Begins at Conception*.

A full time artist, Dana sells her colorful paintings through galleries, art shows, and commissions. She and her photographer husband, Daryl Thetford, share a studio in North Chattanooga.



***Dana Shavin***

“Houses are such a powerful metaphor for self. In my mind, the search for home is really a search for self-acceptance. It has been a real joy to combine my two loves, writing and art, to explore this concept.”

There is no cost for the opening reception for *A Better House*, but please RSVP to Ann Treadwell: 493-0270, ext. 13; atreadwell@jcfgc.com. The Jewish Cultural Center’s gallery is open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Fridays.