



Summer Appeal, Upcoming Programs, Shul Tours and More – August 5, 2024

SUMMER APPEAL

Our Summer Appeal is now underway. Donations can be made online or through the mail. Your support enables us to expand our program offerings and address increased security, maintenance, insurance and utilities costs for our American Jewish landmark. Thank you for your continued support!

More information and Online Donations - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/summer-2024-appeal/>

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!



Off The Beaten Track In Israel

Tuesday, August 6, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Join us for an exciting journey with super guide **Gila Levitan** as she takes you off the beaten track to discover hidden gems of Israel. Think you know Israel? Think again! Gila will present intriguing locations, inviting you to guess their whereabouts before diving into the rich history and directions on how to explore these sites yourself. This isn't just trivia—it's an invitation to explore Israel like never before. Originally from Sydney, Australia, Gila moved to Israel 17 years ago, transitioning from a career in physiotherapy to becoming a top-rated tour guide, celebrated on TripAdvisor. With her passion for detail and love for teaching, Gila will enrich your knowledge and inspire your next adventure. Don't miss this chance to uncover the lesser-known treasures of Israel with one of the country's most acclaimed guides.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcldu-oqzwoGdfyClyqyMZjSKW3fl1SA-dU#/registration>

The Book of Annie: Humor, Heart and Chutzpah from an Accidental Influencer

Thursday, August 8, 3:30 pm EDT (online)

Please join us for a delightful one-hour online session with Annie Korzen as she discusses her new book, *The Book of Annie: Humor, Heart and Chutzpah from an Accidental Influencer*. Annie will be interviewed by Deborah Vankin of the *Los Angeles Times*, and then she will answer questions from the audience. Known for her colorful and unapologetic humor, Annie brings her decades-long career in TV, film, and theater—including the recurring Doris Klompus on *Seinfeld*—to the forefront. In this session,

Annie will share her witty and candid takes on a variety of topics, from the miracle of childbirth to the nuances of religion and motherhood, leaving you laughing out loud. Beyond the humor, Annie's poignant observations on kindness, self-acceptance, and our shared human experience offer inspiration and insight. Don't miss this chance to hear from the grandmother you wish you had and to explore the wisdom and laughter that have garnered her over 400,000 followers on TikTok.

Annie Korzen has written humorous essays for *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and other publications. She has performed solo shows on three continents and toured the US with The Moth Mainstage. Annie has been a guest on *Oprah*, *Access Daily*, *Inside Edition*, the *CBS Evening News* and *Dr. Phil*.

Deborah Vankin is an arts and culture writer for the Los Angeles Times. In what's never a desk job, she has live-blogged her journey across Los Angeles with the L.A. County Museum of Art's "big rock," scaled downtown mural scaffolding with street artist Shepard Fairey, navigated the 101 freeway tracking the 1984 Olympic mural restorations and rode Doug Aitken's art train through the Barstow desert. Her award-winning interviews and profiles unearth the trends, issues and personalities in L.A.'s arts scene. Her work as a writer and editor has also appeared in *Variety*, *LA Weekly* and *The New York Times*, among other places. Originally from Philadelphia, she's the author of the graphic novel *Poseurs*.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tc-qupjgpG9yPgnwX5vd3yIW5I4vEpdFf#/registration>

Jewish Heritage Across the Balkans: A Journey Through History and Culture

Part 4 - Bulgaria - Sunday, August 11, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Immerse yourself in the captivating history and rich culture of Balkan Jewry with our exclusive series, "Jewish Heritage Across the Balkans: A Journey Through History and Culture." Starting on May 12th, join us for a virtual exploration through Croatia, Trieste, Slovenia, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Discover the enduring legacy of Jewish communities, from ancient synagogues to modern-day resilience. Witness the unique blend of Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditions, and learn about their significant contributions throughout history.

Part 4 – Bulgaria - We conclude our Balkan journey in Bulgaria, where the majestic Sofia Synagogue and the historic town of Samokov await. Experience the architectural splendor and deep history of the Jewish community from its earliest days to the 21st century.

Evgenia Kempinski, our guide, 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/tZlufu6hqD0uH9wMLvu-oRJvc-SkG7ernZkB?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=6a79f54d1d-

EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-6a79f54d1d-386548940#/registration

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Update from Israel

Thursday, August 8, 7:30 pm EDT (online program presented by the Lappin Foundation)

Join the Lappin Foundation for an update from Israel. Ido Aharoni Aronoff will present an up-to-date report of developments related to recent Hezbollah terror attacks in Northern Israel and the Israel-Hamas War. Aharoni is an Israeli diplomat, writer, lecturer and consultant. He was Israel's Consul General to New York, serving from 2010 through 2016 and he has been a member of the Tel Aviv University Board of Governors.

<https://lappinfoundation.tfaforms.net/140>

Boston Unites Against Terror – Hostage Tunnel Immersive Exhibit

Sunday, August 18 through Tuesday, August 20 (exhibit at Boston City Hall Plaza)

Visit the exhibit which features an audio visual simulation of hostages' experiences in Hamas tunnels in Gaza.

Learn more (exhibit flyer) - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Boston-Unites-Against-Terror.pdf>

Registration - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boston-unites-against-terror-hostage-tunnel-immersive-exhibit-tickets-946420458067?aff=oddtcreator>

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! We were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993. Please follow the link below for more information and to request **Individual/Family** or **Group (new)** tours.

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

GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.

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

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 (chedsed) 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@yadchedsed.org for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to info@yadchedsed.org.

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

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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

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<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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Contact us at: central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com