

YOU BELONG AT THE



December 9, 2019 - 11 Kislev 5780

As we prepare to welcome the lights of [Hanukkah](#), we are grateful for the light that each of you brings to our community! This has been a month of so many mitzvot (good deeds), as we have received incredible gifts to [Annual Campaign](#), dedicated gifts supporting Center Day Camp, and so many coats, hats, and pairs of boots for kids and families in need through the “[Hanukkah Lights](#)” program. **This year, we were able to meet the needs of a record 208 children through our program**, an amazing increase over last year. Thank you for your generosity and commitment – we are enormously grateful for your support!

We'll be celebrating *Tzedakah*, the Jewish practice of giving back and helping those less fortunate, during our [Tzedakah Celebration](#) next Wednesday December 18th. Come enjoy a potluck meal and kid-friendly crafts while celebrating the power of giving in our community with Hanukkah lights donors and recipients!

On December 25th, we'll be partnering with Maine Jewish Film Festival for a [showing of the animated film Ponyo](#). We'll have popcorn, snacks, and some Hanukkah treats, as well as board and card games. All are welcome!

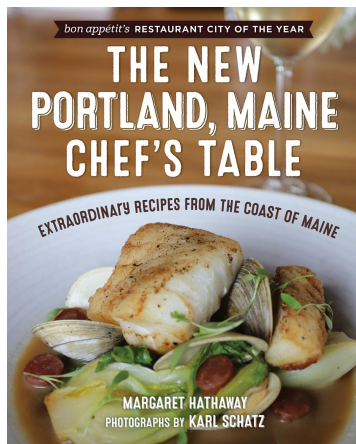
Molly Curren Rowles  
Executive Director

***And now... Grilled Cheese Latkes!***

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/the-nosher/how-to-make-grilled-cheese-latkes/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**[The New Portland, Maine Chef's Table: Extraordinary Recipes from the Coast of Maine Book Talk with Author Margaret Hathaway & Photographer Karl Schatz](#)**



**Thursday, December 12th  
6:30 PM  
JCA - 1342 Congress Street, Portland**

**Suggested \$5 donation** - all proceeds benefit Klahr Jewish Family Services Food Pantry, Diaper Bank, and Period Supplies initiatives.

With more than 80 recipes from dozens of the city's most celebrated restaurants, including Drifter's Wife, Rose Foods, and Chaval, and showcasing full-color photos of mouth-watering dishes by James Beard nominated chefs, and lots of local flavor, Portland's dynamic food scene is celebrated in all its gustatorial glory.

[Longfellow Books](#) will be on site for a book signing following the event.

## [Chanukah Songs and Stories](#)

**Sunday, December 15**  
**9:30 – 10:30 AM**  
**JCA - 1342 Congress St., Portland**

Celebrate Chanukah with books, crafts, and dreidels, plus music with special guest Charlie Miller. This program is best for children ages 5 and younger with their families. Cosponsored by Kadima Beth El, Bet Ha'am Religious School, PJ Library Southern Maine and the Jewish Community Alliance.



## [Tzedakah Celebration with PJ Library and KJFS](#)

**Wednesday, December 18**  
**5:00 – 6:30 PM**  
**JCA - 1342 Congress St., Portland**

Join us for a potluck dinner and family tzedakah (*righteous giving*) party celebrating the end of this year's **Hanukkah Lights** program and the power of giving in our community! We will share dinner and tzedakah-themed activities together. Please bring a favorite dairy/vegetarian dish to share (no meat please).

## [December 25th Family Film](#)

*Presented in partnership with the Maine Jewish Film Festival, Temple Beth El, and Congregation Bet Ha'am*

**Wednesday, December 25**  
**1:00 – 3:30 PM**  
**JCA - 1342 Congress St., Portland**  
**\$5/family**

Join us for a family-friendly film ([Ponyo](#)), board games and card games for all ages, popcorn, and snacks!



## **NEWS & UPDATES**



### [Southern Maine Hanukkah Happenings](#)

Happy (almost) Hanukkah everyone! Time to spin the dreidel, eat some sufganiyot, stock up on candles, and get ready to make, and consume, a whole lotta *latkes*. As we prepare to celebrate Hanukkah, here are [ten great events happening in Southern Maine](#) communities that we're sure you'll want to attend.

### [Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program](#)

For the month of December, every time a reusable \$2.50 *Fight Hunger Bag* is sold at the [Hannaford](#) store located at - **787 Riverside Street, Portland, ME** - Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services will receive a \$1



donation. Fight Hunger Bags Sold = Donations Raised! Please join us in helping to reduce waste, while also supporting KJFS this December!



### [Meet Our New Center Day Camp Director](#)

We are so pleased to welcome our new [Center Day Camp](#) Director, Chris Thurston, who is excited to bring the Maine camp experience to kids from near and far! Camp weeks for summer 2020 are officially open for registration and you can do that by [clicking here](#).



### ['Giving Thanks Membership Appreciation Giveaway' Winners](#)

Over the week of Thanksgiving, as a way to say 'thank you' to all our wonderful JCA members for all they do, our membership coordinator Hannah randomly selected 5 lucky members who took home great prizes! Congrats to all the winners and thanks again to all who donated items ([Coffee By Design](#), [Flagship Premium Cinemas](#), [Portland Hunt & Alpine Club](#), [Ten Apple Farm](#)) for our giveaway.



### [2020 Maine Jewish Hall of Fame Nomination Period until Jan 21](#)

The Maine Jewish Museum will induct a new class into the Hall of Fame in September of 2020, and invites the entire community to nominate a deserving individual or couple before January 21st. Please send your nomination along with a brief summary (not to exceed 500 words) of the nominee's background and accomplishments to: [pres@mainejewishmuseum.org](mailto:pres@mainejewishmuseum.org)

## SHALOM MAINE - A COMMUNITY COLLABORATION FOR ADULT JEWISH LEARNING



### [Einstein & Oppenheimer With David Hecht](#)

**Sunday mornings Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26**

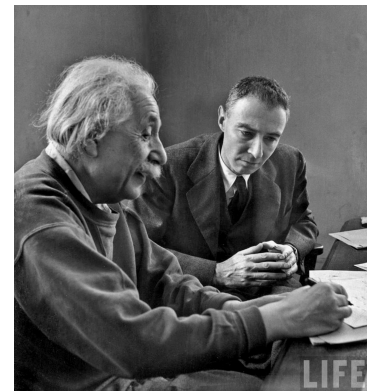
**10:00 - 11:30 AM**

**Temple Beth El – 400 Deering Avenue, Portland**

**Suggested tuition: \$54**

**Registration deadline: Dec. 23**

*Two sessions devoted to each scientist will explore their scientific achievements, political involvement, and cultural legacies. We will also look at the role that Judaism had in each of their lives, as well as the ways that anti-Semitism affected their careers.*



## CLUBS, GROUPS & GATHERINGS

### [Beginner Mah Jongg Classes](#)

Have you always wanted to learn how to play Mah Jongg? Now is your chance! Join instructor Judi Slotsky for this beginners-level course. The dates for the course



are as follows, and all classes take place from **9:30 AM - 11:00 AM** at the JCA:

- Friday, January 24th
- Friday, January 31st
- Friday, February 7th
- Friday, February 14th
- Friday, February 21st
- Friday, February 28th

Students are also invited to attend our regular open Mah Jongg play sessions free of charge while taking the course.

The cost for the entire course is \$40 for JCA members and \$50 for the general public. [PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE](#). Classes will be capped at 8 people.

## YOGA & FITNESS

### [Family Oula with Karli Efron](#)

**Sunday, January 12**  
**10:15 – 11:00 AM**  
**JCA - 1342 Congress St., Portland**

\$10/family for JCA members; \$12/family for general public  
Advance registration required before noon on the preceding Thursday.

Oula is a high-energy, easy to learn, crazy-fun dance workout to top 40 hits! Family Oula provides age appropriate music and moves for you and your child to enjoy together. Classes are 45 minutes of joy, inspiration, and togetherness. Music and moves are geared toward families with children ages five and under. If your child is older than five and you would like to attend, please contact us to determine whether the class is appropriate for your child.



### [Mindful Flow Yoga With Ashley Flowers](#)

**Tuesdays, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM**  
**Thursdays, 10:15 – 11:15 AM**  
**JCA - 1342 Congress St.**

Bend, balance, stretch and breathe with a mixture of vinyasa, hatha, and yin yoga styles. Enjoy an hour of mindful movement as we flow through yoga postures and breathing exercises. You should expect to leave this class feeling relaxed and rejuvenated. Beginners welcome!

### [Pickleball – Open play for players ranked 3.5+](#)

**Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**Weekly through March 2020**

JCA – 1342 Congress St., Portland

Free for JCA members, \$5 for the general public, \$40 for a ten-session pass that does not expire. Players should bring indoor

sneakers to change into, and their own rackets and balls.



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