



The Taste of Jewish Culture, Upcoming Programs, Shul Visits and More – May 1, 2023

THE TASTE OF JEWISH CULTURE



A Virtual Taste of Machane Yehuda Market

Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 pm EDT (online)

Shuk Machane Yehuda, Jerusalem's famous outdoor market, is the beating heart of the city. It reflects the history of modern Jerusalem, while providing food for (and by) the many diverse communities of people who regularly shop there. This virtual tour explores the shuk's highlights and hidden gems while reveling in the sensory overload that makes the market so special. Please join us as we continue our online exploration of Jewish food traditions and the historical connections between Jews and food with Jewish Food researcher Joel Haber.

More information - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/the-taste-of-jewish-culture/>

Registration - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-taste-of-jewish-culture-tickets-460627538367>

CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



The Audacity of Faith

Part 1 - Tuesday, May 2, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Part 2 - Tuesday, May 9, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Part 3 - Tuesday, May 16, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Part 4 - Tuesday, May 23, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Faith by definition is required at the very moment when we are in doubt, unable to see our way forward. What do we do when in the moments when we most need our faith, we find ourselves at a loss, unable to say, I believe? In this session, we'll turn to the writings of several important modern Jewish thinkers to uncover their own teachings and struggles with faith. From the ghetto of Warsaw and the writings of Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira to the modern poetry of Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai, we'll ask: what is the nature of faith, what do we do when we find ourselves without it, and on whom or what might we rely in moments of struggle?

Rabbi Avi Strausberg is the Director of National Learning Initiatives at Hadar, and is based in Washington, DC. She received her rabbinic ordination from Hebrew College in Boston and is a Wexner Graduate Fellow. She also holds a Masters in Jewish Education. Energized by engaging creatively with Jewish text, she has written several theatre pieces inspired by the Torah and maintains a Daf Yomi haiku blog in which she writes daily Talmudic haikus.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUoce6grzsvE9TwGBjjZpjm90kbp1fdmvE?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=0c87062af8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-0c87062af8-386548940#/registration

Crossroads of Culture – A Virtual Visit to the New Eastern Mediterranean Gallery at the Penn Museum

Thursday, May 4, 7:00 pm EDT (online)

Like Judaism today, the religion's founding and development cannot be separated from the larger context in which it exists. There were three monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — that emerged in the Eastern Mediterranean region that includes modern Israel, Jordan and Syria, among other nations. All three spread throughout the world. Yet they were all born and raised in the same vibrant and eclectic region. And it was that territory's melding of different cultures and ideas that led to such an impactful legacy. Join us for a virtual visit to the to the Penn Museum's new Eastern Mediterranean Gallery with our special CSP guide, Dr. Sharon Keller, as we explore the "Crossroads of Culture" through the amazing collection of artifacts in this new exhibit.

Dr. Sharon Keller, who served as CSP's 15th Annual One Month Scholar in residence in January 2016 and who earned her doctorate at NYU in the Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies in the area of Bible and the Ancient Near East, is a member of the Classics faculty at Hofstra University. She has been an Assistant Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages at The Jewish Theological Seminary and at Hebrew Union College; she has also held appointments at New York University, and New York City's Hunter College, teaching biblical text courses as well as more general courses in biblical literature and history, as well as the courses in the art and archaeology of the lands of the Bible and the ancient Mediterranean world. She has written and edited numerous scholarly articles and academic books, most of which relate to the interplay between biblical Israel and ancient Egypt. Her most popular book, *Jews: A Treasury of Art and Literature* was awarded the prestigious National Jewish Book Award. Known for the enthusiasm and humor that she brings to all of her talks that make otherwise esoteric subjects easily accessible, Sharon is an in-demand lecturer and adult education course instructor throughout the United States.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUude2qqDojGNzru0G1thpoeNXkMW3Ujxxs?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=0c87062af8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-0c87062af8-386548940#/registration

Art and Idolatry in the Ancient World

Sunday, May 7, 2:00 pm EDT (online)

Why do you want to smash those idols? And who REALLY believes in Zeus? Art and Idolatry is an exciting journey into archaeology, history and psychology behind the icons and images that have shaped mythology and human societies for millennia.

Nachliel Selavan "The Museum Guy", originally from Jerusalem's Old City, has Bachelor's degrees in both Tanach and Mass-Media along with a teachers' certificate. He also holds an MA in education from Hebrew University's Melton School of Jewish Education, and is currently completing a second Master's degree in Ancient Jewish History at Yeshiva University, along with doing annual fieldwork in archaeological excavations. Nachliel's unique approach to museum tours and storytelling combines Tanach, Jewish History and other disciplines, engaging visitors with the treasures of art and

archaeology in an exciting and enthralling way. Nachliel has engaged Jewish communities in cities all over the world with guided educational programs in classrooms and museums, and lectures and tours for Jewish schools, summer camps, organizations and institutions including the WZO, National Bible Contest USA, the Jewish Agency and UJA Federation. He currently lives in Israel, and aside from guiding in the Israel and Bible Lands Museums, he is a part-time high school teacher.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qdOisrzMrHdS7eqelGa1Y1zBxJcMBluyc?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=0d0095f1bb-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_03&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-0d0095f1bb-386548940#/registration

Drawing the Omer

Monday, May 15, 3:30 pm EDT (online)

The Omer, a period between Pesach (the Festival of Freedom) and Shavuot (the Festival of Receiving the Torah), spans seven weeks marked by daily counting rituals. This time represents a chance for personal spiritual growth and transformation. Jacqueline embraces this opportunity through her art, each year creating a daily drawing inspired by varying themes. By questioning what constrains her, seeking inspiration and connection, and letting the drawings unravel their significance, she explores the essence of making each day count.

Jacqueline Nicholls is a London based artist, award-winning visual poet and Jewish educator. She uses her art to engage with traditional Jewish ideas in untraditional ways. Her recent drawing project, Draw Yomi, completed in Jan 2020, Jacqueline drew the Talmud, following the Daf Yomi schedule. She coordinates Arts & Culture events at JW3 London, and regularly teaches at the London School of Jewish Studies. Jacqueline's art has been exhibited in solo shows and significant contemporary Jewish Art group shows in the UK, USA and Israel. Jacqueline has an MA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins. Art. Recent residencies include 'Wasted Books' at The London Library, '50 Jewish Objects' Jewish Studies Department, Manchester University, and Beit Venezia, where she was the lead artist for the Deck of Esther project, reimagining Megillat Esther as a pack of playing cards.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdu2urjMjEtBzIKSiKvTa7BrNVdBXNJVp?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=34398ce25f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-34398ce25f-386548940#/registration

On Cancel Culture – Why Jews Don't Cancel

Thursday, May 18, 3:30 pm EDT (online)

Cancel culture – the silencing of unpopular opinions, and the shunning of those who voice them – is now a part of American life. It need not be. Rabbi Salkin will show you a Jewish model for disagreement, and extending diversity into different areas of life.

Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin is one of American Judaism's most prolific and most-quoted rabbis. His blog, "Martini Judaism: for those who want to be shaken and stirred," published by the Religion News Service, won a 2022 Wilbur Award from the Religion Communicators Council for best religion blog of the year, as well as two previous awards. "Martini Judaism" now produces podcasts, based on his columns. Rabbi Salkin's essays have appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Commentary*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Huffington Post*, *Tablet*, *Mosaic*, *Forward*, and *JTA*. He has discussed the American political scene on CNN and the BBC. He has contributed articles to scholarly journals. His ten books discuss such subjects as bar/bat mitzvah, Israel, masculinity, and Jewish culture, as well as three Torah commentaries. He delivered the keynote on religion and spirituality at the iconic Chautauqua Institution, as well as contributing to CLE (continuing legal education) programs, and interreligious dialogues in international forums. His colleagues have described him as "courageous," "always relevant," and "one of American Judaism's true public intellectuals." Rabbi Salkin serves as the rabbi of Temple Israel in West Palm Beach, Florida. His hobbies include: playing guitar, movies, theater, travel to Israel, and drinking coffee.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcumopz4qG9CsdSZdx51uinCdcPZAuvQ?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=3ae91c4b76-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-3ae91c4b76-386548940#/registration

YAD CHESSED



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chessed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at intake@yadchessed.org for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to info@yadchessed.org.

Support Yad Chessed - <https://givebutter.com/yadchessed>

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

CJP Plan to Combat Antisemitism

Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) has developed a five-point plan to combat rising antisemitism in Massachusetts. They are seeking stories for their mobilization campaign to fight back. If you have experienced antisemitism in any form at any time, join them and say enough is enough! Stories can be of any length and can be submitted anonymously.

Learn more and submit your story - https://ma.cjp.org/antisemitism-initiative?utm_medium=email&hsmi=242516332&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8pIPFwRIOAngV1FjDVXXeIE7CFvNOeLiBRY3cKJdYxA4Bkf52EYo8gyeKxNbFERCrdGShgPq2isWbm1yEdUnY1F2anzQ&utm_content=242516332&utm_source=hs_email#form

SHUL VIDEO

In the below video you will learn about the history of our historic shul and see all of our distinguishing elements on a virtual tour. This video is narrated by Dr. Samuel Gruber and was created by CSP as the first video in their Art and Architecture Series.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxIW8IOLfyg>

VISIT

If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person and take a tour! For more information, please follow the link below.

Visitor Information - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/visit/>

SYNAGOGUE FAMILY

Do you have milestones such as marriages, births, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, special birthdays, graduations, etc. to share with our synagogue family? If so, please submit details to central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com to be included in our weekly announcements. Photos are welcome!

VOLUNTEER

Do you have time to volunteer and help us grow? Please complete our Volunteer Interest Form.
<https://form.jotform.com/202885558815165>

GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.
<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>



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