



Year End Giving, Upcoming Programs, Individual/Family and Group Shul Tours, Support Israel in Boston and More – December 18, 2023

YEAR END GIVING

As the secular year comes to a close, we hope you will help us strengthen our Jewish identity and presence here in Chelsea. Your support enables us to maintain and secure our historic synagogue, conduct services and provide high quality programming to our community in Greater Boston and now online around the world. Thank you to those who have already donated!

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

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!



Artist Spotlight Series: Heritage, Tech and Tradition

Tuesday, December 19, 1:00 pm EST (online)

After nine years of dedicated work, Karyn Rivlin Vorona completed her latest project, *LeDor VaDor*, a book of Haftarat for Shabbat, with a new approach and a fresh look at traditional texts. Each of the calligraphed and illuminated 55 pages (measuring 22" x 30") draw inspiration from the texts of the Haftarat, the Parashiot, and historical events that coincided with her work on this book. In this program we'll dive into the world of visual interpretation, explore what led Karyn to this endeavor and look at the twists and turns it presented until its completion.

A well-known calligraphy artist, **Karyn Rivlin** was born in Tel Aviv where she worked as a drafts-person and designer with some of the well known architects in Israel. Her studies spanned from art classes in Israel, Toronto at the Koffler Center for the Arts, Architecture and Design at Ryerson University and more as well as calligraphy studies with some of the best known Calligraphers in North America and Europe. Her calligraphic artwork as well as her watercolor paintings and jewelry are in private collections worldwide.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdu6qqTspE9c3zBreUrmkEqUBWwO9-4EV#/registration>

A Leap of Faith – Isaac Caro's "Tefillin Case" and the Quest for Sephardic Material Culture

Wednesday, December 20, 3:30 pm EST (online)

While the legacy of Sepharad looms large in the imagination of contemporary Jews, academics, and cultural institutions, the physical remnants of Jewish Iberia are really quite limited. To this effect, a recent headline in the Times of Israel reported - "In Spain's Jewish museums, almost nothing is actually from Spain." It is time to reevaluate some of the objects repeatedly used to represent Jewish life in Iberia. We may find that some "Jewish" objects in the world's collections may not actually be Jewish at all. This talk will highlight a small, shield-shaped brass object in Toledo Cathedral's Sacristy which has been presented in several publications as the tefillin case of Yitzhak Caro (b. Toledo 1458, d. Ottoman Empire, 1535). We will question the object's antiquity, its identification as a tefillin case, its connection with Caro, and offer an alternative scenario.

Dr. Julie Harris is a specialist in the art of medieval Iberia. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1989. Among other topics, she has published on ivory carving, the fate of art and architecture during Reconquest warfare, and illuminated Iberian Bibles and Haggadot. One of her current projects involves authenticating the identity of so-called medieval Jewish objects in Spanish collections, which makes her suspicious of anything your average guidebook might tell you. She's a versatile and accessible scholar. In addition to teaching Art History at Northwestern University and other traditional venues, she has been featured in Spertus College Continuing Education programs, in local schools, libraries, and many Chicago area synagogues. In Spring 2024, she will be the Fishman Family Visiting Scholar in Jewish Studies at Vassar College.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIcO6qqzgrG9DOncfNmE_OYB6mU-rHSYvA#/registration

SUPPORT ISRAEL IN BOSTON

Israel Emergency Fund

Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) has launched the **Israel Emergency Fund** in response to the unprecedented and horrifying attack against Israel was launched over Shabbat and Shemini Atzeret. 100% of donations received will help support victims of terror and address the unprecedented levels of trauma caused by these horrific attacks.

Donate here -

https://give.cjp.org/give/525536/?utm_medium=email&hsmi=277433797&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8gOZCCFZuo0azQF8zaBKQdGAcCSLveZd6_d0V0waC554D5ms3kS7MKY-HlyHX9FnmkhRzMMuotkwUml90yJN57MAxgew&utm_content=277433797&utm_source=hs_email#!/donation/checkout

PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE (walnutstreetsynagogue.com/2023-programs-december) AND THE WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE FACEBOOK PAGE AND JEWS OF CHELSEA - THEN AND NOW FACEBOOK GROUP FOR NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

SHUL TOURS

If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul, or haven't visited in a while, or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person and take a tour! Please follow the link below for more information and to request **Individual/Family** or **Group (new)** tours.

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



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>

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/>

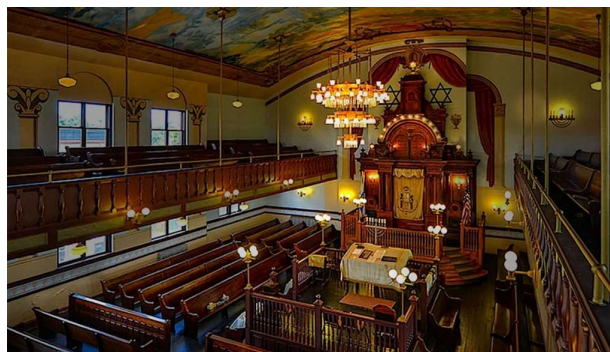
Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

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

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

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

The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)



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