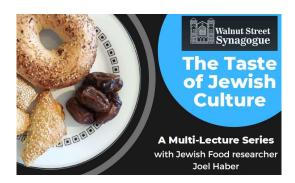


# The Taste of Jewish Culture, Upcoming Programs, Shul Video and More – January 16, 2023

## THE TASTE OF JEWISH CULTURE



Please join our online exploration of Jewish food traditions and the historical connections between Jews and food with Jewish Food researcher Joel Haber, live from Jerusalem. Our second session, *Chulent and Hamin: The Stew with a Thousand Flavors*, will be on January 18 at 7:00 pm EST.

More information and registration - <a href="https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/the-taste-of-jewish-culture/">https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/the-taste-of-jewish-culture/</a>

## **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!



A Visit to the Heart of the Ancient Silk Road: The Jews of Uzbekistan Tuesday, January 17, 3:30 pm EST (online)

Uzbekistan, a landlocked country in Central Asia south and southeast of the Aral Sea (bordered by Kazakhstan in the west and north east, by Turkmenistan in the south west, Afghanistan in the south, and Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in the east), is the most populous country in Central Asia and is rich in history, culture, and diversity. It has been a part of numerous empires and was once the main center of the Silk Road. The meaning of the name Uzbek is disputed. One version is that it is derived from Turkish 'uz/öz' ('good' or 'true') and 'bek' ('guardian'). Unlike the neighboring Kazakhs and Kyrgyz, but like their close cousins the Uyghurs, the Uzbeks were mostly a sedentary people, building impressive cities along the old Silk Road. According to tradition, the oldest of Uzbekistan's Jewish communities, that in Bukhara, was established more than 2,000 years ago following the Babylonian destruction of the First Temple. Other accounts tell of Jews fleeing Persian persecution more than 1,500 years ago and yet others bring Jews to Uzbekistan as merchants on the Silk Road in the seventh century. By any account, Jews in Uzbekistan

have a long history. Most were artisans and merchants since land ownership was forbidden. And, like most other Uzbeks, they rode out the tumultuous history of the region, marked by invasions by Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, the Sardians, the Qarakhanids, the Seljuks, the Persians, the Turks, and the Chinese, all who ravaged Central Asia.

**Evgenia Kempinski** is a Russian Jew born and raised in St. Petersburg. Her family was originally from the Pale of Settlement – Poland, Ukraine and Belorussia – and endured the suppression of Judaism in the Soviet Union then the rebirth of Jewish culture and religious life in today's St. Petersburg. She has been an official St. Petersburg tour guide for over 15 years and is the founder and owner of St. Petersburg Jewish Tours – a company offering Jewish travelers a unique experience of showcasing the best of Russia from a Jewish point of view. She currently lives in Haifa, Israel, still keeping close connections with St. Petersburg and its Jewish community.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckcOyqqzwrH9DKh3QViQrOCbTYV6Ub4BML?utm\_source=CSP&utm\_campaign=143c23438a-

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## History & Philosophy of Islam

Part 3 – Aisha, Fatima and the Sunni-Shia Split – Thursday, January 19, 1:00 pm EST (online)
Part 4 – The Hajj – The Pilgrimage to End All Pilgrimages – Thursday, January 26, 1:00 pm EST (online)

**Part 3 – Aisha, Fatima and the Sunni-Shia Split –** What was the role of women in general in the rise of Islam? We will 'meet" Aisha and Fatima and other powerful women surrounding Muhammad and then explore the redirection of Islam into a dynastic system.

Part 4 – The Hajj – The Pilgrimage to End All Pilgrimages – Join us as we delve into the origins of the Hajj ritual, the place it takes within Islamic culture and the surprising connections between the Hajj and the Chagim.

**Dr. David Mendelsohn** supervises the entire academic program of the Kivunim Institute. His areas of expertise include Islamic Studies, History and Culture of Arabs with Israeli Citizenship, Bedouin Law and the relationship between language and culture in Arabic and Hebrew. His current research examines the influence of Hebrew on the dialects of Arabic spoken in Israel. Mendelsohn also lectures on the history and relationships between Middle East countries and militant organizations. David holds advanced degrees in diverse fields: a Ph.D. Classics / Linguistics, an M.A. in Archaeology / Linguistics and an Honours B.A. in Classical Studies. David is the recipient of one of Canada's highest academic honors, The Trudeau Prize and a world class Judo Gold Medal winner. He lives in Jerusalem with his wife Roni and 3 children. *This program is fully funded by a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County* 

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rf-

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#### **Demystifying History**

Part 3 – Our People are Your People: American Jews and the Struggle for Civil Rights – Sunday, January 22, 7:00 pm EST (online)

Part 4 - Putin, Ukraine and the Jews - Sunday, January 29, 7:00 pm EST (online)

Part 3 – Our People are Your People: American Jews and the Struggle for Civil Rights – Jewish involvement in the Civil Rights movement is perhaps the most glorious moment in American Jewish history. Yet even in the midst of close collaboration there was the beginning of tension that continues up to the present.

Part 4 – Putin, Ukraine and the Jews – Personality counts in history. The former KGB man rolled the dice. We shall see how they come up. His future and the future of Europe hang in the balance. Stephen M. Berk, who served as CSP's 10th Annual One Month Scholar in Residence in February 2011, is Professor of History at Union College in Schenectady, New York, former Chair of the Department of History, Director of the Program in Russian and Eastern European Studies and Faculty Advisor to the Jewish Student Organization. He is the author of *Year of Crisis*, *Year of Hope: Russian Jewry and the Pogroms of 1881-1882* (Greenwood Press, 1985). He is currently writing a book titled: "Our People Are Your People: American Jewry and the Struggle for Civil Rights 1954-1965." The book provides an interesting discussion of an extremely important chapter in the history of the civil rights movement and attempts to dispel the myths and misunderstandings surrounding the Black-Jewish relationship. A

recipient of the Citizens Laureate Award of the University of Albany Foundation, Professor Berk has been a consultant to the Wiesenthal Holocaust Center in Los Angeles, has written articles on Russian and Jewish history, anti-Semitism, and the Middle East and has lectured on throughout the United States and Canada including such distinguished colleges and universities as Princeton, Vanderbilt, The University of Texas at Austin and Williams College.

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## **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

#### Israel at 75

Part 4 – Israel Today: The Promise of a New Government - Tuesday, February 7, 7:30 pm EST (online)

Part 5 – What's in Store for Israel's Next 75 Years? - Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 pm EDT (online) (presented by the Lappin Foundation)



The Walnut Street Synagogue is pleased to be a community partner of the *Israel at 75* series, presented by the Lappin Foundation. In advance of Israel's 75th anniversary, Ido Aharoni, Global Distinguished Professor for International Relations at NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science, will look back at influential leaders and take a peek at what may lie ahead. Everyone is welcome thanks to a generous grant from the Dr. David M. Milch Family Foundation.

**Event flyer -** <a href="https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Israel-at-75-Flyer.pdf">https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Israel-at-75-Flyer.pdf</a> **Register here -** <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkc-qqrD8vHtlEfmzq6rzNRV3DgRtR5wVU">https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkc-qqrD8vHtlEfmzq6rzNRV3DgRtR5wVU</a>

#### **International Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration**

Thursday, January 26, 7:30 pm EST (online) (presented by the Lappin Foundation)



The Walnut Street Synagogue is pleased to be a co-sponsor of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration, presented by the Lappin Foundation. We will hear testimony by Holocaust survivor Lusia Milch on the topic "Lessons of the Holocaust as a Cautionary Tale for Today." Welcome remarks will be provided by Miriam Asnes, Senior Advisor to the U.S. State Department Special Envoy on Holocaust Issues.

**Event flyer -** <a href="https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Holocaust-Remembrance-Day-Flyer-2023-002.pdf">https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Holocaust-Remembrance-Day-Flyer-2023-002.pdf</a>

**Register here -** <a href="https://www.lappinfoundation.org/2022/12/13/international-holocaust-remembrance-day-commemoration-2/">https://www.lappinfoundation.org/2022/12/13/international-holocaust-remembrance-day-commemoration-2/</a>

## 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 <a href="intake@yadchessed.org">intake@yadchessed.org</a> for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to <a href="info@yadchessed.org">info@yadchessed.org</a>.

Support Yad Chessed - <a href="https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/yadchessed">https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/yadchessed</a>

### WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE FEATURE VIDEO

In May 2021, the Walnut Street Synagogue became a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program (CSP). As confirmed in our survey last summer, we have a high participation rate with the online CSP programs. We were very honored by CSP to be featured in the first video of their Art and Architecture Series. The program is narrated by Dr. Samuel Gruber who some of you may remember as one of our featured speakers at our Founders' Day event in September 2019. In the video you will learn about the history of our historic shul and see all of our distinguishing elements on

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

# 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 <a href="mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com">central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com</a> 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. <a href="https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/">https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/</a>

# **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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