

Chadashot Ha'am

A bi-monthly newsletter for Congregation Bet Ha'am

March/April 2015 | Adar/Nisan/Iyar 5775



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A New Look, Inside and Out



By Julia Bailin, Marketing & Communication Committee Chair

A few months ago, I got new cat-eye, tortoise shell eyeglass frames, grew my hair out and dyed it back to its natural(ish) darker color. These changes coincided with my return to work after twelve weeks of maternity leave

though that timing wasn't exactly intentional. What was the result? Upon seeing me in the hallway with my morning coffee, some of my team members looked right through me! A few of them gave me friendly, non-committal smiles – like the ones you give to the person in front of you at the grocery store. The last time they saw me, I had a shorter, wavy blonde bob, no glasses and a giant pregnant belly. Now I was just another face in the bustling crowd at a big company.

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It was a strange feeling. Was I not the same person? Did I really seem that different? I felt like I had put on a Groucho Marx disguise—you know, the glasses and mustache that aren't really a disguise at all. Those small surface-level changes seemed to make a big difference.

The more I thought about it, I realized perhaps I *had* changed. The last time they had seen me, I wasn't a mom—and now I define myself by that relationship. That change was certainly beyond skin-deep.



As you surely have noticed, *Chadashot Ha'am* also looks a lot different this month. Many of the changes are cosmetic, though hopefully more attractive than a Groucho Marx disguise. The updated layout reflects the design elements of our new website, and the columns are wider, like a literary magazine. There are other, more meaningful changes as well. For starters, *Chadashot Ha'am* will be published on a bimonthly basis, with longer articles focused less on day-to-day happenings and more on topics of interest: op-ed style editorial content, book reviews, articles from Jewish sources, congregant spotlights and other relevant features. You will continue to see regular messages from our rabbi, religious school director and president, as well as articles from guest au-

thors, such as this issue's piece on the Maine Jewish Film Festival by Laura Kittle.

Why change it up? Lots of reasons! Information about upcoming events and other newsy items are available on a weekly basis through our email newsletter and website, so there was a lot of redundancy in duplicating that information in *Chadashot* and there were some issues with timing. In addition, we have a busy staff, and increasing their efficiency is a top priority in keeping the office running smoothly. We also felt that a bi-monthly publication would allow our writing and editing team to focus on more thoughtful human interest pieces in a publication that you can print out and enjoy with your morning coffee.

In addition, *Chadashot* is available on our website for public access (as it has been in the past), and we felt it was time for a facelift so our publications would have a consistent look and feel. We want members of the public and prospective Bet Ha'am members to be able to easily access and enjoy this content. Perhaps it will inspire them to reach out and learn more about our amazing Bet Ha'am community.

We hope you like our new changes—both cosmetic and more meaningful. If you have suggestions of content you'd like to see in upcoming issues, please let us know. We're always looking for new ideas, and we want to be sure we're providing content that speaks to you.

A special thank you to Sherri Carignan and Lisa Pierce for the hard work and endless hours they spent building our previous issues, as well as to Kris Dorer, who will be responsible for building out our new issues. Thank you also to our editors Faye Gmeiner and Barbara Riegelhaupt, who continue to ensure that our articles are coherent, cohesive, and typo-free. Your combined efforts are greatly appreciated! CH

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The Journey Between Two Holidays



By Rabbi Jared Saks

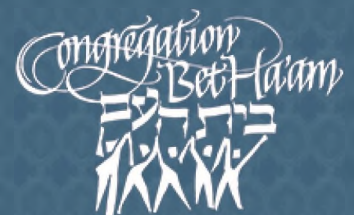
When we unfurl the *Torah* scroll at *Simchat Torah* and see its full text around the perimeter of our sanctuary with *B'reishit* (Genesis) and *D'varim* (Deuteronomy) touching, we can more easily see that the story of Torah is circular, not linear. As the text moves from Creation to the Exodus to the Israelites' arrival at the border of the Land of Israel, we realize that for us, the journey continues. We continue to wrestle with our free will as did Adam and Eve in the Garden. We continue to develop our family relationships as did Abraham, Sarah and their offspring in Genesis. We continue to wander the wilderness, hoping for some sign of God's presence, as did the Israelites. And we continue to hope we can cross into the promised land. All of this becomes more evident when we see the complete circle the *Torah* creates right before our eyes as we end its reading and begin once again.

So, why am I talking about *Simchat Torah* as we prepare for the arrival of spring, a half year's time from that fall holiday? Because at this time of year we also prepare to end and begin. Though we know *Rosh Hashanah* as the New Year in the Jewish calendar, the first month of the Jewish calendar is actually *Nisan*. This year the first day of *Nisan* begins on the evening of Friday, March 20. Our holiday cycle, like our *Torah* cycle, is not linear but circular, a circle that is about to end with *Purim* and begin a month later with Passover.

If we were to think of the holidays as linear, Purim would be the farthest holiday from Passover. When we realize that our holidays flow in a circle, we see that the closest holiday to Purim is Passover. There is a

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unique relationship between *Purim* and Passover that caught the attention of our Sages. Rashi pointed out that both *Purim* and Passover are important holidays when miracles happened for the Jewish people. The Sages indicated that the second month of *Adar*, when *Purim* occurs, should be doubled in leap years to keep *Purim* closer to Passover.

So, why is the juxtaposition of *Purim* and Passover important to us today? When we retell the Passover story around our seder tables, we often ask aloud or at least ask ourselves why we don't see miracles in our day like those described in the Exodus story. Where are the miracles and wonders that redeemed the Israelites from Egypt? Where is the splitting of the sea when our enemies are on our tail? Where is our manna in the wilderness? *Purim* reminds us that miracles do still happen, even if they are sometimes hidden from us. The Hebrew word *megillah* is related to the *gilui* (revelation), and the story of *Purim* is a story of *hester panim* (the hiding of the face). It may appear that God's face is hidden, but Esther and her fellow protagonists of the *Megillah* remind us that God may appear hidden but will be revealed when we read between the lines.



Rabbi Jamie Korngold teaches that the full moon of *Purim* connects us to the full moon of Passover; the two holidays are a single lunar cycle apart. While *Purim* is a holiday of dreamers, written by Jews dreaming of freedom but living in exile in a difficult time for the Jewish people, Passover is the story of real redemption. In the Passover story, we have a strong leader, Moses, and God's outstretched, powerful arm swooping in to bring about change. Rabbi Korngold challenges the notion that we need to see God pulling the strings when we read between the lines of the *Megillah* at *Purim*. Instead, she dares us to see the upside down, crazy story of *Purim* as one in which Esther does not wait around for God, but makes the miracles happen herself.

Dreaming and imagining are important elements of redemption and freedom. *Purim* naturally leads us to Passover, and the time between the two holidays is the place between dreams and redemption. As we see the moon go from full to half to new moon and then back to half and full, we can be inspired to turn our dreams into reality. CH

***Zecher T'zaddik L'vrachah* | Condolences to:**

Rachel Reed, Sam & Max on the loss of husband and father, **David Reed**
Beryl & John Cole on the loss of her father, **Harold Kroot**
Susan Paris & Lisa Munderback on the death of Susan's father, **Dan Paris**
Elizabeth & Glenn Israel on the loss of Elizabeth's mother, **Helen Cody**

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Rock the Vote—Supporting AZRA



By Lisa Munderback, President

As a member of the Union of Reform Judaism, Congregation Bet Ha'am is also affiliated with many other organizations. One in particular is ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America.

From the ARZA website: "A Zionist is a proponent of Zionism, a movement founded in the late 19th century to create a Jewish homeland in the land of Israel, then known as Palestine. But that goal of Zionism was fulfilled in May 1948, with the declaration of Israel's independence. Since then, most people understand Zionism as a movement that supports Israel and works to make Israel the best, most ideal Jewish State that it can be. Reform Zionism is Zionism infused with the values and principles cherished by Reform Judaism, including religious equality for women and men, a commitment to tikkun olam, and the creation by individuals of meaningful Jewish lives through informed choice and interpretation. Reform Zionists are actively engaged in creating a new and authentically Israeli expression of Judaism as an alternative to the Orthodox establishment."



ARZA represents the reform movement to the American Zionist Movement (AZM) and the World Zionist Organization. The international organization holds the World Zionist Congress, which in turn, holds the World Zionist Congress – a global governing body that influences both the policies and the distribution of funds in Israel. It is vital that the values we as Reform Jews hold dear – equality, pluralism and peace – be championed by that Congress. Together, we can make that happen.

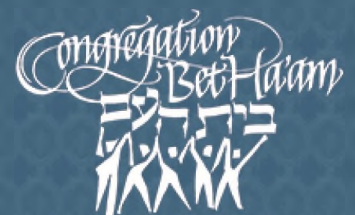


In 2015, the American Zionist Movement will hold elections to determine US Jewish representation to the World Zionist Congress. Of the all seats in the Congress, 145 are dedicated to the AZM. The composition of the Congress has both financial and policy implications in Israel, as resources are directed to recipients in Israel based on the power each party holds within the Congress, and the policy positions of those parties. Currently Reform movement initiatives garner about \$4 million dollars per year through the World Zionist Organization.

In short, these elections are the best way for American Reform Jews to promote and encourage the ideals of justice, equality and democracy in Israel itself and help build the kind of Jewish state we all know is possible. From now through April 30th, the American Zionist Movement will hold open voting for all American Jews to


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determine the United States' delegation to the 2015 World Zionist Organization. Every Jew has the opportunity to vote for the platform that most aligns with his/her personal views and help shape the agenda of the Congress. Please consider advancing the goals of Reform Judaism by voting for the ARZA slate of candidates.

When elections open for the World Zionist Congress, the international Jewish community will come together to decide what the future of Judaism should look like—in Israel and throughout the world. Will we coalesce around an ever-narrowing version of what it means to be Jewish, or will we open up our doors and accept that there are many ways to be Jewish?

More information about this election can be found on the website: <http://www.reformjews4israel.org>. The website has a link to the actual voting site. Please join me in voting as soon as possible to help secure important funding for Reform ideals in Israel. 

Notes from Our Religious School Director




By Orly Biggie, Religious School Director

Uri Orlev is an award-winning, Israeli children's author. Orlev is a Holocaust survivor who was born in Warsaw, Poland, lived in the ghetto and was taken to Bergen Belsen Concentration Camp. He wrote many books, including some about the Holocaust, and his books have been translated into over 36 languages. The International Board on Books for Young People presented the Hans Christian Andersen Award to Orlev for his lasting contributions to children's literature.



Our youth will have the opportunity to learn more about this prolific talented author on March 15 at 3:00 PM at the Maine Jewish Film Festival (MJFF) screening of "Run, Boy, Run," which is based on Orlev's book of the same name. The book and movie tell the story of an eight-year-old boy who was left alone and who moves through the forests and villages trying to survive during World War II. He meets adults and children who show either mercy and generosity or cruelty and maliciousness.

I encourage teens in seventh grade through high school to attend this screening. You do not have to be part of our religious school to attend this youth screening, which is free for students. Just contact either the MJFF or me ahead of time for a ticket. Parents are welcome to attend and will need to purchase their own tickets.

Orlev's books are available in our Children's Library. I encourage you to check them out! I wish you all a wonderful *Pesach*. 

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Religious School Updates

Purim is coming! Remember to think up a fun costume – whether you are young or old! Our *Purim* Carnival will be Sunday, March 8, at 10:00 AM. Please consider participating in the *Megillah* reading, helping with the carnival, and/or participating. You can help create fun-filled *Purim* memories for your family!

Our fifth grade students and parents will participate in the *shtetl* simulation on Sunday, March 15, at 10:45 AM. They will experience life in the *shtetl* and how many of our ancestors lived.

Our third and fifth grade students will participate in the *Shabbat* Family Service on Friday, March 13. A pot-luck dinner for the students and their families will begin at 5:30 PM. Please RSVP by May 6.

Our confirmation class will travel to New York City from March 19 to 22 with Rabbi Saks. We are looking forward to hearing all about their adventures!

Our seventh through tenth grade students will travel to Boston on Saturday, April 11. We will visit the Museum of Fine Arts to see the Jewish collection and tour Fenway Park. This should be a fun day!

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Reform Judaism Around the World



By Kris Dorer, Executive Director

Congregation Bet Ha'am has recently implemented "New Parents' Plan & Play" an occasional series to help parents of young children meaningfully introduce and keep Judaism in their lives.

Ellen Tilman, director of Meyers Library at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, PA, reflects on the importance of a Jewish home for even the youngest family members in the following article.

The *Shabbat* Spice: Why Friday Night Dinner Tastes So Much Better

Reprinted with permission from ReformJudaism.org

One day, my daughter walked into the house after attending preschool.

"What's wrong?" she asked incredulously.

"Why?" I responded, "Is something wrong?"

"Well," my very bright 3-year-old answered, "the house smells like *Shabbat* and I know that today is not *Shabbat*."

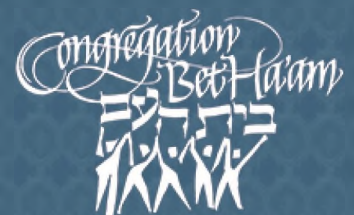
After pondering her comments for a moment, I realized she was correct. The house did smell like *Shabbat*! I was cooking chicken in the pot for dinner that evening. I always made chicken soup for Friday night *Shabbat* dinner, so in my daughter's mind, the smell of simmering chicken soup was associated with *Shabbat*.

Our conversation reminded me of a famous Jewish legend. An emperor was a frequent guest in the home of Rabbi Joshua, the son of Hananiah. He ate many meals in the rabbi's house. The emperor wanted to know why the food always tasted better on the Sabbath than during the rest of the week. Rabbi Joshua responded that there was an extra "spice" added to the food. When the Emperor asked to be given this "spice," the rabbi responded that the additional ingredient was *Shabbat* itself. It could not be given away; the food was enriched by the feelings and atmosphere that surround it.

Shabbat has always been special in our home. We welcome the Sabbath into our lives at sunset each Friday night. We eat dinner as a family. When my children were growing up, it was sometimes the only meal during the week when we were all together. We lit candles, ate *challah*, and drank wine or grape juice. The children had their own *Kiddush* cups, which were either received as new baby gifts or purchased on a trip to Israel. We used a rotating set of *challah* covers that were lovingly made in preschool. My husband blessed each child individually. As we sat around the table, we shared what each person had done during the previous week. It was our special family time, with no distractions.

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As the children got older, they began to help with the *Shabbat* preparations. Someone would set the table; another child put the personalized *Kiddush* cups at the correct seats; the third would put the *challah* board, *challah* cover, and salt on the table. Once everything was prepared, we gathered to welcome *Shabbat*. I hate to admit it, but most weeks we ate in the kitchen, rather than the dining room. The serving and clean-up were just easier for busy parents to complete that way! (Don't worry: When we had guests, we always used the formal dining room.)



Children learn from the experiences that we, their parents, give them. These early experiences become integral parts of their adult lives and memories of their childhood. My children are now young adults and celebrate *Shabbat* with their friends. I enjoy hearing about their *Shabbat* dinners and particularly relish when they ask me for a favorite recipe. Recently, when my husband and I visited our 27-year-old son in Los Angeles and shared *Shabbat* with him, I made my chicken soup while he prepared the rest of the meal. He and his friends created a warm and welcoming *Shabbat* atmosphere. The food was delicious, and I was a very proud mother.

Now that the children are out of the house, we bless them electronically, on the telephone. I know of families who recite *Kiddush* with each child in the same manner. When my children come to visit, I still make chicken soup and enjoy sharing *Shabbat*. We create Jewish memories for our children. When they become adults, we are able to witness and share the rewards of our actions. As parents, we bring the *Shabbat* spice into the lives of our family.

The Tilman family chicken soup recipe is available on ReformJudaism.org. Try your hand at Ellen's version of this classic! 

Welcome New Members!

Alfred & Eileen Stern
Sheldon & Denise Tepler

Welcome Back Returning Members!

Jamie MacMillan
Gail Wartell
Barry & Susan Woods

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Purim Superhero

Children's Book Review and Discussion Guide

By Rabbi Victor Appell

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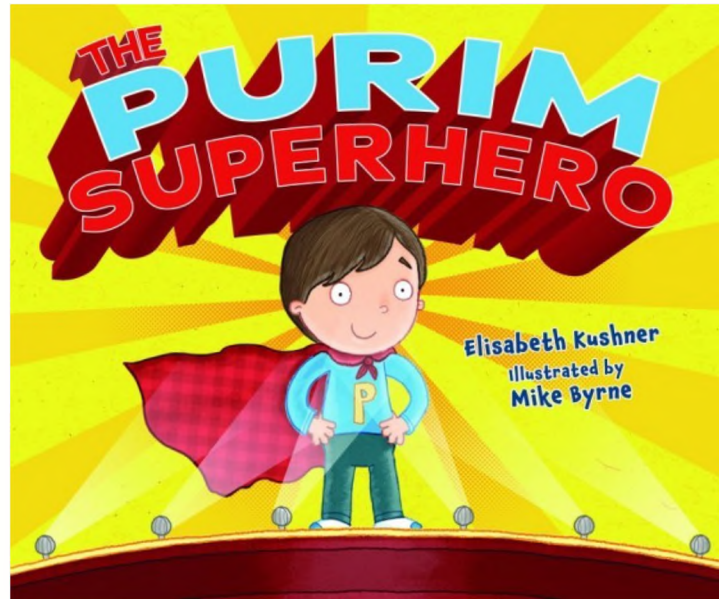
Title: *Purim Superhero*

Author: Elisabeth Kushner

Illustrator: Nate Byrne

Publisher: Kar-Ben

Intended for Ages: 6-7 years



Synopsis

Nate and his classmates are working on their *Purim* costumes. All the boys in his class are planning to wear superhero costumes, but Nate loves aliens and would like to dress as an alien. Reluctantly, Nate decides to dress like the other boys as a superhero until one of his Dads reminds Nate of the *Purim* story. There are lots of different types of superheroes and Nate, with the help of his dads and his sister, creates the perfect costume. In the end, Nate's friends learn a valuable lesson about being whoever you want to be.

Highlights

The story demonstrates the value of being truthful about who you are. Nate faces a dilemma when the boys in his class decide to dress as superheroes, while he truly wants to dress as an alien, yet still fit in with his friends. His father tells him that while this is not always easy and takes courage (*ometz lev*), it is important to be truthful about who you are. Just like in the *Purim* story. If Queen Esther had not been truthful about being Jewish, she never would have been able to save the Jewish people from Haman's evil plot. Nate makes a brave and creative decision, and manages to be who he wants to be and stand out in a positive way.

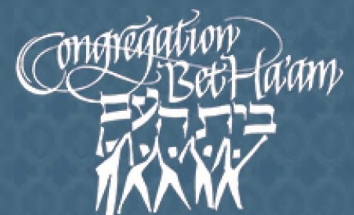
Nate has two dads, but this is actually not the highlight of the story. By presenting Nate's family as a family just like any other, the book reinforces the idea that many different types of families are welcome in the Jewish community. Like many children, Nate wants to "fit in" but ultimately teaches both his classmates and the reader the value of respecting differences (*adam yehidi nivrah*).

Jewish Topics for Family Discussion

The holiday of *Purim*. Everyone in this book is preparing to celebrate the holiday of *Purim* — Nate, his sister and his classmates are picking their costumes, Nate's dads are preparing the costumes for Nate and his sister, and Nate's Hebrew school is planning its *Purim* costume party. This book can be a great way to start planning for *Purim* at your home too. You can also find additional resources on ReformJudaism.org, such as a guide


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to baking *hamantaschen*, instructions for making your own *grager*, and some eco-friendly *Purim* ideas.

The importance of *ometz lev*. Throughout history, Jewish superheroes have been important role models. From Nachson and Queen Esther, to Harry Houdini and Kitty Pryde of the X-Men Comics, superheroes are great examples of courage. These role models seem other-worldly, yet each of us can be a superhero. On *Purim* we can choose to wear a superhero mask. Much more significantly, we can be superheroes every day by showing courage and taking pride in who we are. In this book, Nate teaches us this lesson by taking the risk of standing out and picking the costume he really wanted to wear. We see that his actions pay off. His friends, who initially urged him to dress up like everyone else, admire his creative costume and consider dressing up like him during the following year!

The Jewish community is made stronger through diversity. The book shows an LGBTQ family as full and welcome participants in the Jewish community. Nate and his sister attend religious school, the family celebrates Jewish holidays, and they participate in synagogue life. Think of the different types of families you know. Jewish history has numerous examples of diverse families. Can you name some? Here's a hint: One such family is the hero of the story of *Purim*. 

Mazel tov to our upcoming B'nai Mitzvah!

We look forward to celebrating with them as a congregation.

All are welcome!

Jen Harriman and Nathan Szanton | Saturday, April 18, 2015

Dora Chaison-Lapine | Saturday, May 16, 2015

Hannah Dubinsky | Saturday, May 30, 2015

Elijah Rosen | Saturday, June 20, 2015

Lucy Medd | Saturday, August 22, 2015

Maine Jewish Film Festival Opens Next Week



By Laura Kittle

This year's Maine Jewish Film Festival (MJFF) will take place from March 14 through March 21. The festival includes eight days of matinee and evening screenings of 21 films, speakers and opportunities for discussion. Portland screenings take place at the Nickelodeon, the Portland Museum of Art and the Salt Institute. There are also screenings at the Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville, the Frontier Café & Cinema in Brunswick, the Strand Theater in Rockland and the Michael Klahr Center at the University of Maine Augusta. The full

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schedule—including film times, locations, descriptions and links to trailers and tickets—can be found at mjff.org.



On Tuesday, March 10, MJFF will join with Friends of the Kotschmar Organ to present the silent films, *The Golem* and *A Child of the Ghetto*, at Merrill Auditorium, accompanied by Boston organist Peter Krasinski. Widely recognized as the source of the Frankenstein myth, the ancient Hebrew legend of the Golem provided the substance for one of the most adventurous films of the German silent cinema. With its remarkable creation sequence (a dazzling blend of religion, sorcery and special effects) and the grand-scale destruction of its climax, *The Golem* is a landmark in the evolution of the horror film. *A Child of the Ghetto* is a tale of life on the Lower East Side, directed by D. W. Griffith at the height of his career. Tickets for this event are available at PortTIX.com

The week-long MJFF kicks off with a party and film. The opening night party is at Akari, around the corner from the Nickelodeon, and features food by David Levi of Vinland. The celebration includes a costume contest for the best trench coat and fedora ensemble, in a nod to the opening night film, *The Art Dealer*. In this film noir/thriller, a Parisian journalist, dressed in trench coat and fedora, engages in a dangerous quest to investigate family secrets related to her art dealer grandfather, who was executed by the Nazis and whose art collection was never recovered.

MJFF is also hosting a Women Filmmakers Forum and Focus Film at the Portland Museum of Art. Presented in association with Justice for Women, *Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and The New South Africa* will be screened, and director Abby Ginzberg will be present.

The Festival includes a free youth film at the Nickelodeon and a free senior film at the Portland Museum of Art. These screenings are open to viewers of any age, and are free to those under eighteen (for the youth film) and over 65 (for the senior screening).

This year's youth film is *Run Boy Run*, which follows an eight-year-old boy, smuggled out of the Warsaw Ghetto, as he makes his way alone through experiences both joyful and harrowing. With courage, intelligence, determination and luck, he outlives the war. Please see Orly Biggie's article for more information about this film.

This year's senior film, *Above and Beyond*, is a documentary about a group of mostly Jewish American pilots who, despite the U.S. Neutrality Act, smuggled planes from the U.S., trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia, and flew planes for Israel in the War of Independence.

I encourage you to also look for the festival films focusing on Israeli-Palestinian relations, the LGBTQ

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experience in film, sexual assault survivors, mental health and disability, immigration, Jewish and racial cultural identity, the Diaspora experience and films with comedic, dramatic and documentary perspectives on Israel.

MJFF was founded by longtime Bet Ha'am member, David Connerty-Marin, and began modestly in 1998 at Congregation Bet Ha'am with six videos shown on a television set during one weekend. Over the past seventeen years, the festival has presented over 300 films, hosted more than 80 guest artists from the United States and around the world and sold over 32,000 tickets to Jewish and non-Jewish attendees.



Portland is the smallest city in the nation to boast an independent, professional Jewish film festival. MJFF curates a program of films that explores the Jewish experience through drama, comedy, documentary and short film formats. MJFF has grown to be one of the best-attended, most highly respected, and anticipated cultural events in the state. I encourage you to be part of the excitement, whether for one film or many!



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- Larry Landau
- Julie Russem
- Joshua Rosenberg
- In memory of parents Sylvia & Aaron Smith by Elaine & Stephen Smith
- In memory of parents Dorothy & Harry Bielfeld by Elaine & Stephen Smith

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- Elaine & Stephen Smith
- In memory of David Reed by Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle
- In memory of Susan Paris' dad by Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle
- In memory of Kris Dorer's dad by Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle
- Gerry & Gretchen Greenberg
- In memory of Martin Kohn and Virginia Kittle on their *yahrzeits* by Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- In appreciation by Harriet Bogdonoff
- In honor of Steve Smith on his 72nd birthday by Lois & Richard Kahn
- Edna & Richard Krull
- In appreciation by Lee Cohen & Vicki Heller
- In appreciation by an anonymous friend
- In appreciation by Dr. Harry Beskind & Virginia Swain
- In memory of Harold Kroot by Beryl & John Cole

Religious School

- In appreciation of Orly Biggie by Trish & Jim Wasserman

School Library

- In honor of Orly's 25 years by Tim Jarvis & Jeff Kimball

General Fund

- In honor of Amy Starr and children, Roxy & Everett, by Phyllis Sapherstein
- In honor of Benjamin I. Grant by the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein
- In honor of Douglas S. Kaplan by the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein
- In appreciation by Harry Todtman
- From a friend
- In memory of Harold Kroot by Rachel & Piotr Stamieszkin
- In memory of David Reed by Rachel & Piotr Stamieszkin
- Sheila & Martin Gelman
- In honor of Orly's 25 years by Cathy & Lance Prichard
- In appreciation of Ki & Bill Leffler
- In appreciation of Intro to Judaism classes by an anonymous friend
- To honor Orly for her 25 years with Bet Ha'am by Jeremy Moser & Laura Kittle
- In memory of Ghetto Spierer on her *yahrzeit* by Wendy & Bill Sirois
- In appreciation by Dr. Harry Beskind & Virginia Swain
- In memory of Harold Kroot by Daniel & Nancy Ravin
- In honor of Orly Biggie by Wilma Rose
- In memory of Dan Paris by Rachel & Piotr Stamieszkin
- In appreciation by a friend
- In memory of Elizabeth Israel's mother by Annette & Noel Goodman
- In memory of my sister Elizabeth Thomases, on her *yahrzeit*, by Andrea Schick

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We invite you to join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery today! We have many needs and many ways for you to contribute. If you have an event you would like to celebrate, a person you would like to honor, a *yahrzeit* to remember, or you just want to help support our programs, please fill out the form and send it along with your check to Bet Ha'am. Include an address if you would like an acknowledgement to be sent.

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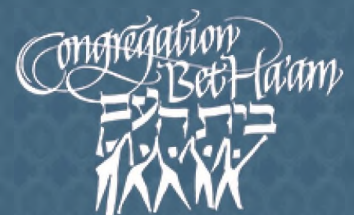
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81 Westbrook Street
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Phone: 207.879.0028
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Mon: Office Closed
Tues - Fri: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm



March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Kindergarten - 9:00 AM Grade 4 Parent Program 9:30 AM Shalom Yeladim 11:00 AM Grade 7-10 Religious School 5:30 PM	2 Office Closed Membership Committee 7:00 PM	3	4 <i>Erev Purim</i> Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM <i>Purim</i> for Grown-Ups! 6:30 PM	5 Purim	6 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	7 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
8 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Kindergarten 9:00 AM Purim <i>Shpiel</i> & Carnival Social Action Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Youth Group Dinner (Grades 8-12) 5:00 PM Grade 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM Grade 11-12 Community High School 5:00 PM NY Trip Parents' Meeting 6:45 PM	9 Office Closed	10 Finance Committee Meeting 1:30 PM Nominating Committee Meeting 4:45 PM	11 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM "The Whipping Man" with post-show discussion at Portland Stage 7:30 PM	12	13 Grades 3, 5A & 5B Family <i>Shabbat</i> Dinner 5:30 PM <i>Shabbat</i> Family Service 6:30 PM	14 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
15 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM <i>Grade 5 Shtetl Simulation</i> 10:45 AM Grades 7-10 to MJFF 3:00 PM	16 Office Closed	17 Executive Committee 5:30 PM	18 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM Garden Committee Meeting 5:30 PM	19 Confirmation Class Trip to NYC Education Committee Meeting 6:30 PM	20 Confirmation Class Trip <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	21 Confirmation Class Trip Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
22 Confirmation Class Trip Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM	23 Office Closed	24 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	25 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	26	27 Tot <i>Shabbat</i> Dinner 5:30 PM Grade 7 & Congregational Potluck Dinner 6:30 PM <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	28 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Youth Group (Chocolate <i>Seder</i>) 8:00 PM
29 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Kindergarten - 9:00 AM Knosh & Knowledge 9:45 AM <i>Shalom Yeladim</i> 11:00 AM Grades 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM	30 Office Closed	31				

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April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	2	3 <i>Erev Pesach</i> -First Seder <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Minyan</i> 5:00 PM Congregational First Night <i>Seder</i> at 5:30 PM	4 <i>Pesach</i> -Second Seder Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM <i>Matzoh Brei</i> Cookoff 12:00 PM
5 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Grade 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM	6 Office Closed Membership Committee 7:00 PM	7 Nominating Committee Meeting 4:45 PM	8 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	9	Last Day of <i>Pesach</i> Office Closed Morning Service with <i>Yizkor</i> and Potluck Passover <i>Kiddush</i> 10:00 AM <i>Shabbat</i> Family Service 6:30 PM	11 Teen Trip to Boston 7:30 AM Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
12 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Grades 8-10 Mentorship 9:30 AM Kindergarten 9:00 AM Knosh & Knowledge 9:45 AM Social Action Comm. Meeting 10:00 AM <i>Shalom Yeladim</i> 11:00 AM Youth Group (Gr. 8-12): Pottery Painting at Color Me Mine 3:00 PM Grade 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM Youth Group Dinner (Grades 8-12) 5:00 PM Grade 11-12: Community High School 5:00 PM	13 Office Closed	14	15 <i>Yom Hashoah</i> Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM Garden Committee Meeting 5:30 PM Education Committee Meeting 6:30 PM	16 Library Committee Meeting 10:30 AM	17 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	18 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service with Adult B'nai Mitzvah Jennifer Harriman & Nathan Szanton 10:00 AM
19 No Religious School	20 Office Closed	21 Executive Committee Meeting 5:30 PM	22 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	23 <i>Yom HaAtzma'ut</i>	24 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	25 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
26 No Religious School	27 Office Closed	28 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	29 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	30		

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