



Travel Series Continues this Week, Year End Giving, Chanukah, Upcoming Programs and More - December 16, 2024

FOUR LESSER KNOWN AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES

Our new live virtual travel series, *Four Lesser Known American Jewish Communities*, continues this Wednesday.



Join us for the second session in our series on **Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm EST** when we will head north to Alaska. Alaska was purchased from the Russian empire only 154 years ago but the Jewish contribution for the development of Anchorage and Alaska in general is remarkable. In fact, the first mayor of Anchorage was Jewish and more so the idea to purchase Alaska was a Jewish idea. We will be guided by Rabbi Levi Glitsenstein who nine years ago joined the team of the Alaska Jewish Campus and Museum in Anchorage, a home for Jewish life, history and culture in Alaska that serves the growing Jewish community.

Register here - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/four-lesser-known-american-jewish-communities-alaska-tickets-1061802683409>

Learn more about the series here - walnutstreetsynagogue.com/u-s-travel-series

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!

Giving Page - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

CHANUKAH

Chelsea Public Menorah Lighting

Monday, December 30, 6:30 pm EST (in person at Chelsea Square - hosted by Tobin Bridge Chabad and the City of Chelsea in partnership with the Walnut Street Synagogue and Temple Emmanuel)

Join us for the eighth annual Chelsea Chanukah celebration in Chelsea Square (Winnisimmet Park on Broadway between Second and Williams Streets in front of the Chelsea Police Station) as we light the

giant menorah and celebrate Chanukah as a community with music, latkes, doughnuts and swag.
More information - <https://www.tobinbridgechabad.com/events-1/light-up-the-night-chelsea-8>

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!



Look Out – Movie Screening and Conversation with the Director

Tuesday, December 17, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Lookout is an outstanding student movie by Noa Gusakov. Timmy, is a lookout at an electronic surveillance lookout outpost. As a diversion from her tiring responsibility, she creates an imaginative, childish world, which helps her deal with her mundane routine. When she has to deal with the real military world for the first time, her own world is shattered and undermined. We'll start with a shared screening of this 18 minute movie followed by a conversation with the director and time for Q&A.

Noa Gusakov is an award-winning filmmaker, based in Tel Aviv, Israel. Noa graduated from Sam Spiegel Film School, Jerusalem. Her writing and directing credits include six short films which have collectively screened at over 100 film festivals and won numerous awards. Her graduation film *Lookout* was selected as one of the 30 Best Films of Sam Spiegel, and was screened at the Berlinale. Two of her short films, *Large Soldier* and *How to Swim* were nominated for the Israeli Academy Awards for Best Short Film. Noa is also a television creator and a winner of an Israeli Academy Award for Best Direction in Teen Drama Series and two awards for Best Screenplay for Teen Drama Series. Noa is currently working as a screenwriter and director for TV productions.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZYkdeioqj4vEt0aJOxkh2zq68-e3Pu2gHlv#/registration>

Images Of A People – Jews in Art

Part 6 – From Anti-Judaism to Antisemitism – Echoes in Modernity and Postmodernity - Thursday, December 19, 3:30 pm EST (online)

Join us for a captivating six-part online series led by renowned scholar Professor Marc Michael Epstein. This thought-provoking journey delves into how Jews, Jewish stories, and Jewish spaces have been portrayed throughout history. Whether you're passionate about art, history, or Jewish culture, this series offers profound insights into how images shape identity and influence perception across time. Winner of CSP's 4th Annual Maimonides Award for Excellence in Adult Jewish Education" as well as the 2015 Jewish Book Award in Visual Arts for *Skies of Parchment, Seas of Ink: Jewish Illuminated Manuscripts*, **Marc Michael Epstein** is the product of a mixed marriage between the scions of Slonimer and Lubavitcher Hassidim and Romanian socialists, and grew up, rather confused, but happy, in Brooklyn, New York. He is currently Professor of Religion at Vassar College, where he has been teaching since 1992, and was the first Director of Jewish Studies. At Vassar, he teaches courses on medieval Christianity, religion, arts and politics, and Jewish texts and sources. He is a graduate of Oberlin College, received the PhD at Yale University, and did much of his graduate research at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He has written numerous articles and three books on various topics in visual and material culture produced by, for, and about Jews. His book, *The Medieval Haggadah: Art, Narrative, and Religious Imagination* (Yale, 2011) was selected by the London Times Literary Supplement as one of the best books of 2011. During the 1980s, Epstein was Director of the Hebrew Books and Manuscripts division of Sotheby's Judaica department. He continues to serve as consultant to various libraries, auction houses, museums and private collectors throughout the world, among them, the Herbert C. and Eileen Bernard Museum at Temple Emanu-El in New York City, for which he curated the inaugural exhibition, and the Fowler Museum at UCLA. He is the Director of Beit Venezia, the home for International Jewish

Studies in Venice, Italy.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcldeitqD0vE9flx3lflWjVySwdwGY42kwC#/registration>

Navigating the Winter 2024 NYC Art Scene

Sunday, December 22, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Join artist Tobi Kahn as he takes us on a virtual closing of 2024 tour of multiple galleries in New York City. Throughout the tour we will view exhibitions, virtually meet artists, curators and art historians and hear about their perspectives on the works viewed. Participants will be introduced to what is new and important in the art world. The goal of the tour is for participants to view art critically. Tobi Kahn's gallery tours were ranked #1 in New York Magazine's "Best Bets."

Tobi Kahn is a painter and sculptor whose art has been shown in over 70 solo museum exhibitions. Works by Kahn are in major museum collections, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, NYC, the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, TX, The Phillips Collection, DC, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY, Minneapolis Institute of Art, MN, Yale University Art Gallery, CT, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA and The Jewish Museum, New York, NY. In 2022, The Phillips Collection in Washington, DC installed a unit of seven paintings that are part of the museum's permanent collection with works from 1977-2020. The exhibition was on view from February-July 2022 and received media coverage in *Forbes*, *The Brooklyn Rail* and *Hyperallergic* to name a few. Kahn also communicates his vision through his passion for teaching. For over 30 years, he has taught fine arts at the School of Visual Arts, in New York City and lectures extensively at universities and public forums internationally on the importance of visual language and on art as healing. Kahn received his BA in Photography and Printmaking from Hunter College and an MFA in Painting and Sculpture from Pratt Institute.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMlcuuvqTguGNLU_fYsCV0JrNX1r_Jg6aKl#/registration

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS

Briefing on Syria, Israel, and the Middle East

Thursday, December 18, 8:30 am EST (online program presented by Combined Jewish Philanthropies)

Join Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) for a timely update on recent events in Syria and their implications for Israel and the Middle East with IDF Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus, a senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. The Syrian people have lived under the brutality of the Assad regime for over 50 years. Within a period of ten days, a rebel offensive stormed across the country to the capital and President Bashar al-Assad fled the country. These events unfolded as Israel continues to fight a war next door. Jonathan will help us understand what happened in Syria, how it happened, and the potential consequences for Israel and the region.

Register here - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/briefing-on-syria-israel-and-the-middle-east-tickets-1112708363669?utm_campaign=240806-fy25-israel-and-global-jewry&hsenc=p2ANqtz--OA7rao6WYwLu2aRqAcZ1zHFp1qchAGGV2aH6rYlIXgtvEJ6eINtDlo8O-eCJ7K_nhonLY-tdeZfFgqrqXSмна10nt7P3blgLvYQ89ln7A3YTzM2A&utm_content=338348205&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&hsmi=338348205

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Teens Feed

Wednesday, December 18, 6:00 pm EST (in person at Temple Emanu-El, 393 Atlantic Ave., Marblehead)

Jewish teens in grades 7-12 are invited to participate in the mitzvah of caring for the stranger by preparing meals for Lifebridge North Shore. Teens learn about the connection between Judaism and social justice while contributing to the well-being of our community. Dinner will be served to teen volunteers. *Sponsored by the Lappin Foundation*

Teens Feed flyer - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Teen-Feed-Flyer.pdf>

Register here - <https://lappinfoundation.tfaforms.net/135>

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 (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>

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!

GIVING

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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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