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MONTHLY
JVOICE

SERVING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF
DELAWARE & THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY



THE
ART ISSUE

BEAUTIFUL AT THE
BALLET

ART TO HEAL THE SOUL

ISRAELI ARTISTS TO TEACH
AT TOP U.S. UNIVERSITIES

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



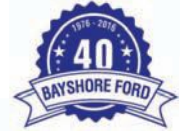
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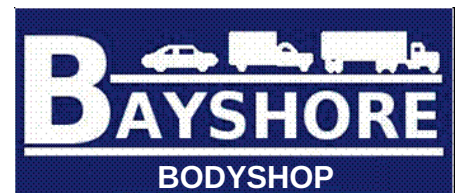
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For questions call Shari Dym
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*All Kosher Dietary Laws will be observed
This event is open to all who have signed a Declaration of Intent (DOI) with registration



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A Druze artist in the small village of Dalyat al-Karmel puts paint to canvas in an attempt to understand those lives affected by the Holocaust



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The Israel Institute announced the eleventh cohort of ten Visiting Artists for the 2019-2020 academic year

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This month we are launching our *Food for Thought* column, sharing recipes from members of our Delaware Jewish community and beyond. We start with three recipes originally published in *The Delaware/Arad Partnership Cookbook* in 2016.

PERSONAL ART

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Guest Reflections by Philipa Miller says that personal art is something to truly treasure and encourages us to let our imagination run free. "Just do it and see where it goes, see where it can take you."

COVER PHOTO

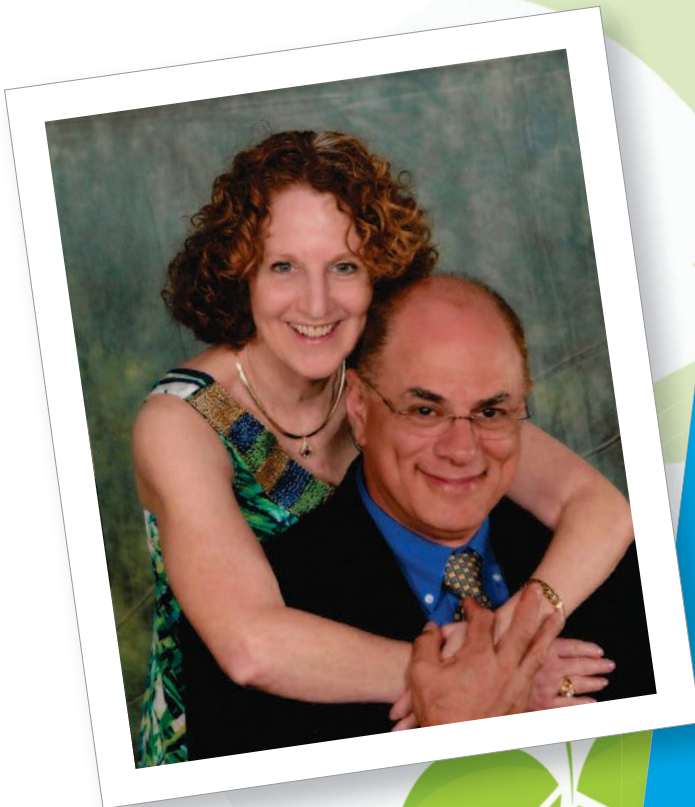
RAGS BY ROBERT LAFOSSE. COURTESY OF THE RUSSIAN BALLET THEATER; MARSHA BORIN, DIRECTOR; CIRCA 1995. STORY ON PAGE 36.

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What will your Jewish legacy be?



We moved to Wilmington over 30 years ago, and have come to call it home. We raised three sons, Jason, Russell and Joseph, who have grown into men, grounded in Jewish tradition and knowledge. Their Jewish educations and foundations were forged and nurtured at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, the same synagogue in which Judi's father, Joseph Tannen, had grown up and been Bar Mitzvahed. Four generations have called Wilmington home, going back to the turn of the last century.

The Jewish community and institutions that make up Wilmington are the result of the work, sweat and sacrifices of individuals and families that have come before us. Our hope is that the Jewish community that we joined and love will continue to grow and become even stronger in the future, so that future generations of Wilmingtonians can enjoy an environment that is rich in Jewish knowledge and experience.

Judith and Max Rosenberg



Be remembered forever in the Jewish Community with a gift in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy.

Create A Jewish Legacy is a program of Jewish Federation of Delaware's Jewish Fund for the Future and is funded in part by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT **CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY**, CONTACT JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE
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JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE

Improving the World Today, Tomorrow and TOGETHER



Jewish tradition teaches us to care for one another. In our community we have shown – time and again – that our caring is boundless.

Jewish Federation of Delaware protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide through the values of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), *tzedakah* (charity and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning).

TODAY...The Annual Campaign

A gift to the Federation's Annual Campaign provides unrestricted funds to meet urgent, ongoing humanitarian and social service, educational, and community building needs. These gifts provide our five beneficiary agencies, the Albert Einstein Academy, Jewish Family Services of Delaware, The Kutz Senior Living Campus, Siegel JCC, and University of Delaware Hillel as well as our overseas partners, the Jewish Agency, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), and World ORT, with critical support. Doing so allows us to direct the funds in partnership with those agencies where the funds are most urgently needed.

One gift to the Annual Campaign makes it possible for us to simultaneously help our most vulnerable neighbors, build our Jewish community, stand with the people of Israel and reach out to our Jewish family around the world. By allocating your philanthropic dollars to ensure the greatest impact, we have earned a reputation as a trusted and effective charity that makes a real difference.

TOMORROW...Creating A Jewish Legacy

Creating A Jewish Legacy is an opportunity to ensure that you will be remembered and that your passion and your values will continue when you are no longer here. It also serves as an example to your loved ones that you believe it is important to support the Jewish community. The act of creating a legacy empowers you to complete the work of your heart. By leaving a legacy, you will help to ensure that the traditions and institutions important to you remain vibrant for future generations.

Passing our values from generation to generation is one of the most fundamental tenets of Judaism. Our parents and grandparents built this Jewish community. That is their legacy. Securing its future financial strength will be our legacy.

Today and Tomorrow...We Grow Stronger TOGETHER

There is much to do. We invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to be part of a caring community that gives back. TOGETHER, we can accomplish what no one individual could do on his or her own. Repairing the world and building community is something we can all celebrate.

L'Shalom,

Richard A. Levine, President

Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer



ISRAEL: A DEMOCRACY IN PARALYSIS

By Noam Glikzman
Israel Fellow, UD Hillel



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (right) and leader of the Yisrael Beytenu political party Avigdor Lieberman at the Knesset on May 25, 2016 CREDIT: YONATAN SINDEL/FLASH90

When the dust settled after the Israeli election on April 19, the Likud party, led by Benjamin Netanyahu, was the clear winner.

While his principal opponent, the Blue and White party, had the same number of voters, the votes that the other right-wing parties had collectively was greater than the votes for the left/center parties, thus paving the way for Netanyahu to form another coalition and government with his allies.

Indeed, it seemed like just a matter of time before Netanyahu would declare he had the winning hand and could form his fifth government. But, in any card deck you always have The Joker, a wild card that can change everything. And this time, the Joker was Avigdor Lieberman.

Lieberman, the head of the Yisrael Beiteinu party, refused to enter Netanyahu's coalition and government based on an ongoing dispute - the draft of Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) Jews into the Israeli Defense Forces. Although conscription to the IDF is mandatory, most Haredi Jews and Israeli Arabs do not serve. While Arab citizens are exempted because of the IDF's security regulations, Haredi Jews argue that learning Torah is a greater priority than serving in the military. This status quo has been upheld in part due to the political power that the Haredi parties have wielded in enabling right wing governments to form coalitions.

Lieberman, a right-wing secular politician, chose this issue as his sticking point. His refusal to join a right-wing coalition caught Netanyahu between the will of the Haredi parties, who traditionally join with him and Likud, and Lieberman, who held firm on his demand to start drafting Haredi Jews. Unable to bring the Haredi parties together with Lieberman's Yisrael Beiteinu, Netanyahu conceded that he was unable to form a coalition.

In situations like this where the winning candidate is unable to form a government within 42 days, the law allows the Israeli president to

give the opportunity to form a government to another member of the Knesset, or Parliament. But before the president was able to do that, the Knesset voted to dissolve itself, forcing another round of elections - the first time this has happened in Israel's history.

Israelis were outraged - not only would another election cost millions of shekels, but all the polls predicted that the result of the second election would be essentially the same as the first round: the Likud and Blue and White parties were leading, with a slight advantage to the Likud right wing coalition. Because of the overall right wing Knesset seats, it looked like Netanyahu would again have the advantage in forming a government, only now no one could count on Lieberman's Yisrael Beiteinu party joining such a government.

Indeed, there was no clear winner of the second election in September. While this time the Blue and White party won the most votes, the right wing parties combined still had a slight advantage, even though Lieberman immediately announced he would not join Netanyahu's government. The Joker surfaced once more and called for Likud and Blue and White to join forces and form a unity government. Lieberman even said he would remain in opposition to both of them, as long as it would force a unity government. This result seems unlikely, since, with Netanyahu's indictment, the leader of Blue and White, Benny Gantz, refuses to partner with him. But Lieberman is The Joker after all.

At the time of Yom Kippur, almost a month has passed since the second election and still no government, unity or right wing, is on the horizon. While the calls for a unity government grow stronger, old rivalries, secret deals, and power games are still in motion, postponing any solution. At a time when Israel's enemies are strengthening, inner disputes are deepening, and the economy is weakening, we need a strong government that can lead Israel forward. And so, in the New Year, we hope our politicians can come together for the greater good of Israel.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE EARNS TOP RATINGS FROM 3 NONPROFIT EVALUATORS

By JFD Staff

Jewish Federation of Delaware has earned the highest ratings from the top three evaluators of nonprofits: a Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, a Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar, and a Top-Rated Award from Great Nonprofits.

It is currently the only nonprofit in Delaware to earn the highest ratings from all three industry evaluators.

The Federation received its fifth consecutive Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator, the nation's largest evaluator of charities. Only 13 percent of evaluated charities have received at least five consecutive four-star evaluations indicating that Federation outperforms most other charities in America. The Jewish Federation is one of only eight four-star rated

charities in Delaware and remain the highest-rated nonprofit in the First State earning a 96.79 score (out of 100).



Charity Navigator rates charities by evaluating two broad areas of performance; Financial Health and Accountability & Transparency.

The ratings show donors how efficiently a charity uses their support today, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time, and their level of commitment to being accountable and transparent.

Charity Navigator provides these ratings so that donors can make intelligent giving decisions, and so that the philanthropic community can be more effectively monitored.

In addition to the Four-Star Rating on Charity Navigator, Federation has also received the highest ratings from the other industry evaluators, including:



GuideStar, the largest source of nonprofit information, connecting people and organizations with information on more than 1.8 million IRS-recognized nonprofits. Federation has earned the Platinum Seal of Transparency.



GreatNonprofits, a developer of tools that allow people to find, review, and share information about nonprofits and charities. The Jewish Federation has earned the Top-Rated Award since 2012.

“Jewish Federation is currently the only nonprofit in Delaware to receive the highest ratings from all three nonprofit industry evaluators,” stated Seth J. Katzen, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. “This recognition validates our financial health as well as our ongoing commitment to accountability and transparency.”



Please Join Us for the **Dedication of a Monument**

honoring the memory of the

*Jewish Members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America
who gave their lives preserving our freedom and democracy*

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Beth Emeth Memorial Park

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REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING THE DEDICATION



SHEVET ACHIM GAM YACHAD

Coming Together

By Matthew Moran



We've all seen it, and we've all been guilty of it ourselves. We bring our kids to the playground, but sit back on the bench to do a quick check of our email that turns into a forty-five-minute scroll through Instagram. We go to the birthday party then sit on the steps with the other parents chatting about the stuff we already know we chatted about at the last party. It's okay! No one can be super-parent 24/7.

However, we all know that setting aside time to interact with our kids on a 1-on-1 basis is important not only to their development, but to our relationships with them as they grow. So, to add to your tool-kit, and in an effort to help bring families and children together, I want to share with you some of my favorite activities that I've done at camp, in the classroom, and at home with my own son. These are fun, engaging tasks that when done with your child will be sure to be a memorable moment. And, if it is important to you to build a strong Jewish connection into your relationship with your child, I'll be giving simple tips for how to incorporate a lesson into each activity, which you can scale to your own child's understanding.

CELEBRATING יצירתיות (Yetziratiut)

Yetziratiut, or Creativity, is considered a foundational skill of problem solving that is essential as children grow into the person each one is meant to be. Creativity is not just an inborn skill that some have and some don't. We all have the potential for great creative thought, even if we express it in different ways. I've put together a couple of crafts that are not just fun fall activities, but will hopefully scale to each child's interests, abilities, and leave your family with a souvenir of your time together.

(QUICK TIP: Instead of just reading out the instructions, ask your child how they would go about doing the next task before you read it out loud. If they get it right, praise them! If they suggest something different, let them try it! There is no way to fail at craft-making, only ways to learn how things don't work. Just by taking that extra step will give your child a greater sense of agency while completing the craft and make it so much more meaningful to them.)

Each craft starts out with the same step . . .

Step 1. Go Out and Collect leaves!

For like the days of the tree are the days of My people. –Isaiah 65-22

TREE OF LIFE 9: Makes 4 Pieces

The Lesson: The Etz Chaim is the tree of life in the Garden of Eden, but it is also a popular metaphor for the Torah. It suggests that the Jewish way of life is eternal, and that doing Good Deeds by following the Mitzvot is like planting a seed. We may not know what the final result of our actions are until years later, if at all, but it is still important to put good out into the world. Each different type of leaf you use is the result of a different seed being planted.

Other materials needed:

- Cardboard (put those empty Amazon boxes to good use!)
- Four (4) sheets colored paper, 4 different colors
- Pencil
- Four (4) colors of paint poured thinly onto small paper plates
- Glue
- Scissors
- Newspaper or old towels for workstation

Step 2. Prep Your Cardboard.

Take a colored sheet of paper and place it against the cardboard. Trace out four sections on the cardboard using the paper so that you have four pieces of cardboard the same size as your paper.

Step 3. Cut the Paper.

Fold each piece of colored paper once long ways, unfold, then again short ways, so that you have 4 even sections. Cut across every crease until you have sixteen (16) even rectangles in four colors.

Step 4. Use the Leaves as Stamps.

Pick out Four (4) leaves of different shapes and sizes from your collection. Pick a leaf, a paint, and one color of paper. (Tip: try to pair paints with papers that are at least one color away from each other on the color wheel to make them stand out the most)

Lightly dip your leaf into the paint, enough to completely cover one side, then slide it off the rim of the plate to remove excess paint. Then, gently press it against the paper. With one finger, tap the leaf against the paper, so that the whole surface has made contact. Slowly peel the leaf off, and repeat the process with the rest of the rectangles of the same color.

Repeat until all the rectangles has been stamped with a leaf. Let dry.

Step 5. Create your Canvas.

Take one of the first rectangles you painted and place it on a piece of cardboard, lining up a corner. Make a quick trace, remove the paper, and spread glue lightly across the area. Place paper back onto cardboard. Do the same with the same color rectangles, alternating which corners they match.

Repeat this with each color in turn. Trim off any excess cardboard that sticks out from the sides. Let dry. Now, you have four wonderful graphic art pieces ready to hang in your home, or to share with others!

DANIEL AND THE LION'S DEN:

Makes 2 Lion Faces

The Lesson: Daniel becomes the leader of a country, but people are jealous and conspire against him. They use his faith as an excuse to condemn him, but in the end, he is shown to be faithful and is saved from the lions.

Other materials needed:

- Three (3) sheets of white copy paper
- Black Sharpie
- Coloring materials (crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc.)
- Liquid Glue (with a small brush and bowl if your child needs help spreading)
- Scissors
- Something heavy and flat, like two big books or a thick, wide cutting board

Step 2. Sort the Leaves.

Sort the leaves by color, shape, and size. Oranges and yellows make the most sense, but fall has all sorts of colors, so your lion can too!



Step 3. Make your Lion Faces.

Using one of the pieces of paper, fold in half so the short edges meet. Unfold, and cut along the crease. On one of the halves, draw a lion's head, sans mane. After 30 seconds, it should be dry enough to not smear. Give it to your child to color in. Draw a second head on the other half, and color it in yourself.

Step 4. Glue your Manes in Place.

Snap all the stems off of the leaves and dispose of them.

On the second piece of paper, make a circle with the glue about 8 inches in diameter in the center of the page (about a quarter of an inch from each edge) to start your lion's mane. Keep the glue thin and spread out. Then apply the leaves with the jagged or pointed edges outward along the circle. Repeat the process on third piece of paper with the leaves they picked out.

Make a second, smaller ring inside the first on each sheet. The size will depend on the

size of your leaves. Stick the leaves again in the circle, using about 2/3 the number, but making sure to cover up any gaps between them. Make sure to leave a space about the size of a water bottle open in the center. If there is still a significant amount of room in the center, a third ring might be needed.

Place the sheets on a flat surface and make sure no glue is seeping out. Place the books over top of them.

Step 5. Attach your Lion Faces.

While those begin to dry flat, begin cutting out the lions' faces from the half-sheets and recycle the scraps. Place a dot of glue under each of the ears and eyes, and behind the nose and mouth and spread them out no bigger than a dime. Lift up the books and gently place the faces in place, then place the books back on top. After an hour, the glue should be dry, and the lions should be ready to hang. Repeat all the steps to add more lions to your den!

Matthew Moran is the Camp and Youth Coordinator at the Siegel JCC. He has worked as a Camp Director for Cub Scouts, a Behavior Specialist for Positive Directions contracted to the Colonial and Christina School Districts, and taught Geography and Social Studies at Springer Middle School. Matt joined the J as a full-time employee in 2016, assisting our Afterschool and Weekend Youth Programs, as well as creating our Seasonal and Summer Camp Programs. His favorite color is blue.

NEVER FORGET

by the Halina Wind Preston
Holocaust Education Committee



Esther Lurie, Self Portrait
CREDIT: YAD VASHEM ART MUSEUM



Halina Olomuck, *Bowl of Soup*
CREDIT: YAD VASHEM ART MUSEUM



Malva Schalek, *Castle Courtyard in Theresin Ghetto*
CREDIT: GHETTO FIGHTER'S MUSEUM, LOHAMEI HAGETA'OT, ISRAEL

THREE JEWISH WOMEN, BEARING WITNESS THROUGH THEIR WORKS OF ART

By Steve Gonzer, Chair
Halina Wind Preston Holocaust
Education Committee

While I was in Auschwitz-Birkenau someone told me, 'If you live to leave this hell, make your drawings and tell the world about us. We want to remain among the living, at least on paper.'

Halina Olomucki

During the Holocaust, as in other cataclysmic epochs of history, bearing witness through the creative arts—portraiture—often bestowed spiritual strength upon artists and the individuals they portrayed. Portraiture bolstered both artists and their subjects to stamp their individual imprint and affirmation of their existence, when it was uncertain if they would survive another moment. During the Holocaust, artistic skills in all forms helped serve as a unique means of documenting history for the record and provided an emotional escape and temporary reprieve from the squalor and inhumane conditions confronting inmates of the ghettos and Nazi concentration camps—a form of resilience and resistance—often uplifting morale and harvesting a sense of durability in direct contrast to the reality of circumstances.

Art-making is not about telling the truth but making the truth felt.

Christian Boltanski

Halina Olomucki (Olszewski) was born in Warsaw, Poland, into a non-religious family. Halina and her family were deported to the Warsaw ghetto when she was eighteen years old, where she worked outside the ghetto as a forced laborer. Halina would smuggle food into the Ghetto for her family. However, her main objective was to paint. While she was outside the ghetto, among non-Jews, she met a man to whom she gave her drawings. She portrayed daily life in the Warsaw Ghetto until May 1943, when she and her mother Margarita were transported to Majdanek, where Olomucki was commissioned by the head of a block to decorate the walls of the building. In return she received improved food rations, which helped her survive. Her mother was murdered immediately upon their arrival at the camp.

Subsequently Olomucki was transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau, she continued to draw and was designated as a commissioned artist for the Germans. She used some of

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

NEVER FORGET

the materials she was given officially to paint her fellow women inmates surreptitiously. Other inmates implored Halina to create portraits of them and/or their daughters, hopeful that the portrayals would reflect their own inner world and that of Halina's.

Halina Olomucki was liberated on May 2, 1945 and returned to Warsaw with the hope of finding family members, but none survived. She did find many of her drawings, which she had entrusted to the non-Jewish man she met outside the Ghetto, in Warsaw. She also managed to find a few of the drawings she had hidden in Birkenau.

Esther Lurie was born in Liepaja, Latvia. Her family was forced to relocate to Riga, Latvia, where Lurie graduated from Ezra Gymnasium. She eventually studied stage design in Brussels and painting at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp. In 1934 her parents immigrated to the Land of Israel. In 1938 she was awarded the Dizengoff Prize for Painting. In the summer of 1939, she returned to Latvia and Lithuania to visit relatives and in June 1941, she was captured while visiting her sister in Kovno and was interned in the Kovno ghetto. Knowing of her artistic talent and credentials, under orders from the Germans, Lurie was ordered to paint landscapes and portraits. Soon after, she documented life in the ghetto—men, women, children, old people, scenes of nature, and scenes of human hardship.

When the Kovno ghetto was destroyed in July 1944, Lurie was sent to the concentration camp at Stutthof where she was separated from her sister, with whom she had been with through the entire ghetto period. Her sister and her young son were deported to Auschwitz and never

seen again. In Stutthof Lurie continued to receive commissions and more than once her art served as barter for food. In August 1944 Lurie was transferred to a labor camp at Leibitz, where she was assigned to record prisoner numbers. Lurie continued her task of documentation through art, sometimes for herself and at other times for commission. When commissioned, Lurie could barter for food and other amenities.

Malva Schalek was born in Prague to a German-speaking Jewish intellectual family active in the Czech national movement. She went to school in Prague and studied art in Munich and then privately in Vienna. She earned her living as a painter in Vienna until July 1938, when she was forced to flee from the Nazis. She left all her paintings behind. Several from this period have been recovered; two were found in the Historisches Zentrum von Wien. (Historical Center of Vienna).

Schalek was deported to the Terezin (Theresienstadt) ghetto in February 1942, where she produced more than 100 drawings and watercolors portraying fellow inmates. Many of her portraits were commissioned and she received food in payment. In order to attract more clients, she created some publicity portraits. When she refused to create a painting of a collaborationist doctor, she was transported to Auschwitz on 18 May 1944 and exterminated. Schalek's art is exemplified by a sober realism, especially her drawings of the camp at Theresienstadt. These drawings have been described as, "perhaps the finest and most complete artistic legacy to survive the Holocaust" by Tom L. Freudenheim, director of the Baltimore Museum of Art.

RESOURCES:

Jewish Women's Archives, Encyclopedia, *Art During the Holocaust*, by Pnina Rosenberg, Miriam Novitch, Lucy Dawidowicz, Tom L. Freudenheim, *Spiritual Resistance. Art from Concentration Camps, 1940-1945*, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1981
Yad Vashem, Israel

Malva Schalek. Collectif histoire et memoire.org

Ghetto Fighters Museum, Kibbutz Lohamei HaGeta'ot, Israel



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Twenty years ago, the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware celebrated the opening of "From Al's to Zutz," an exhibit at the Delaware History Museum recognizing the memorable role of Jewish merchants and businesses in Delaware. We will be recalling those memories with photographs and other memorabilia on our website, JHSDelaware.org/jewish-voice, and on our Facebook page, facebook.com/JHSDel. Join in and share your memories and photos!

– Gail Pietrzyk
Archivist, Jewish Historical Society of Delaware

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 15, 1999

From Al's To Zutz - Preserving Delaware's Jewish Business Heritage

By LYNN EDELMAN, *Editor*

Take a stroll down memory lane to a time when Wilmingtonians schlepped their children to Wilmington Dry Goods for back to school supplies, haggled over the price of groceries at Sam's Market and noshed with friends at Blatman's Kosher Sanitary Bakery. Now through November 6th, you can celebrate Delaware's rich Jewish business tradition through a unique exhibit at the Delaware History Museum in downtown Wilmington.

"From Al's to Zutz" is a proud partnership of the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware and the Historical Society of Delaware. This treasure trove of photos, signs, newspaper advertisements, menus and other memorabilia took nearly five years to put together. Judging from the tremendous turnout at opening night festivities, it was well worth the wait.

"More than 400 people packed the gallery space so tightly that you could barely move," said Marvin Balick, President of the Jewish Historical Society. Balick, a Brooklyn, New York native who was 'raised here from the time I was a little boy," said that the exhibit sparked fond memories of the time spent with his father and six brothers. "In preparation for the exhibit, we collected old Yellow Pages listings from the Wilmington telephone directory," said Balick, who waxed nostalgic over an



Enjoying the opening reception in bottom left photo are (from left) Robert Benson, Debbie Stronak, Ellen Conner, Barbara Schenberg and Joan Blackman. The five McDonald's in the State of Delaware opened in Newark. It is owned & operated by Leonard DiSera.

ad for Turkish and Steam baths operated by Leib Katz. "I can remember packing a lunch and spending the entire day at the schvitz," he recalled.

Memories like these mark our very existence," Dr. Barbara Benson, Director of the Historical Society of Delaware, who finds some parallels between the way that Jewish and Quaker settlers did business in Delaware. "Both peoples established small companies here rather than the large factories that were founded by other ethnic groups," Benson explained. Many of these businesses began with merchandise peddled from carts directly to customers then eventually expanded to become storefronts.

Benson said that jobs at Wilmington institutions like "The Dry Goods" provided more than just an income to the emigres who served as employees. "For many, it was their first experience with the American culture," she stated, adding that "a number

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Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is an Affiliated Organization of Jewish Federation of Delaware.



of newcomers learned the English language while they assisted customers.”

Unlike larger East Coast cities Delaware Jewish merchants have always marketed their goods to the broader community. Also, because of its small size, Delaware’s Jewish community never established a “ghetto”, Benson maintained, explaining that “the addresses of these companies marked an economic entry point-many began in lower Wilmington and migrated to the suburban areas along with their customers.”

Although extensive, the exhibit “just scratches the surface of Jewish business in Delaware,” said Julian Preisler JHS Executive Director. Preisler emphasizes that the collection is not “a definitive history of Jewish business in Delaware but rather “a work in progress.” He plans to continue to expand the Jewish archives – which are housed rent-free in the basement of the Delaware Historical Society – and to develop a comprehensive data-base so that people who do not have physical remnants of their connections to Delaware’s Jewish business tradition can document their memories.”

Throughout the run of the exhibit, community members will have an opportunity to share their stories and compile an oral history of Jewish businesses in Wilmington, Newark, Dover and other communities throughout the State.

Why? “These stories are gone, and many of their former customers are gone as well,” said Benson, emphasizing that “We must preserve our past to pass on the future generations.”

“From Al’s to Zutz” is funded through grants from the Delaware Humanities Forum and the Jewish Fund for the Future, the endowment arm of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and through the generosity of numerous community businesses and individuals.

Admission is \$4, but is free to members of the Jewish Historical Society. For additional information about the exhibit or to become a member, please call Julian Preisler at 655-6232.



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GRATITUDE

The Siegel JCC and the Jewish Federation of Delaware thanked their Create A Jewish Legacy donors with apple cake, coffee, and good company on Wednesday, September 25 to usher in a sweet 5780! And The Kutz Senior Living Campus thanked their Create A Jewish Legacy donors with a wine and cheese reception on Thursday, September 26.



1 Rob Goodman, Felisha Alderson, Ginger Weiss, Shari Dym, and John Oppenheimer PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

2 Lori Barbanel, Marc Kuller, and Berta Kerr PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

3 John Oppenheimer and Karen Friedman PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

4 Donna Harlev and Brad and Michelle Glazier PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JFD STAFF

5 Judy and Leonard Seltzer PHOTO BY JFD STAFF

6 Connie Sugarman, Robin Kauffman Saran, Hedy Mintz, and Michelle Margules PHOTO BY JFD STAFF

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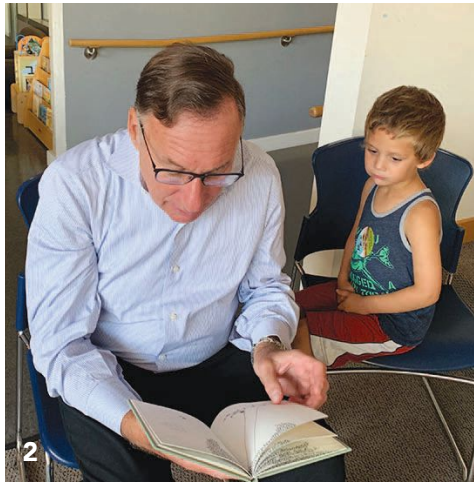
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A CJL & PJ LIBRARY ROSH HASHANAH

PHOTOS BY JFD STAFF

"We're a family and we're a Tree," Create A Jewish Legacy and PJ Library joined together to celebrate Rosh Hashanah with story time, singing, and crafts on Sunday September 15.

- 1 David
- 2 Richard Levine and Oliver M.
- 3 Missy Tal, Noah T., and David M.
- 4 Reading break



JCRC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

PHOTOS BY JFD STAFF

JCRC hosts Legislative Breakfast for members of the Delaware General Assembly



- 1 L to R, Russ Silberglied, Representative Raymond Seigfried, Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, Representative Jeff Spiegelman, and Jenn Steinberg
- 2 Representative Jeff Spiegelman and Russ Silberglied

ART SPACE

OPENING RECEPTION

PHOTO CREDIT: DAN BRODY

Painted Stories by Yolanda Chetwynd and *Accumulation* by Gina Bosworth open in the Siegel JCC ArtSpace. A large crowd viewed artist Yolanda Chetwynd's depictions of her in-law's emigration from Pakistan to India and her grandmother's escape from the Nazi invasion of France. Gina Bosworth explore's the confluence of art and science by combining handmade paper with natural and found materials.



1



2



3

1 Artist Yolanda Chetwynd in front of scenes from her grandmother's story

2 Artist Gina Bosworth in front of her display

3 Art goes at the opening reception



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REPS FOR DOLLARS

SIEGELJCC.ORG

PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA HARLEV

On Sunday, September 22nd, the Siegel JCC hosted the inaugural Reps for Dollars fundraiser. For four hours, 19 staff members pushed themselves to their fitness limits, completing over 4,000 reps across eight challenges and raising over \$4,000 for the Nemours Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders and the Siegel JCC Scholarship Fund.



1 Steph Kegelman and Ivy Harlev 2 Nick Messina, Courtney Howe, and Wendi Weingartner 3 Jon Ellison 4 Dave Parris 5 Chris Baldwin



JFS IN SUSSEX CONTINUES TO GROW

PHOTOS BY JFS STAFF

JFS welcomed board certified psychiatrist, Dr. Andy Feinberg, in September to our clinical practice in Sussex County! We are grateful to Jeff Stape and Caryl Marcus-Stape for hosting a welcome reception in their beautiful beach home for Andy to meet and greet community leaders and partners.



- 1 Beth Copeland, CEO of Griswold Homecare, with JFS therapist Niki Nieblas
- 2 Managing Director of JFS in Sussex, Joanne Saltzberg, and Amy Feinberg
- 3 JFS CEO, Basha Silverman, Andy Feinberg, and JFS Board Chair, Norm Pernick
- 4 Our generous hosts, Caryl Marcus-Stape and Jeff Stape



FALLING INTO FALL AT EINSTEIN



- 1** The Dzwilewski family is all smiles on the first day of Einstein
PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV
- 2** Einstein parents build the sukkah together PHOTO BY SIMA MALKA
- 3** Rabbi Vogel has Einstein Gan student Ben R. demonstrate during the Shofar Factory PHOTO BY EINSTEIN STAFF
- 4** Einstein Gan blasting in the New Year at the Annual Tashlikh Walk PHOTO BY EINSTEIN STAFF
- 5** Einstein 5th grader Thomas W. on the first day of school PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

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CONNECT

CONNECT, Jewish Federation of Delaware's young adult network, hosted a happy hour for young professionals to celebrate a new year and new friendships!



TOP: L to R, Liz Flynn, Denise DiCostanza, and Rachel Wasserman

MIDDLE: R to L, Chris Neary, Lindsey Neary, Benjamin Lasner, Maddie Driban, Daniella Buchshtaber, Noam Glikzman, Alli Rys, Rachel Wasserman, Gabbi Eisenberg, Ross Rudnitsky, Brenna Zonick-Wootten, Miriam Silton, and Jeffrey Gordon.

BOTTOM: Ross Rudnitsky and Maddy LeFrock

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TEMPLE BETH EL'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1 Josh Schoenberg and his mother Barbara Schoenberg of The Schoenberg Memorial Chapel receive an honor from TBE for their compassionate support of Delaware's Jewish Community
- 2 One of TBE's founding congregants, Dorothy Altshuler, receives a standing ovation with son in law Bill Moses
- 3 Sharon Menashes and Ann Osman
- 4 Anita and Ken Rosenzweig, Sharon and Joe Giannotti, Bernie and Helene Rudnick, and Suzanne and Robert Prybutok
- 5 Neil and Joanie Kalin, Harriet and Josh Kalin, Ed and Syou Tucker, and Leny and Jack Stone



SEASIDE KOL NIDRE

PHOTO BY PAT SIMON

A multi-faith group of six (two Protestant, two Muslim, and two Jewish) women have been meeting monthly to learn about each other's faiths. Seaside Jewish Community members Marsha Davis and Carole Ash invited these women and their families to join them for Kol Nidre services at Epworth United Methodist Church in Rehoboth Beach.



BACK ROW: Mat Ash, Carole Ash, Norm Moore, Usman Sandhu, Judy Moore, Kahrida Abdul-Aziz, SECOND ROW: Waheed Grundy, Marsha Davis, Sobia Choudhri, Hannah Hannon FRONT ROW: Nuri Abdul-Aziz (4 yrs old)

COMMUNITY HAVURAH

PHOTO BY SASHA ABER



Rejoicing in Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein's sukkah with Community Havurah



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CTEEN TACO TUESDAY AND BEAT THE BOMB KICKOFF EVENT

PHOTOS BY CTEEN DELAWARE

- 1 Rochel Flikshtein and Ayelet Gutman enjoy delicious tacos
- 2 Rebecca Trugold enjoying the Taco Tuesday theme
- 3 Dani Schmoyer and Samantha Shipp are ready for the possibility of getting paint bombed
- 4 Ready to take on the paint bombs in hazmat suits
- 5 Getting through the lazer maze without getting caught
- 6 Paint bomb toss



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THE ART OF COMMUNITY

By Rabbi Jeremy Winaker, *Head of School*



Einstein celebrates Yom Adom, Red Day, as a community PHOTO BY EINSTEIN STAFF

God dwells where we let God in. This teaching from the Kotzker Rebbe is profound in its simplicity, inviting us individually to create space for gratitude, for supplication, and ideally relationship. This “letting God in” is in many ways a skill, an exercise in building character. While at Einstein we teach this skill, with and without mention of God, no lesson compares to feeling it.

When a fifth grader engages a Kindergartner in a game at recess, they do so much more than express kindness, welcoming, or mentorship. That fifth grader “lets God in” by reaffirming a culture of connection, of caring, and contribution. Not only does the Kindergartner gain a role model, the fifth grader inevitably becomes more skilled in acting the same way with peers. It is a regular experience at Einstein, part of the special atmosphere that comes from having students interact across classes and grades.

This year, Einstein is experiencing something more than interaction and moments of “letting God in.” Subtle efforts have combined with a positive school culture to produce meaningful community. These efforts include little touches like a weekly all-school lunch, where the whole school eats together; a second recess, when students touch base across grade levels more than once a day; sharing a hallway, increasing awareness of others and a bit of maneuvering around lockers; and a new buddy system where older students each mentor more than one

younger student. Each of these touches makes it that much easier to feel a part of something one might call community.

Community, though, is an art. There is more to a group of people “letting God in” than spending time together and caring enough to get along. At Einstein, we practice dynamic governance mixed with a little Talmudic decision-making: at every level, we intentionally do not let a majority rule without revisiting a vote to hear everyone’s voice, revote, and work toward a consensus to which no one has a paramount objection; even then, we elevate minority options as meaningful opportunities, just like the ancient rabbis. In other words, we are not inclusive as a catchphrase, we go out of our way to value what it means for each of us to be a part of a greater whole.

The election of our safety captain was a clear demonstration of these values at work. Four students were nominated in the first round of voting. After hearing everyone’s reasoning, one threw his hat in with someone else to narrow the field to three, and a few votes shifted. After two more rounds of reasoning and voting, one candidate emerged with the most votes. Before declaring her the captain, we first checked to see if anyone objected. Now all of the candidates and voters work together to work as a team. Interestingly, new friendship ties emerged in the process.

Guided lessons, subtle efforts, a positive school culture, and a concerted effort to build character are the colors with which we paint the canvas of our community. Each person in the school is like an instrument in our orchestra whose voice matters to make beautiful music. In focusing on relationships as the key to community, not only have we achieved a level of artistry this year, we have also “let God in” and our community has become a place for God to dwell.



Einstein Academy is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

GIVING AS ART

JFS Holiday Helpers Combine Creativity and Care

By Madeline Driban
JFS Development & Communications



Holiday Helpers Gifts PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JFS

Despite the bright lights and cheery music, the holidays are often a time of stress and difficulty.

For some, this is a time of excitement and anticipation for festivities with friends and family while, for others, this time can bring on or worsen stress, anxiety, and depression. Surveys have shown that over 30% of people report increased stress or depression during the holidays; this spike could be the result of a variety of factors including increased financial burden due to travel, gift, and hosting costs or an overwhelming calendar of parties and performances, not to mention the feelings of isolation or loneliness for those who are not able to be with loved ones. All of this must be balanced with everyday responsibilities and regular self-care needs. Quickly, what should be a joyous time becomes a major burden and, possibly, a threat to maintaining mental health.

Through counseling and case management services, JFS Delaware serves over 2,500 individuals, couples, and families a year, many of whom struggle to make ends meet even before the holidays come around...

... Malik is a father of five and works hard to provide everything he can for his children but, recently, has found it difficult to maintain stability for his family. A great father and support system to his honor-roll-earning children, Malik rarely complains, but he just received a foreclosure notice on his home and is struggling to remain positive...

... Irving, a holocaust survivor, is determined to stay in the comfort of his own home for as long as he can. With increasing medical issues, limited mobility, and all his family out of state, every bit of support he can get is appreciated. The winter months are especially difficult, and the cold nights can be isolating...

... Yolanda is a single mother of three who recently lost her job unexpectedly. Yolanda, who has an intellectual disability, is currently caring for her three children and a new grandbaby and is struggling to support her children's social, academic, and medical needs. She is proud of her family and all they have conquered together but is increasingly stressed and becoming anxious about her growing financial and family responsibilities...

For years, based on the Jewish tradition and value of *tzedakah*, JFS has provided support to our clients during the holidays. As needs evolve, so does our approach and we are excited to bring back the Holiday Helpers program for a second year in a row... with an artistic, creative flare! Led by community members and long-time JFS volunteers, Lisa Driban and Rachel Harad, Holiday Helpers will not only include a collection of special holiday goodies – hats and scarves, games and books, lotions and candles, and more – but will also include opportunities to **CREATE** gifts. Community volunteers can gather with friends old and new to turn retired t-shirts into one-of-a-kind shopping totes and, back by popular demand, create no-sew fleece

blankets, hats, and scarves. No sewing or patterning skills are necessary to bring this vibrant, artistic spirit to gift-giving and community service.

Together, we can warm hands and hearts for the holidays.



Mark your calendars for crafting on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7**. Keep an eye out for more details.

For more information about crafting sessions and our collections list, email our Holiday Helpers at holidayhelpers@gmail.com.

If you or a loved one needs support throughout the holidays or any time, contact our intake department for a **FREE** confidential consultation.

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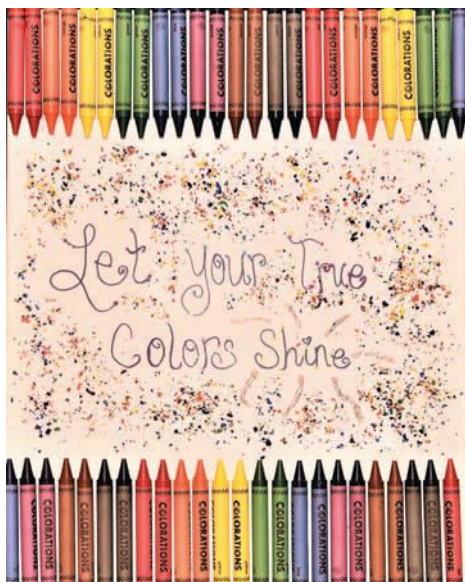
Jewish Family Services of Delaware is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

THE ART IN ALL OF US

By Nicholas Tavares
ECC Program &
Curriculum Coordinator



PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV



Artwork by ECC Class PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

“Tell me . . . what do you know about artists?”

This was the first question that I proposed to a captive audience of four-year olds when I was at a loss for what would intrigue them.

Last January, I found myself dusting off my teaching skills as I had assumed the role of a long-term substitute teacher in Pre-K at the Siegel JCC’s Early Childhood Center. I was eager, but at the same time apprehensive; where are these children developmentally? In an education setting rooted in an emergent curriculum, teachers must have a strong knowledge of the individual child to create an intentional and effective curriculum. But, coming in mid-year, with a group of children that are already in a flow, was nerve-racking. How do I plan a curriculum for this group that will engage them, challenge them, educate them as well as give me the chance to see what they can do?

I immediately went to what I was passionate about with hopes that my extensive knowledge in the arts would help to jump-start our time together.

What do you know about artists?

The answers came rolling in, and they were all spot on: “they paint,” “they make art,” “they are creative.” That last one was what prompted me to help the group along.

“What if I told you that an artist is anyone that uses their imagination to create something?”

This sparked something and got the ball rolling. That’s when we were welcomed with responses like “dancer,” “actor,” “writer,” and we kept pushing.

“Have you ever thought about your clothes being art? What about food or a blanket? All of those creations use imagination.”

The children were really engaged at this point, so we continued onto the next part of the lesson.

On the floor was a variety of iconic pieces of art that ranged from still life to self-portraits to modern art to installations.

“Look at all of this art,” I said. “Sometimes the art looks like something, but other times, the person looking at it has to use their imagination to consider what the artist was thinking.”

The first child approached the art tentatively and selected a print of Jackson Pollock’s *One: Number 31, 1950*. I asked him, “How does this art make you feel?”

His response was so authentic and real: “Kind of angry . . . there’s a lot of blacks, and it’s all swirly.”

“That is such an interesting take on this art,” I responded. “This artist is Jackson Pollock, and he uniquely painted pictures. He would lay big pieces of canvas on the floor and made his paint thin so that he could move it around with sticks and old brushes. He liked the way the paint would drip and fall on its own and went where it wanted to. That was how he used his imagination.”

We continued until every child had a chance to talk about a painting, and then the pieces of art became a huge focus at our felt-board station.

Over two weeks, the children had the opportunity to paint like Pollock, paint to various genres of music, make mosaics, paint under the table to emulate the Sistine Chapel. We printed fabric, made patterns with musical instruments (a rhythm if you will), sorted buttons in the sensory table, created stage shows in dramatic play, had puppet shows, and moved our bodies in different ways to music. We watched some media clips of Cirque du Soleil performances, marching band, drum and bugle corps shows, winter guard performances, Broadway scenes, and even a child, spoken-word poet.

In the end, the children demonstrated many skills and were exposed to a wide variety of cultures through art. At the conclusion of the two-week thematic unit, when asked to reflect on what they learned, a child responded with:

“I learned that whenever I use my imagination . . . I am an artist.”



The Siegel JCC is a
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SIEGELJCC.ORG

WORKING IN ISRAEL

UD human services majors took on internships in teen and childcare facilities

By Jordan Howell | University of Delaware

Originally ran in *UDaily* October 7, 2019. Permission to reprint given by UD.

The University of Delaware is a global hub of learning and innovation with a talent network of students, alumni and faculty who are working tirelessly to solve the world’s most pressing problems.

For those in the Department of Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS), the problems are social in nature: discrimination, poverty, addiction and inadequate education. Two human services majors — Talia Feldman and Rachel Peyser — travelled to Israel during the summer of 2019, hoping to make a difference and prepare for careers beyond college.

TALIA FELDMAN

In the capital city of Jerusalem, junior Talia Feldman helped at-risk teens experience the healing power of art at Susan’s House, a community center that employs at-risk youth ages 15 to 18 who are disconnected from society and not currently enrolled in school.

“To be considered ‘at-risk’ can mean many different things: at-risk financially, emotionally or physically,” said Feldman. Before travelling to Israel, she had studied these concepts in classrooms at UD. In an HDFS class called “Families and Children at Risk,” with Prof. Roderick Carey, Feldman learned about the social-emotional development of children and families and common risk factors. Carey also introduced them to social workers who shared their first-hand experience practicing in the field.

Now, Feldman was putting that theory into practice. “The human services major focuses on delivering help to at-risk individuals, which prepared me for this opportunity,” she said. “I knew what to expect when working with communities who are at-risk.”

At Susan’s House, at-risk teens receive vocational training in glass blowing, jewelry making, crafts and housewares, and various other objects. Feldman is part of a team of social workers and volunteer artists who work with Susan’s House to provide guidance and support as these teens learn a craft, acquire best practices and life skills, develop confidence and self-esteem, and learn communal values.

“The teens that I worked with all have really intense life stories,” said Feldman. “Most of them did not want to talk about their experiences. But if anyone wanted to tell me, I was always there to listen.”

Pursuing an internship in Israel was an easy decision for Feldman, not only because she’s been there before. She is also very involved in Jewish life on campus, serving as president of Blue Hens for Israel and attending events at the UD Hillel, the largest Jewish campus organization in the world.

“I’ve always been very involved in my Jewish community, and Israel has been a very strong part of my identity and my life,” said Feldman.

RACHEL PEYSER

In the coastal city of Jaffa, just a few miles south of Tel Aviv, Rachel Peyser spent the summer interning at a childcare center for young children.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



UD student Talia Feldman is a member of the UD chapter of Hillel, the largest Jewish campus organization in the world PHOTO BY LANE MCLAUGHLIN



UD student Rachel Peyser walks through the Mahane Yehuda Market, often referred to as the Shuk, in Jerusalem PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL PEYSER

i UD Hillel is proud to have sent 22 students on **Onward Israel** last summer. **Onward Israel** sends college students ages 19 to 27 to live and work in Israel for eight weeks and covers approximately 70 percent of the travel costs.



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AGENCY UPDATE

WORKING IN ISRAEL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

“Living in Israel was the most unreal experience,” said Peyser, who also works at a childcare center in Newark, Delaware. “It was very interesting to compare early learning environments in Israel and America. I’ve learned that different cultures have different expectations for their children and their teachers.”

Her internship in Tel Aviv was made possible through the northern New Jersey chapter of Onward Israel, which sends college students ages 19 to 27 to live and work in Israel for eight weeks and covers approximately 70 percent of the travel costs.

Onward Israel assigned Peyser an internship coordinator who connected her to Women’s International Zionist Organization, a nonprofit that advocates for the needs of women, children and youth in Israel and operates 183 childcare centers across the country.

Peyser’s day started with a 30-minute bus ride from Tel Aviv to Jaffa. Once at the childcare center, she assisted students and teachers with learning activities, art projects and structured playtime outdoors.

“I was there to be with the children and create a safe place for them to learn and have their needs met,” said Peyser, who said the HDFS class called “Survey in Child and Family Services,” for prepared her for the challenges she would encounter. In addition to being introduced to a range of intellectual, social and health issues facing children and families, the course also prepared her professionally.

“We did a project on autism, visiting different centers in the Newark area, and interviewing teachers and students,” said Peyer. “Not every kid is the same. What you do for one child might not work for the next. You need to be flexible.

“Human services has taught how to work with diverse populations. It has been surreal, applying the knowledge I learned at UD to my internship in Israel.”

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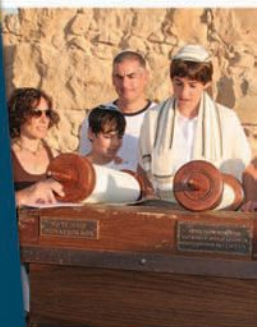
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MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH CUBA

By Lisa Levine
 Religious Leader
 Seaside Jewish Community

PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA LEVINE

The story of the Jews of Cuba is all at once tragic and triumphant. The Jewish population before the Cuban Revolution in 1959 was 15,000. Jewish merchant communities came to the island from all over the world to find their fortunes in tobacco, rum, textiles and sugar cane. They built magnificent synagogues: Beit Shalom, the Patronato Jewish Community Center, The Sephardic Synagogue, and Beit YaAkov, the Orthodox synagogue, which houses a beautiful upstairs museum sanctuary.

Today the island has roughly 1500 Jewish souls since most of the wealthiest Jews fled to the states before the Revolution. For decades, the community faltered and struggled to keep their Jewish roots vibrant and alive. When Fidel Castro visited the Patronato at Chanukah and learned of the Maccabee Rebels who fought for freedom, he allowed the Jewish community to practice their religion within their Communist regime. Since then many Jewish groups worldwide have helped the Jews of Cuba, not the least of which are the many URJ Congregations who have visited over the last few decades. Since 2001, B'nai B'rith International, has brought crucial aid and humanitarian supplies needed to give Jewish families in Cuba a significantly better way of life. The Joint Distribution Committee has provided Rabbis and Cantors to serve the community when possible. Miraculously, the Jewish community has begun to thrive, grow, and prosper

under the guidance of all the many groups and individuals from the outside world who choose to assist and support this faithful and cultural mecca of Jewish life.

My love affair with the Jewish community of Cuba began with my first mission in 2005. When I arrived, I learned quickly that my guitar did all the talking. The reaction to my first concert at the Sephardic Synagogue brought streams of tears and smiles to the elderly and young alike when they heard Yiddish songs from their childhood and familiar Israeli and Ladino songs they sang along with. That is when my personal mission to help the Jewish Community of Cuba began. I decided to record a CD of the songs I'd sung at that concert and donate the proceeds back to help provide basic needed supplies like food, medicine, soap, dental supplies, clothes, and shoes. Since then, through more concerts and four more humanitarian missions to Cuba, groups I've led have been able to distribute Jewish books and CD's to all the Jewish families around the island. Things have improved substantially, but needs of the Jews of Cuba are still very great as things get more difficult there. Food rationing continues, basic pharmaceutical supplies are very difficult to obtain, medicine and medical care is available but spotty and the salaries, all paid by the government are not enough to sustain life. This is why our continued support and contact with Jewish Cuba is so crucial.

Over the next decade I would return to Cuba four more times, nurturing the relationships I had built and continuing to share much

needed humanitarian aid, music, and people to people programming with the wonderful communities around the island.

In 2012 I returned to Cuba once again, with two other Cantors Dana Anasi and Deborah Martin along with Sephardic singer and performer Gerard Edery, who joined us for multiple concerts all over the island. The highlight was the dedication of the new Synagogue and Community Center in Santa Clara where Claudia Barliya, a young woman who I had followed since childhood, became a Bat Mitzvah!

My fifth Humanitarian Mission to Cuba was in 2017 I again returned to Cuba to find the Jewish Communities thriving and growing. The open trade sponsored by the Obama Administration had been good to the communities and the support groups around the world was evident. The recent addition to visiting Cruise Ships have provided much needed tourists from the USA who take Jewish Heritage tours as off-ship options.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

If you would like to donate to this very worthwhile cause please send your contribution to: Seaside Jewish Community P.O. Box 1472, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971. Be sure to write: Cuba Mission on the check!





New Opportunity for Jewish Learning: HIGH SCHOOL TEENS EARN COLLEGE CREDIT

By Sarah Unterberger
CTeen Delaware

i Get involved at CTeenU.com and contact Rochel@ChabadDE.com for more information.

For many, the Bar/Bat Mitzvah marks the beginning of adult life in the Jewish religion. But too often it also means an end of formal Jewish education. That’s unfortunate, because there is so much more to Judaism than the *alef bet*, holidays and *hamantaschen*. A rich Jewish education explores philosophy, history, practices, and ethics, for example. Often these subject matters are reserved for college campuses. No longer.

Yeshiva University and CTeen International, collaborated to create a new Jewish college-level course called CTeen U specifically for teenagers.

“Our chapter, here in Wilmington, DE, is one of a handful of chapters that will offer the course,” explains Rochel Flikshtein, Co-Director of CTeen Delaware, who will teach the course, alongside her husband and Co-director, Rabbi Motti.

“The course aims to give teenagers the chance to learn more about Judaism, at a much deeper level,” said Rochel. Each participant earns two private college credits. “It’s not a youth group. It’s a real college class.”

According to an article in the Jewish Standard, Rabbi Orenstein of Woodcliffe Lake, New Jersey,

originated the idea. He wanted to encourage high school students to delve into what it means to be Jewish, and to give them a leg up before college. He reached out to Rabbi Yosef Kalinsky at Yeshiva University, dean of undergraduate Torah studies. Together, they decided that the course should manifest as a school-year long course that meets 14 times throughout the year for an hour and a half each time. This year, 17 CTeen locations will pioneer this innovative curriculum.

The course focuses on the tenets of Judaism in a way that is relevant for teens. “Our goal is not to just teach information, but to start a real dialogue about what it means to be a Jewish teen figuring out their way in the world,” Rochel shares.

“This is so much more than Hebrew school for teenagers. It’s a thoughtful examination of Torah and Judaism on the world stage.”

Perhaps, this course will shape the future of Jewish education for teenagers. It has the potential to fill in the gap of what’s available now, namely Hebrew school for children and Judaism classes for college students. The course may be the first of many such courses designed to engage teens at an academic level - and the college credits don’t hurt either.

MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH CUBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

I am once again preparing to journey to Cuba with Seaside Jewish Community in January of 2020. I know that things have deteriorated for all the people of the island. Diplomatic relations are strained and the embargo has kept food and badly needed supplies from reaching those in need. Our help is crucial and we at Seaside have resolved to support the community in every way possible. So much has changed in Cuba, and so much has remained unchanged. The classic cars are a constant reminder of how time stood still after the Revolution. When members of Seaside Jewish Community return to Cuba in January, we will once again hear and share the story of the Jews of Cuba: a story of survival, of rebirth,

and reconnection with the Jewish cultures of the world. We will bring down hundreds of pounds of humanitarian aid as well as gifts and tzedakah to the many synagogue communities there.

It is through our missions and support that they are able to experience a bit of normalcy and a taste of the world as it should be: free, prosperous, and able to obtain the basic necessities of life.

My hope and prayer for the people of Cuba is that their future will continue to change for the better and they will be able to live hopeful lives with bright and promising futures. *Am Yisrael Chai and Viva Cuba!*

DELAWARE MUSICAL TELLS THE WWII STORY OF JEWS IN SHANGHAI



Classical music heritage in China traced back to cultural exchange in 1940s Shanghai ghetto

By Melissa Kitchen and Darlea Dominelli
UD Master Players Concert Series

The University of Delaware’s Master Players Concert Series has commissioned a new musical, *Shanghai Sonatas*, based on the true story of Jewish refugees who founded a now-thriving culture of Western classical music in Japanese-occupied Shanghai, China, during World War II.

The story follows a modern-day Chinese-American concert violinist who arrives in Shanghai to find out how his grandfather learned classical music. He finds that when he plays restored violins from the Jewish Ghetto, he is transported back to WWII to follow the wartime experience of the Jewish refugees who had arrived at the only city that accepted them – Shanghai, China. Among them were 450 world-renowned classical musicians who suffered in the Shanghai Ghetto under Japanese occupation. While waiting for their families and friends to arrive, they trained the first generation of Chinese musicians. Their music kept them alive and bridged the connection between the survivors and the local people.

“We are all one people, as human beings, and when one group of people suffers, I believe we all suffer in a certain way,” says Alan Goodson, book writer of the musical. “It affects the soul of all humanity.”

The musical is largely based on historical accounts of the Shanghai Ghetto, where from 1941-1945, thousands of the city’s Jewish refugees lived alongside Chinese civilians, refugees in their own homes, in an area smaller than one square mile. While conditions were extremely crowded and poor, the ghetto was not walled, and cultural life thrived.

At the time, Shanghai was the only city in the world that would accept immigrants without visas.

With 75 years between today and the atrocities of WWII, the truth of the Holocaust is becoming vague for many. A 2018 study commissioned by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany revealed 11% of all US adults and 22% of Millennials (adults ages 18 to 34) haven’t heard or are not sure if they have heard of the Holocaust. While approximately 6 million Jews were exterminated in the Holocaust, nearly one third of Americans (31%) and 41% of Millennials believe that the actual death toll was two million or fewer.

The production has a poignant physical connection to the Holocaust. The violins featured in the musical belonged to Holocaust victims and were collected and restored by Israeli violin-maker, Amnon Weinstein, whose “Violins of Hope” collection is a tribute to those who were lost.

Combining musical theater, live classical music, and visual art, *Shanghai Sonatas* is conceptualized, produced and composed by violinist Xiang Gao, UD Trustees Distinguished Professor of Music. Other creators include Master Players Playwright-In-Residence Alan Goodson; lyricist Joyce Hill Stoner, named professor and founder of UD’s Art Conservation doctoral program; stage director Chongren Fan, artistic director of the Yangtze Repertory Theatre; and visual art designer David Brinley, faculty of the UD Art Department.

The musical will be presented at 3 PM on February 15 and 16, 2020 at the University of Delaware’s Mitchell Hall. Tickets can be purchased at the Master Players website, www.masterplayers.udel.edu.



Q ■ How would you answer: Who is a Jew?

A ■ RABBI PEGGY dePROPHETIS

Congregation Beth Shalom, Dover

Who is a Jew? It's an important question, but it is not, in my opinion, the most important question to ask for the future of Judaism.

Who is a Jew?

Are you a Jew if your mother is a Jew? Yes, according to the Orthodox and Conservative movements. This is the halachic (legal) answer.

If your father is a Jew? Patrilineal descent which worked in the Bible (all the sons of David by his many foreign non-Jewish wives were considered Jews), works today for Reform and Reconstructing Jews, if the parents indicate their intent to raise their children as Jews.

Are you a Jew if you have chosen Judaism and been through a formal conversion process?

The answer depends on who is asking and what rabbi did the conversion process, and in which country it occurred. One example: Russian soldiers in the Israel Defense Forces converted by the army's Orthodox rabbi were not considered Jewish by some other Orthodox rabbis.

Are you a Jew if you were born Jewish and became a Catholic? A Buddhist? Or profess atheism?

Take Brother Daniel, for example: Shmuel Oswald Rufeisin (1922–1998), a Polish-born Jew who survived the Nazi invasion of his homeland but converted to Catholicism. He moved to Israel, where he sought citizenship under the Israeli Law of Return, but was refused by the Israeli government.

On the other hand, Jewish Buddhists (JuBus) and atheists can still be considered Jewish because there is no question of their accepting Jesus. Leonard Cohen briefly explored Buddhism because of his interest in the calming effect of meditation.

So what is the *important* question?

A person can be *halachically* Jewish and indifferent to Judaism—not caring, not participating, not helping to preserve our

wonderful legacy. That person is just a statistic as far as I'm concerned. The more important question for me is: "What makes a person a good Jew? My answer: A person who will improve the world and ensure the future of our people.

There are many answers. Living the life of an ethical and compassionate person is important. So, too, is caring for one's community. But that applies to people of all faiths. It is an answer, but not a distinctly Jewish one.

Obedying the mitzvot may make one a good Jew, but then maybe not. One could obey all the mitzvot and still go to jail. In some cases living a *haredi* (ultra-Orthodox) life in Borough Park does not immunize one against criminality.

For me, what uniquely makes a good Jew is the strong desire to learn about being Jewish and to live the results.

A prospective convert came to our sage Hillel who lived in the first century CE and asked him to teach him the whole Torah while standing on one foot. Hillel said: "That which is hateful to you do not do to your neighbor. This is the whole of the Torah. The rest is commentary." However, his final words of advice were: "Go forth and learn." (BT Shabbat 31a) May we do likewise.

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER

*Rabbi Emeritus,
Congregation Beth Emeth*

One of my professors said that anyone who calls him/herself a Jew should be considered a Jew. "After all," he said, "with our history you'd have to be crazy to identify as a Jew if you're not!"

Be that as it may, this has been an issue for at least a half-century. Answers to the question "Who is a Jew?" vary, but most agree that if your mother is Jewish - regardless of the religion

of your father - you're Jewish. Ahh, but if your father is Jewish and your mother is not, the Reform movement has declared that you will be considered Jewish provided that you identify exclusively as a Jew and have commemorated affirmation-oriented rites-of-passage, such as Bat/Bar Mitzvah.

I'm really not sure how the question is answered in Israel today. A couple of years ago I was put on a "list" compiled by the Israeli rabbinate making me *persona non grata*. This is ostensibly because I affirmed the Jewishness of someone for the purpose of *aliyah* who, after checking, the rabbis of Israel said was not (by the way, quite a number of my colleagues called or emailed saying how jealous they were and wanted to know how they could get on that list). I'm not even sure to which one they referred, as I was never told, yet I believe I know. While I've never second-guessed myself regarding the half-dozen or so I've affirmed across the years, I believe one young man's mother was not Jewish, either by birth or conversion. I'm also pretty sure that he told me she was.

I must say that those on the list were not only **Reform**; there were even some well-known Orthodox rabbis included. Having said that, I realized that the rabbinate did not object to a Reform rabbi affirming someone's Jewishness because they obviously accepted the others I've "certified" who are now living in Israel.

Maybe the question should be, "Who is a good Jew?" We know observant Jews, liberal Jews, gastronomic Jews, secular Jews, but the noun is "Jews"; only the adjectives are different. Far be it from me to determine who is "good," though I'm sure colleagues of mine from the wide spectrum of our People have their opinions. I believe a good person from a faith point of view is one who acknowledges her/his faith, is proud of being a member of that faith, does not disparage those who are not of that faith or has a different perspective, and works for the betterment of society with people of any and all faiths (atheists as well).

We need more of those under our tent, and ministers, priests and imams need more of those as well.



RABBIS' VOICES

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BAT MITZVAH

SOPHIA MADELINE PLATSI

Sophia became a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, November 2nd, 2019 at Congregation Beth Shalom. She is a graduate of Albert Einstein Academy and currently attends Springer Middle School, where she is a member of the National Junior Honors Society and the Bark Builders service club. She is also in her school's drama club and dances at Kicks Academy of Dance. In addition to drama and dance, she enjoys reading, writing, and being outside in nature.



Sophia Platsis
PHOTO CREDIT: RON VANDERMAN

For her Mitzvah project, Sophia volunteered for Jewish Family Services by baking desserts for the Memory Café (a support group for individuals experiencing memory changes, along with their care partners).

Sophia is the daughter of Liz and Zach Platsis, and the older sister of Miriam. Her grandparents are Helen and Ron Vederman of Lewes, DE and Carol and Stan Platsis of Ann Arbor, MI.



Brandon Weaver
PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CBS

BAR MITZVAH

BRANDON WEAVER

Brandon Weaver is a seventh grader at Garnet Valley Middle School. His favorite subject is Spanish because he enjoys learning another language and about the Spanish culture. His favorite extra-curricular activity is karate. Brandon started karate at the JCC pre-school lunch bunch when he was three and has been training ever since. He is currently a black belt. Another passion of Brandon's is swimming. Brandon's bar mitzvah project was teaching swim lessons at the JCC. He really enjoyed working with the kids, helping the community, and giving back to the organization and people that taught him to love swimming. In his free time, he enjoys playing video games and hanging out with his friends. Brandon's family would like to thank Cantor Elisa, Rabbi Michael, Karen Moss, Scott Slomowitz, and the Hebrew school teachers for helping him on his journey to become a bar mitzvah.

SHABBAT & YOM TOV CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES



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Light candles at 4:35 PM
Shabbat, November 9, 2019
Shabbat ends at 5:34 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019
Light candles at 4:24 PM
Shabbat, November 16, 2019
Shabbat ends at 5:24 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019
Light candles at 4:28 PM
Shabbat, November 23, 2019
Shabbat ends at 5:28 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019
Light candles at 4:21 PM
Shabbat, November 30, 2019
Shabbat ends at 5:22 PM

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AT THE BALLET

By Jaidy Schweers
Editor

Marsha Borin, Circa 2006 PHOTO BY LUIGI CIUFFETELLI PHOTOGRAPHY

“Like the song, *Everything is Beautiful at the Ballet*, stepping into a studio and touching the barre has always been a comfortable and beautiful place for me.”
— Marsha Borin

At its most captivating, dance directs our gaze to the most minute of details, to the most boundless and sweeping of journeys across the stage. The dancer, triggered by benevolent vitality and soul-lifting catharsis; the viewer, moved by the movement—a conjoined energy by each participant. Regardless the role, dance has the power to

transform its user. It’s been the mission of Marsha Borin to gift the experience of dance to anyone and everyone through her years as both a dancer and director.

Marsha Borin’s grandfathers were both Russian Immigrants who settled in Wilmington and became Delaware Avenue merchants who engaged in building the community and Jewish life. One grandfather—her father liked to say—was a CPA (Cleaning Pressing and Alteration) serving many from the DuPont Company. Borin’s maternal grandfather owned a number of drug stores. One of his buildings still stands today immediately adjacent to 222 Delaware Avenue where he had a fountain, liquor store,

and pharmacy. His oldest daughter, Borin’s aunt, was the pharmacist in the drug store there; Borin can still remember watching her mix powders and manually place into small, clear capsules. At a time when women did not necessarily seek higher education, Borin’s grandfather made sure all three of his daughters attended college.

Borin’s father opened an insurance agency in Wilmington. His cramped office started with a small, used desk and phone, and eventually grew into Delaware’s largest agency. For more than a half century, he was also located on Delaware Avenue. He was very involved in Delaware’s Jewish life helping to acquire Sellers Estate for the Jewish Community



through high school before going to NYC where I was accepted at the School of American Ballet. I then attended Indiana University on a ballet scholarship. Though I performed in summer stock and had a chance to tour with a Broadway show, my father was never happy with my pursuit of dancing, as he wanted me to go to law school, which I ultimately did after my children were born. During law school, I attended a professional ballet class in Philadelphia each morning taught in adherence to the Vaganova Syllabus, which is the Russian method of teaching. For many years I taught ballet classes in Wilmington.

While I practiced law, Russian dancers—trained in the most famous ballet schools in the world—were stranded in this country. I helped bring them to Wilmington to form a professional company in Delaware, which I directed for about eight years performing locally and nationally to rave reviews. We amalgamated superb Russian classical technique with American style, speed, and music to create iconic works such as *Pointer Sisters on Pointe*. In addition we presented the revered classics such as *Don Quixote*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Nutcracker*. In addition to directing and performing, I worked on settling the dancers into the community and obtaining their American status; many tasks that my legal background made easier. I thanked my father for this!

Additionally, I directed a pop ballet company that toured Europe some 300 nights per year in cities where arts are valued as an enhancement to childhood education and seen as an economic driver for cities. In America, we sadly cut arts programming from children's lives and in so doing cut off the pipeline to the box offices and, ergo, the vitality of our cities. Theaters are the best way to fill cities after dark and when theaters thrive, restaurants, retail, and daily living, all prosper.

In the last decade, many forms of dance have integrated into mainstream fitness trends; what are your thoughts on this? Do you plan on further evolving this trend? If yes, then how?

Though I am trained in classical ballet I have dabbled in other disciplines which I enjoy such as tap, jazz, character, and Scottish. Classical ballet is the foundation of all good dance

and should be part of every curriculum. It requires refined perfection, seeing the paradigm and striving. It is the hardest to achieve. Any form of dance that is enjoyed should be embraced not only for the joy of movement and expression, but for the sheer physical exercise.

What is the most rewarding thing about your job?

I love sharing a discipline with others that has brought me so much pleasure and very much like teaching adults who have the power of concentration and work so hard. As we age, we need to practice balance and maintain flexibility to prevent and minimize falls. I like helping adults sense their bodies against the floor, improve posture, and make gait more graceful.

I enjoy sharing the classical music of ballet class like Chopin, Tchaikovsky, Minkus as well as interspersing more contemporary pieces for variety.

I like exposing adults to ballet so that they will looking forward to attending performances with critical analysis.

Marsha Borin's commitment to the artistry and health benefits of dance continue. When FIT Personal Fitness Studio asked Borin if she would come out of retirement to teach an adult ballet class, she was at first reluctant. Then, after thinking, she realized that it is something she loves to do and misses very much.

Hopefully, people will take this opportunity to let dance move them and find time to connect with one of Wilmington's dance legends, Marsha Borin.

Center and build the current Jewish Community Center among many other endeavors.

Borin was the President of a Jewish Sorority in high school. After leaving, marrying, and then returning to Wilmington, she served on the Editorial Board of the Jewish Voice in its early form.

I had a moment to connect with Marsha and delve into her rich and fulfilling life as a lawyer, dancer, teacher, and director:

How did your passion for dance begin?

I saw a dancer when I was only four and was captivated . . . like falling in love. I cannot really explain why! Fortunately a wonderful teacher by the name of James Jamieson came to Wilmington, and I studied ballet every day



Marsha Borin teaches on Tuesdays at 10 AM FIT Personal Fitness Studio 62 Rockford Road Wilmington DE

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ART TO HEAL THE SOUL

Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein, *Community Havurah of Delaware*

Since I can remember, I have been exposed to the devastation of the Nazi Holocaust and its impact. My maternal grandparents, Jack and Rose Najman, of blessed memory, were survivors. Most of their families were extinguished in the death camps. When they resettled in the United States, many of their friends and companions were other survivors. For a good percentage of my youth, these were the stories, voices, and images that I knew well. So I do not often find myself drawn toward Holocaust-related art or expression. A visit to a unique museum in the small Israeli Druze city, Daliyat El Karmel, close to Haifa changed that. Hearing how the tragedies of the Holocaust moved an artist living in a society and among a religion, which was unaffected by these events, was profound.

My connection to Daliyat El Karmel began with the Galilee Steel Drums Peace Project. In the spring of 2013, students came to visit the United States, and my family hosted two of the students, one of whom is Druze. We remained in touch with them and their families. Subsequently, when I visited Israel in November of 2016, I was invited to spend a night in the Gadban family home in Daliyat El Karmel. It was

a wonderful evening. In June of 2019, I returned to Israel with a family trip of about twenty people. So when the offer to visit again with this large family group came up, I knew it would be a chance to create a rare look into a beautiful and amazing culture and religion.

The Druze are a religious offshoot of Islam from around the 10th century. There are 800,000 to 1,000,000 Druze in the world today, mostly living in Syria, Lebanon, Israel, and Jordan. They are loyal to the countries in which they reside. For example, as full citizens of Israel, they participate in the army and are educated in the state school system.

On our visit, we began at the local elementary school. We were presented with a wonderful introduction to the Druze religion and beliefs by a young student who practiced his English so we could understand him. The head-teacher also spoke to us and explained a bit of the philosophy, including the idea of reincarnation. The idea of reincarnation or transmigration of the soul is one that I have studied in Jewish life and has fascinated me for some time. Hearing this idea about the Druze was eye-opening.

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Buteina Halabi CREDIT: PIRKL

“Once in a while you can get shown the light in the strangest of places if you look at it right.”
--ROBERT HUNTER

Following this, the young children in our group spontaneously began to play basketball with some of the local children who managed to find us. The teenage boys who had visited our home, Dan and Ziv, offered to watch the kids while the adults went on a separate adventure. It was a magical moment to see the game emerge, as various children began to play and engage with their newly found friends who had not met previously, nor could they speak one another’s language. But listening to the laughter as we walked away was a precious moment.

We began walking as our host, Akhlas explained that we were going to see an art museum. We did not know what to expect, but released ourselves to the moment, trusting our friend guiding us. We wound up at the steps of a beautiful, stately home and met local artist, Buteina Halabi. As she let us in, she welcomed us to the Druze Holocaust Art Gallery and Museum.

Her style is folk art and the images she evokes are powerful. Buteina explained to us that she was deeply affected by learning about the Holocaust. She was moved to understand the people of Israel whose lives were affected by the Holocaust. Buteina was invited to be a part of a group of teachers from Israel to visit the former Nazi lands and Auschwitz-Birkenau as well as the Terezienstadt concentration camps. Buteina spoke with tears in her eyes of how fearful she was to tread in a place where humans could cause such destruction. Yet she was bolstered by the strength of those Jewish friends who were determined to witness the memorial. It gave her the courage to create art to speak for those whose lives were extinguished.

Combined with the Druze idea of reincarnation, her artwork summons the ideas from biblical scenes such as Ezekiel’s Valley of the Dry Bones. We were moved to tears as we listened to her explain

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OPPOSITE PAGE

Top: Daliyat al-Karmel

CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Inset: Druze Holocaust Art Gallery and Museum

CREDIT: M. BECKER-KLEIN

THIS PAGE

Top: CREDIT: ISRAELANDYOU.COM

Bottom left: CREDIT: ISRAELANDYOU.COM

Bottom right: CREDIT: M. BECKER-KLEIN

ART TO HEAL THE SOUL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

her artwork and the empathy she expressed. In my life, I have been fortunate to have heard many people speak of the Holocaust. I understand the power of memory and how it directly affected my family and countless others. The power in listening to a Druze woman, explain the pain in learning about soldiers killing children before their mother's eyes or the *chutzpah* of someone to sneak away hiding underneath an overturned boat was tremendous. Listening to Buteina explain how she chose to portray each image was an emotional firework, both deeply sad and hopeful at the same time. Here is someone who has been so touched as to dedicate her life to creating art to an event that is not part of hers.

The museum we were in, she told us, is part of her house. She converted her home so that her family lives in an apartment and two-thirds of the home is dedicated to the museum. It is a demonstration of how people may be moved to act in selfless ways to help bring about a brighter future for all.

Her husband assists as we are shown about 25 pieces of her work. None is for sale. This is soul-art. One of her pieces, she proudly tells us, is displayed at Yad Vashem, the National Museum of the Holocaust in Israel. She hopes that her art helps bring light into the world from places of darkness.

The gracious nature of our hosts and the artist, whose pride in showing her art to us will stay with us forever. Buteina left us with words of hope and peace.

"Let us show the world to love and not to hate. To respect the other and their differences. To be patient and to be tolerant. And not to judge anyone according to their faith or religion, or the color of their skin. Let us show hate how to be light. This is how I see we heal the world from so much pain."

I think I agree with her.

We were tremendously moved. It was a moment that no one had expected. Our souls were moved through art.

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PROMINENT ISRAELI ARTISTS TO TEACH...

A Sick Day for Morris McGee – Directed by Ayelet Golan. Performed by Maayan Resnick. PHOTO BY DOR KEDMI

The Israel Institute announced in July the eleventh cohort of its Visiting Artists Program, which will bring ten Israeli artists to teach at top universities across the United States during the 2019–2020 academic year.

Among these artists are renowned theater artist Ruth Kanner at The Juilliard School; Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, internationally-acclaimed author of *Waking Lions* at UCLA; and award-winning choreographer, dancer, and musician Dafi Altabeb at Emory University.

“In fields spanning from dance and theater to literature, music, and technology, these artists provide university students windows into the creative heart of Israel and a deeper understanding of the cultural richness of modern Israeli society,” says Flo Low, Associate Director of Arts Programs at the Israel Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization dedicated to expanding opportunities for university students to learn about modern Israel.

The 2019-2020 Israel Institute Visiting Artists include:

Ruth Kanner is a theater artist based in Tel Aviv who directs and conducts workshops worldwide. Her company, the Ruth Kanner Theatre Group, specializes in adapting literary and documentary texts for the stage, interweaving storytelling, physical theater, and visual imagery. Kanner is a full professor in the Department of Theatre Arts at Tel Aviv University, where she teaches both undergraduate and graduate students. Her focus is on exploring new theatrical poetics. *The Juilliard School, Drama Division, Spring 2020.*

Matan Berkowitz is an interdisciplinary artist and entrepreneur whose work lives at the nexus of art, technology, and positive impact. His award-winning inventions have been exhibited at museums, galleries, and events worldwide. These inventions translate physical signals such as brainwaves, heartbeats, and movements into music, and turn everyday objects into musical instruments. As founder of Shift, a company specializing in impact-driven innovation, Berkowitz codeveloped solutions to enable paralyzed, amputee, blind, and autistic musicians to express themselves in new ways.

He regularly speaks and performs on stages such as TED, Google, Microsoft, and Forbes. *California Institute of the Arts, Herb Alpert School of Music, Spring 2020.*

Oryan Yohanan is an award-winning multi-disciplinary choreographer, dancer and improvisation performance artist who began her career as a principal dancer in the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company. Since 2013, she has created more than 11 multi-disciplinary performance projects, many of which explore gender roles and expectations, including her solo shows *I Dare U* and *Shoot Me*. She has been awarded three scholarships from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and, in 2014, was awarded the Ministry of Culture and Sport’s Best Performing Artist prize. *California Institute of the Arts, School of Theater, Spring 2020.*

Ayelet Gundar-Goshen is an internationally-acclaimed novelist and screenwriter. *Waking Lions*, her first novel published in the United States, received the 2017 JQWingate Prize and was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2018. It has been published in 17 countries. She received Israel’s prestigious Sapir Prize for best debut novel for *One Night Markovitch*, which has since been adapted into a stage play. Her third novel, *The Liar*,

...AT TOP U.S. UNIVERSITIES IN 2019–2020

By Sarah Solomon
Journalist, Israel Institute



Chamber of Chambers – Directed by Lilach Dekel-Avneri. Performed by Pathos Mathos Company. PHOTO BY SHACHAF DEKEL

will be published in English in September 2019 by Little, Brown and Company. Gundar-Goshen worked as a clinical psychologist at Shalvata Hospital for Mental Health. She is a member of the Israeli civil rights movement and an occasional contributor to *The Guardian* and *BBC Cultural Frontline*. *University of California, Los Angeles, English Department, Fall 2019.*

Dory Manor is an esteemed Israeli poet, translator, and editor. He received Israel's Yehuda Amichai Prize for poetry (2015); the Ministry of Culture Prize for Best Literary Editor (2011); the Tchernikovsky Prize for Best Translations of World Masterpieces (2008); and the Prime Minister's Prize for Hebrew Writers (2007 and 2018). Founder and editor of the literary magazine *Oh!*, he also co-edited the first Hebrew LGBTQ poetry anthology (2015). Manor taught Hebrew literature and translation at the INALCO University of Paris and at the Institut National de Sciences Politiques from 1996–2006. In Israel, he teaches poetry, editing, and translation at Tel Aviv University and Ben Gurion University of the Negev. He edited many works by Israeli prize-winning poets and writers. In 2017, he received his PhD in translation studies and comparative literature from INALCO

University of Paris. *Stanford University, Comparative Literature, Spring 2020.*

Ayelet Golan is a theater director, puppeteer, and performer. Her work has been presented at festivals and venues across the globe, including Israel, Europe, and the United States. She also directs and teaches in one of Israel's most prestigious junior and high school theater departments. With extensive experience as an acting coach, creative process facilitator, and dramaturg, Golan leads workshops and master classes in theater, object theater, and live animation for puppeteers and actors. *University of Central Florida, School of Performing Arts, Fall 2019.*

Yoav Shutan-Goshen writes for film, television, and theater. He received a BA in law and humanities from Tel Aviv University and completed the screenwriting program at the Sam Spiegel Film and Television School. Formerly a journalist for *Yedioth Ahronoth* and *The Marker*, he wrote the Israeli drama series *Kipat Barzel* (2017) and the feature film *Mekulalim* (2018). An accomplished playwright, he has worked with the Geshur, Beit Lessin, and Beersheba Repertory Theaters. His first novel, *One Woman, One Time* (2017), was a best-seller. He teaches at

Sapir College. *University of California, Los Angeles, Theater and Film Studies, Fall 2019.*

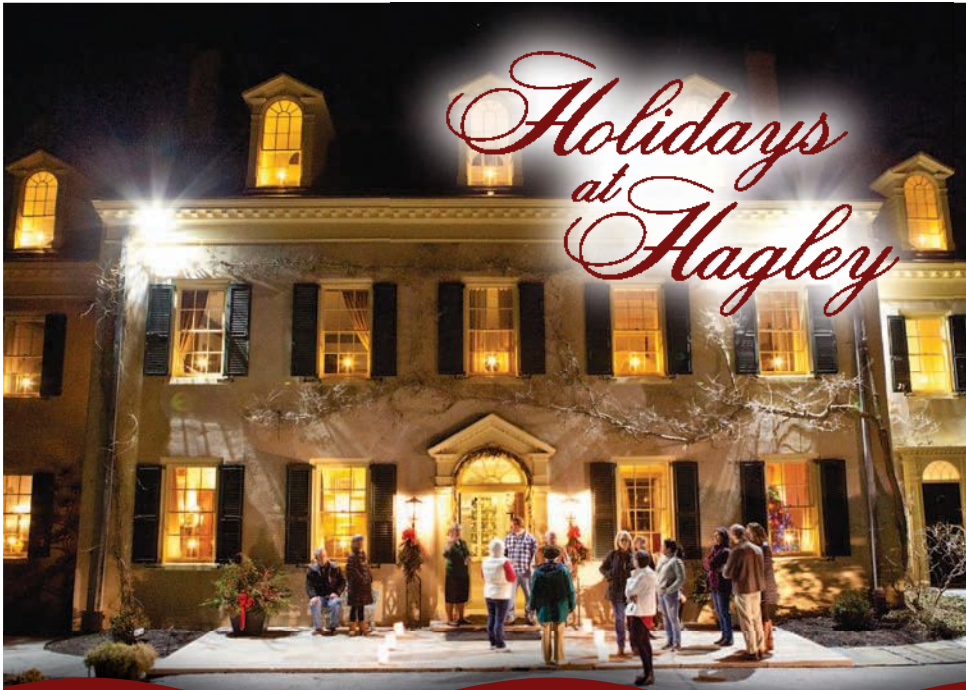
Noa Shavit is a Tel Aviv-based performer, choreographer, and dance instructor who trained at the Ga'aton Professional Dance Workshop. She has performed with Sharon Fridman, Anat Grigorio, Emmanuel Gat, Dede Dance Company, Nimrod Freed/Tami Dance Company, Tamar Borer, Anat Katz, and Erez Maayan and Noa Dar Dance Group. In 2018, Shavit premiered the solo *Ingiven* as part of Tmuna Theater's Intimidance Festival. She is the artistic director of the Contemporary Dance Program in Haifa. *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, School of Music, Theatre, and Dance, Fall 2019.*

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



For more information
please visit
[israelinstitute.org/programs/
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IN ISRAEL

PROMINENT ISRAELI ARTISTS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 43

Dafi Altabeb is an award-winning choreographer, dancer, and musician who founded and directs The Dafi Dance Group. She is a recipient of the 2012, 2013, and 2016 Excellence Award for Young Choreographers from the Israeli Ministry of Culture; the 2014 Rosenblum Award for Excellence from the Municipality of Tel Aviv; and the Israeli Ministry of Culture Excellence Award for ensemble performance for her piece *It's Now. It's Never*. Altabeb received her BEd and teaching certificate from the Kibbutz College of Education. *Emory University, Dance and Movement Studies Program, Fall 2019.*

Lilach Dekel-Avneri is a director, curator, translator, and dramaturg. The recipient of the prestigious Rosenblum Prize for Performance Art in 2016, she holds an MFA (*cum laude*) in writing, dramaturgy, and directing from the Department of Theatre at Tel Aviv University. Since 2017, she has served as the artistic director of MiDarom Festival in Ofakim and, since 2016, as coordinator of the EURODRAM Hebrew committee. As founder and artistic director of the Pathos-Mathos Company, her works have received Golden Hedgehog Awards and are described as “theatrical events with poetic and surreal qualities that offer an alternative to conventional theatre.” *University of Southern California, School of Dramatic Arts, Fall 2019.*

Happy 10th Anniversary



The Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition (DBCC) is extremely proud of its resale shops, Great Stuff Savvy Resale and Great Stuff Home in the Talleyville Center in North Wilmington. Since opening in 2010, the resale shops have contributed over \$625,000.00 to the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition to help support its programs and services for women and men going through their breast cancer journey.

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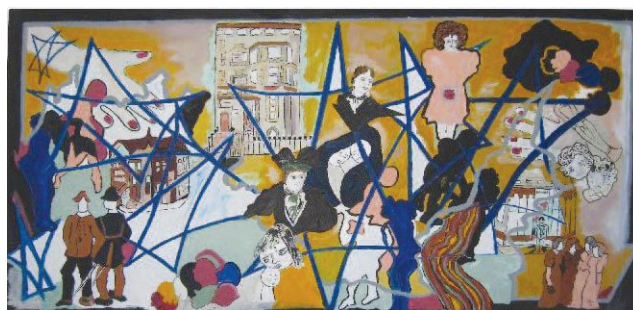
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Painted Paradoxes in ArtSpace; Glass Menorahs in the Showcase

By Kerin Hearn | ArtSpace Committee



ABOVE: Susan in front of her abstract
RIGHT, TOP: Susan's Jewish family comes to Baltimore
RIGHT, BOTTOM: The many sides of the immigrant experience

The paintings in the Siegel JCC ArtSpace and the glass art in the Showcase are tied together by Jewish culture.

The featured paintings in *Painted Paradoxes* reflect the artist's search for her Jewish roots and the glass menorahs in the Showcase light a favorite holiday.

Susan (Shoshannah) Adler George was a very lonely only child who intensely felt and keenly observed and "listened to" the world around her. When she was five, her family moved to rural Maryland into a fairy tale cottage, designed by her mother and hand built by her father. Her first memory of creating art was grabbing handfuls of clay from a bank to shape into the animals she saw in her yard. She loved to squeeze pokeberries and used their purple ink to create her first drawings. Children at her six-room schoolhouse knew the secrets of inkberries and making tea from sassafras that grew around her. She spent hours studying the diffusion of light through her mother's starched white curtains onto deep purple African violets.

Music and Dance were great influences in her life. Her mother enrolled her at age nine with the well-known dancer, Estelle Dennis, and later at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, where she studied through her college years. During that time she loved to draw and paint, but had no art materials. So she asked the girls at the dorm-style home in Baltimore to give her their discarded make-up. She used these to create bizarre semi-abstract drawings of faces and people, with the swirling line movement she learned in dance.

Susan spent most of her adult life as an artist in Baltimore. She was greatly influenced by the large spatial visuals of the diverse architecture, the brilliance of the art of Matisse, Egon Schiele and others in its many museums, and the colorful "happenings" going on around her. She wrote poetry under the renowned poet Andrei Codrescu and taught classes to children in many venues.

It was in Baltimore that she began depicting her Jewish roots through her art and writing. Her mother was Jewish, but raised her in Christian Science, the religion of her English/German father. Her mother was a great storyteller and filled Susan's head with colorful family tales of her Jewish ancestors—their

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

At the SIEGEL JCC ArtSpace

through the end of December

EXHIBITION:

Painted Paradoxes

Mixed Media paintings by Susan (Shoshannah) Adler George

IN THE SHOWCASE:

Cast Glass Menorahs and Judaica by Glasslight Studio



ARTSPACE | SHOWCASE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45



Amber Shofar Menorah
PHOTO BY CHARLES BARTHOLOMEW

arrival in the 1800's and decades of life in Baltimore. She loved to remind Susan of her Jewish background, while inserting Yiddish sayings into her everyday speech. And, thus began the major paradox of Susan's life—was she Jewish or not Jewish? How did the pieces

and fragments of her life add up to form her as an adult artist? She became so enmeshed in this paradox that she changed her name to Shoshannah

Some of the work in *Painted Paradoxes* illustrates the stories her mother told her about her Jewish family, which she crafted as if she were a child at her mother's knee. Other paintings evoke the paradoxes she sees in other aspects of life.

Susan recently moved to Chapel Hill, NC, where she quickly gained a reputation as “the eclectic artist of the South” and earned many awards and exhibits. Though surrounded by artists and writers, she longs to return east to be a quick train ride to the bustling art life of New York City, where she has already had poetry readings.

Joel Bless and **Candace Luke-Bless** are showing some amazingly beautiful sea blue, amber, and clear shimmering glass menorahs in the Showcase—all created by Glasslight Studio near St. Peter's Village, PA

The couple made their first menorah in the 1990s when Joel was developing a new

method of casting glass called vertical drift. Instead of simply ladling hot glass into a mold, Joel drips small amounts, pulling and twisting the glass, purposefully creating bubbles, waves of color and movement in the design. Hanukah was coming and Candace suggested a menorah as something to make with this new method. She made a clay model, Joel dripped hot glass into the new mold and their prototype was born!

The artists met at the Rochester Institute of Technology in the early 1970's where Joel became interested in their brand new glass blowing program. He taught himself the craft and built his own hot shop by the late 70s. Candace, too, became interested in glassblowing and together they formed the predecessor to Glasslight Studio. Because of his life-long interest in lighting, his first pieces were glass and metal lamps. Candace designed the form and color composition and developed a line of fused glass tiles, bowls, and tabletops. Today, the studio is a collaborative team of artists who produce a wide range of items from small table lamps to large chandeliers and Judaica.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Grandma Sima's Stuffed Peppers

By Merav Shmul Leiba

When we arrived in Arad in 1982, I was still in elementary school. We lived in an apartment building and discovered wonderful neighbors with lots of kids our age. It was a childhood that everyone dreams of having. Lots of togetherness, playing games outdoors and foolish stuff. The adults also formed brave friendships.

Of course, we also ate at each other's homes and had joint meals during holidays and occasions (mostly barbeques). That's how every mother learned to cook different styles according to the heritages of the neighbors.

The recipe for these amazing stuffed peppers I learned from my mother, Simcha (Sima for short) and she learned it from her good friend who lived next door. They were both named Simcha (happiness) and they both knew how to bring happiness. Unfortunately, both departed from us within a month and a half of each other.

Every time I make this dish, I remember their special flavor and that brings me back to those days. Half in longing and half in love for these two amazing mamas that colored my childhood with their magic.



INGREDIENTS:

10 washed light green peppers

Filling:

1 1/2-2 cups rice (brown rice can be used)
1 cup ground beef
1/2 a bundle of parsley, chopped
1 onion finely diced
Salt
1tsp. Sweet Paprika
Spicy Paprika (a little)
2-3 tbsp. tomato paste
1 tsp. of sugar

Sauce:

4-6 tbsp. tomato sauce
2 tbsp. sugar
1 level tbsp. salt
4-5 tbsp. oil
Water

DIRECTIONS:

Filling:

1. Cut the tops off of the peppers with a pointy knife. Clean out the seeds.
2. In a bowl, mix the filling ingredients.
3. Fill the peppers with the mixture, two thirds to the top of the peppers.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Elisha Caplan

Committee Co-Chair, j-VOICE Monthly

Food, like anything that takes time and care to make, holds special meaning. The aroma of a favorite dish (or a not so favored one) has the power to take us back in time, and the history or context of the creation of a dish can add significance to any meal. Perhaps that's why, in our community survey last spring, one of the most highly requested additions to the j-VOICE was for recipes. Well, ask and you shall receive.

This month we are launching our **Food for Thought** column, where we will share recipes from members of our Delaware Jewish community and beyond, along with brief stories about the meaning and history of the dish. We've started with three recipes originally published in *The Delaware/Arad Partnership Cookbook* in 2016.

If you would like to share a special recipe and the story behind it, please submit the recipe, a photo, and 150 words about what makes it an important dish for you to jaidy@shalomdel.org.

4. Place peppers tightly in a wide and deep pot.

Sauce:

1. Mix all the sauce ingredients and pour into the pot and make sure the sauce almost completely covers the peppers.
2. Cover the pot and bring to a boil on medium to high heat. Lower the heat and ladle some of the sauce onto the peppers.
3. Cook until the rice is completely cooked.

Apple Crumb-Top Pie

By Lelaine Nemser

When I was about eleven, my mother became ill and our family of four children needed help. My father hired Mrs. Maguire, an Irish grandmotherly woman, who would keep order in the house and cook. She was a single mother who had already raised five children. She also raised us and delighted us with her fabulous desserts. She was a master pie and

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

pastry chef. Her pies were fantastic. When I became a mother, I wanted to make pies (almost) as good as hers. I have worked on this recipe for forty years in order to approach her mastery. I honor her as a resilient woman who, with her hands and love, created a warm home with good memories for all of us who needed her care and wisdom.

INGREDIENTS:

(Makes 10-12 Servings. This pie has no bottom crust, just the crumb mix on top.)

- 15-16 medium to large apples (use 2 or 3 different types for full flavor)
- 1 cup of white sugar
- 1/3 to 1/2 cup of brown sugar
- 4 tbsps. of cornstarch or white flour for thickening
- 1 lemon, for grated rind and juice
- 1 tsp. grated nutmeg
- Pinch of salt

Crumb Crust Top:

- 2 1/4 cup of white flour
- 1 1/2 cup of white sugar
- 1 cup of salted butter plus 2 tbsp. if needed

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees.
 2. Peel, core and slice all the apples and place in a large bowl.
 3. Add all the other ingredients and mix together with your hands or long spoon.
 4. Place all apples in a large pie plate or baking dish. Mound the apples as high as possible!!
- This is important because they will bake down to a lower level.

Topping:

1. Mix the sugar and flour together, then “cut in” small amounts of the butter with a knife or pastry blender (this is a hand tool), or use a fork. The butter should begin to turn the mixture into pea-sized clumps and begin to look like crumbs. Pile it on top of the apples.
2. Bake for 30-40 minutes until the crumb gets brown. Turn the heat to 350 degrees and bake for another 40-50 minutes, for the apples to cook and reduce in size, depending on the apples.
3. Serve hot or cold.

Louisiana Red Beans & Rice

By Gael Szymanski

I spent four years as a tour guide in New Orleans, Louisiana. New Orleans is known for their Creole and Cajun food. Cooking Schools

ShalomDelaware.org

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

were popular with tourists, so I would spend many days sitting in the back of classes whilst my tourists learnt how to create some of the local dishes.

This is one of my family's favorite Winter dishes.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Pound Red Beans (Rinse and soak overnight covered in water)
- 1 bundle of Celery chopped
- 2 smoked Turkey Wings
- 2 or 3 smoked Turkey Necks
- 2 pounds smoked Beef Sausage cut into ¼ inch slices
- 1 Onion Chopped

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place all the ingredients in a large pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil, turn down to a simmer and cook slowly for about 5 hours mixing regularly.
2. Make sure the bottom of the pot doesn't burn so adjust your heat accordingly. You don't want your mixture to be too watery so make sure to cook off the liquid.
3. Serve in a bowl over Rice.

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MORTON L. MANDEL

Age 98, passed away on October 16, 2019.

Among the many leadership roles Mort played in the world of business, across the Jewish world and in his home community of Cleveland, he served as the President of the Council of Jewish Federations from 1978 to 1981.

Mort was a brilliant businessman whose analytical skills were matched only by his passionate commitment to the Jewish people. His book, *It's All About Who You Hire, How They Lead... and Other Essential Advice from a Self-Made Leader*, described the philosophy that fueled his achievements – an understanding that smart, creative, hardworking personnel are the key to the success of any venture.

Mort and his brothers, Jack and Joe, built their business literally from the trunks of their cars into the powerhouse that became the Premier Industrial Corporation. Alongside growing their business, they focused on building and strengthening the Jewish community in Cleveland and beyond. Their generosity sought to make the world a better place. Their philanthropy was widespread, and yet strategically focused on growing and nurturing leadership.

The Jewish Federations of North America is proud to be the home of the Mandel Center for Leadership Excellence. With the Mandel Foundation's extraordinary support, Jewish Federations will continue to strive to meet the high standards set by Mort and his family. He was an inspiration to all.



SONIA SCHORR SLOAN

Age 91, Sonia Sloan, native Delawarean and active community member passed away on October 19, 2019.

In 2019 Sloan was honored to receive the Delaware Democratic Party, Alexis I. du Pont Bayard Award for over 70

years of service to the Democratic Party of Delaware. Sloan also received the Jefferson University College of Life Sciences Lifetime Achievement Award for being the first woman ever to receive a degree from Jefferson Medical College, and the first to receive a degree from its new graduate school, Master of Science, in 1950.

Sloan's dedication to her community spans many years, covering not only the Jewish community, but also impacting all of Delaware. She was the founding member of the Board of the ACLU, the Wellness Community, the Public Allies, and the Delaware Financial Literacy Institute among others.

Sloan was inducted into the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women and was awarded the Order of the First State, the highest honor given by the State of Delaware.

"It's hard to imagine that anyone else has contributed as much to improving the lives of Delawareans," former Gov. Jack Markell recently wrote. "I literally can't imagine life without her."



NAOMI WRIGHT

Age 85, passed away Sunday, September 29, 2019. Naomi graduated from West Philadelphia High and Marietta College. She was a History and ESL teacher and later an adjunct instructor at Wilmington University. She was a lover of the arts locally and regionally and attended many Symphony, Opera, and Broadway shows

while also enjoying ballroom dancing. Preceded in death by her husband of 27 years, Peter Wright; she is survived by her loving partner, Donald Martin; son, Hal Goldberg (Bernice); daughter, Gail Goldberg; granddaughters, Sarah Goldberg Springer and Karyn Vose (Thomas); great-granddaughter, Autumn Vose. SCHOENBERG MEMORIAL CHAPEL

DEATH NOTICES

OCTOBER

- Ida Shooster**
Age 101; October 2, 2019 (services)
- Lillian S. Rosenthal (nee Spieller)**
Age 92; October 5, 2019
- Douglas M. Hershman**
Age 58; October 9, 2019
- Arie Ben-Bassat**
Age 74; October 15, 2019

SEPTEMBER

- Harry Fishman**
Age 92; September 1, 2019 (burial)
- Ruth Galperin (née Keller)**
Age 88; September 18, 2019
- Maureen T. Snyder**
Age 85; September 21, 2019
- Betty Slomowitz**
Age 87; September 26, 2019

AUGUST

- Lorraine Koff (nee Poritzky)**
Age 89; August 17, 2019
- Shirley Weiner (nee Rosenberg)**
Age 84; August 23, 2019
- Daniel Katz**
August 24, 2019

JULY

- Dr. Felix J. Boffa**
Age 89; July 9, 2019
- Robert Freeman**
Age 69; July 10, 2019
- Regina Miller**
Age 91; July 13, 2019
- M.R. Charley**
Age 76; July 14, 2019
- Daniel Koffler**
Age 92; July 13, 2019
- Marilyn Ruth Rosenberg**
Age 90; July 9, 2019
- Soren Kristian "Kris" Jensen Jr.**
Age 90; July 16, 2019

JUNE

- Selwyn H. "Sel" Rose**
Age 86; June 16, 2019

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Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at ShalomDelaware.org for a full, up-to-date listing of community events.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 & 16, 2019

Alphabet Soup Kids

11 AM–1:30 PM

JFS Wilmington (99 Passmore Road)

ASK is an open support and social group for LGBTQIA+ students ages 12-18. FREE to attend; ALL are welcome. Please confirm attendance at least 2 days prior to the meeting. Contact Sharon Zimmer at 302-438-1545 or cztwins@hotmail.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019

Quiz Bash

7:30–11 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

The Siegel JCC cordially invites you to Quiz Bash 2019, an evening of trivia, food, drinks, and dancing. Quiz Bash benefits our Early Childhood & Afterschool Enrichment programs. We will be honoring Caryl & Jeff Stape at Quiz Bash for their decades of leadership and investment in our community. Cost: \$75/person. To register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact annasaul@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2019

Sunday Family Funday

10 AM–12 PM

Siegel JCC Gymnasium

Join us every Sunday morning for active gym time for infants and children through age 5 (with adult supervision), including free play AND thoughtfully-planned activities, such as developmentally appropriate CATCH games, obstacle courses, and FUN! New for older siblings: children ages 5-12 (with adult supervision) can play games on the lower level, in the Youth Wing, and in the Mercaz. Cost: FREE for members! For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact valerielarock@siegeljcc.org.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019

Left-wing Anti-Semitism Today

6:30 PM

University of Delaware

Sponsored by the Jewish Studies Program, University of Delaware

For information, contact Polly Zavadviker at pollyz@udel.edu or 302-831-7161.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6 & 20, 2019

JFS Memory Café

1:30–3 PM

Congregation Beth Emeth

A social gathering for people experiencing memory changes and their caregivers. Open to ALL; every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. For more info or to RSVP, contact Karen Commeret at 302-478-9411 or kcommeret@jfsdelaware.org. Interested in volunteering? Contact Joyce Griffith at 302-478-9411 or jgriffith@jfsdelaware.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

Mini Bash (Grades K-5)

6:30–9 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to come celebrate their talents with us at the second ever Mini Bash, where

we'll learn, create, and celebrate together! Cost: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. To register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

JTots Pajama Party (Ages 1-5)

6:30–9 PM

Siegel JCC Early Childhood Center

Drop the little ones off to spend the night with us at our JTots Pajama Party. We will have games, arts & crafts, and a short movie for our youngest members. Cost: \$10/family (J members only). To register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact lauramastrangelo@siegeljcc.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

Middle School Hangout (Grades 6-8)

6:30–9 PM

Siegel JCC Gymnasium

Middle schoolers are invited to come to the J for a night of pick-up basketball and hanging out. Cost: \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members. To register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019

Remembering Kristallnacht Program

7 PM

Congregation Beth Sholom

340 N. Queen Street, Dover

Remembrance Service and Movie 50 Children. Cantor and Mrs. George Mason leaders.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Dedication of a Monument

12 PM

Beth Emeth Memorial Park

1220 Faulkland Rd

Wilmington, DE 19805

Please join us for the dedication of a monument honoring the memory of the Jewish members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America who gave their lives preserving our freedom and democracy. Refreshments will be served following the dedication.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Ann Jaffe Fund inaugural event.

Guest Speaker: Nadine Epstein, Editor-In-Chief and CEO of Moment Magazine

2–4 PM

Auditorium at the Siegel JCC

Ms. Epstein will be speaking about Tipping the Scale of Human Nature toward Tolerance and Kindness. Program is free and open to the public, RSVP's are requested. Please register at www.ShalomDelaware.org/Tolerance Contact Gina@ShalomDel.org or (302) 427-2100 for more information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019

Nefesh Mountain in Concert

7 PM

Congregation Beth Shalom,

1801 Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE

Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation of Congregation Beth Shalom presents Nefesh Mountain in concert. Nefesh Mountain features composed arrangement of a modern folk/bluegrass band with songs of the heart and sense of diversity, oneness, and purpose for our world today. The program will begin with a Havdalah Service followed by a concert. The program is open to the community. For more information contact Gary Harad at g27harad@hotmail.com or 302-547-5665, or Beth Shalom at 302-654-4462.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019

Jewish History Class with Burt Brenman

10 AM

Congregation Beth Sholom

340 N. Queen Street, Dover

Text: A Bride for One Night discussion. More information: e-mail burtrehab@gmail.com

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Trip to Notorious RBG Exhibition

11:30 AM–5:30 PM

Depart from the Siegel JCC Main Lobby

Join the Siegel JCC on a trip to the National American Museum of Jewish History in Philadelphia for the Ruth Bader Ginsburg exhibition. We'll take a 90-minute guided tour of the exhibit, followed by time to explore the rest of the museum. Lunch will be on your own at the members Food Court prior to the tour. Cost: \$28 for members, \$35 for public. To register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact katieglazier@siegeljcc.org.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019

Commemoration of Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting

7 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

Free and open to the public. Come together with your friends and community to remember and to act. Yahrzeit theme: Resilience. Guest speaker: Rabbi Cheryl Klein, retired rabbi Dor Hadash, Pittsburgh. Sponsored by the JCRC and DERECH (association of rabbis and cantors) For information, contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, JCRC Director at ellen@shalomdel.org.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

Caring Group (Widow Support Group)

5:30–7 PM

JFS Wilmington Office

If you have lost a spouse and are looking for support from people who share the experience, please consider joining JFS' new Caring Group. FREE to join, contact Pamela Stearn at 302-478-9411 or pstearn@jfsdelaware.org.

PERSONAL ART

By Philipa Miller



CREDIT: P. MILLER

Increasingly when I think of art I don't just think of grand art, magnificent art, or famous art. Sure, one can be moved by the current Delaware Art museum exhibits and admiring pieces from famous or newly emerging artists. A Broadway shows actors' performance and portrayal of characters can be fantastically enjoyable. An evening out to see an opera or a new artist featured at the JCC can be deeply moving.

But personal art is something to truly treasure.

In college I took an art class and found it to be one of my most difficult courses. This was an intro class where students sampled several types of art—sculpture, still life painting, sketching, and mixed media. But more than any one style or strategy or technique – what I remember most from that class is something the professor said to me while I was struggling to figure out where to start my sketch from. The professor took my pencil and made a small mark on the canvas.

And that's where I began.

Today, I try to convey to my kids this message, that art is subjective, art can be anything. Just do it and see where it goes,

see where it can take you. True personal art is the room at the Delaware children's museum where there are easels set up for the painter's imagination to run free. Art is the family game of charades where creativity is wildly expressed and imaginations are unbound.

Art is wordless expression. When our cat died my sensitive son drew a picture of all the animals that he knew that had passed away. We talked about the things they used to like to do, and what they might be doing if they are now crossing over a rainbow bridge to a big grassy meadow.

My other son, the imaginative one, at times gets carried away with tall tales (another form of personal artistic expression!) – and together we make up stories and act them out with costumes.

Permit personal art to be messy and fun and wide-ranging. From pottery, to miming, to painting, to drama, photographing nature and posing stuffed animals for portraits; all of this helps expand artistic sensitivity to be able to better enjoy the broader world of art and learn to appreciate the effort and creativity that goes into creation.

But to start is the most important thing; scratch that mark and see where it goes from there.

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