

HERE FOR YOU. HERE FOR GOOD.



February 24, 2021 - 12 Adar 5781

Chag Purim Sameach! Happy Purim!

PURIM PROGRAMS

PURIM, TOGETHER - A statewide Zoom celebration

Organized by the Center for Small Town Jewish Life
Thursday, Feb. 25th | 6:30 PM

We could all use a little celebration these days! Get your costumes ready, grab a refreshing drink, and join the Maine Jewish community for a festive Purim.

The celebration will include:

- A spiel presented by Temple Beth El, Augusta
- A costume parade and contest
- A special challenge for our local clergy
- A traditional reading of the megillah, so get out your groggers and make some noise!

Half of all donations for this program will go to support Maine's Good Shepherd Food Bank, feeding the hungry in our state. It's an easy opportunity to fulfill the Purim mitzvah of providing gifts for the needy.

[Register](#)



SONGS OF VICTORY & TRIUMPH: A Multi-Genre Musical Celebration of Purim

Presented by the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance
Thursday, February 25th | 2:00 PM

Celebrate Esther and Mordecai's triumph by joining James Sokol to journey through a diverse array of music – Broadway, pop and opera exploring the theme of victory and triumph along the way. Audio and video clips bring the joy of music into our discussion!



[Register](#)

From Hamantaschen Baking to Costume Parties, here are 13 great Purim Programs, compiled by the JCA to help you celebrate with your community here in Maine!



[View Local Purim Programs](#)

PURIM HOLIDAY HUB

Craft ideas, recipes, music, videos, and more to help your family celebrate together or apart! Whatever your favorite Purim traditions are and however your celebrations may look this year, we wish your family much joy.



[Visit the Purim Holiday Hub](#)

NEWS & UPDATES

'Hannaford Helps' Reusable Bag Program benefitting KJFS

For the month of March, every time a reusable \$2.50 *Fight Hunger Bag* is sold at the Hannaford store located at - **415 Philbrook Avenue, Hannaford Plaza, So. Portland** - Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services will receive a \$1 donation. Please join us in helping to reduce waste, while also supporting KJFS this March!



Murray Mack Memorial Fundraiser For Center Day Camp

We were deeply sorry to hear of [Center Day Camp](#) alumni Murray Mack's passing in June of 2020. One of Murray's lifelong friends and fellow CDC camper/counselor, Ken Farber, has been kind enough to lead a group of Murray's family and friends in honoring his memory through a fundraiser for Center Day Camp.



The group hopes to raise \$6,000 to purchase and install a new sound system at camp, ensuring that campers will be able to listen to and play music throughout the campus each day. Music was a passion of Murray's, making this an especially touching tribute. If you would like to join this group in honoring the memory of Murray Mack, please do so using the link below.

[View Fundraiser](#)

JCA PROGRAMS

The Passover Haggadah: A Biography **A Zoom talk with author Rabbi Vanessa Ochs** **Thursday, March 4th | 7:00 PM EST**

"And you shall tell your son on that day..." This simple command in Exodus has led to more than five thousand versions of the Passover story. Ochs recounts its life beginning with various mentions in the Bible and ending with the profusion of Haggadot today; these variations reflect the geographical spread of Jewish communities, the diversity of practice, and historic events. For anyone interested in the emergence and complex evolution of



the Haggadah, this biography offers a trove of information in engaging and inviting language.

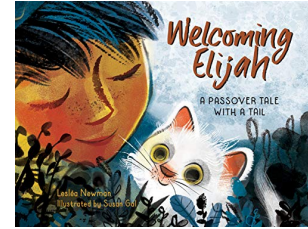
Free. Advanced registration required by Weds. 3/3

The book is available to order from the publisher at this link:

<https://press.princeton.edu/books/hardcover/9780691144986/the-passover-haggadah>

Register

**Welcoming Elijah – A Passover Tale with a Tail
& Gittel’s Journey & An Ellis Island Story:
A family Zoom program with author Leslea Newman**
Sunday, March 7th | 4:00 PM EST



Join celebrated author Leslea Newman for a reading and discussion of her two recent books: *Welcoming Elijah: A Passover Tale with a Tail* and *Gittel’s Journey – An Ellis Island Story*.

Advanced registration required by Friday 3/5 at 12 noon.

The books will be available to [order from our friends at Longfellow Books](#) *Limited copies will include a signed bookplate.

Register

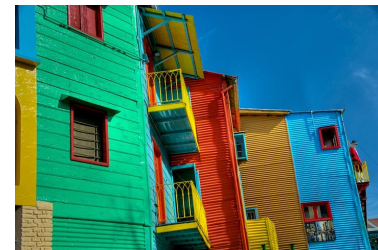
NATIONAL JCC ADULT & SENIOR ALLIANCE PROGRAMS

Coordinated by the Osher Marin JCC in partnership with JCCs around the country
For program details and ticketing information, click the ‘Register’ link below each listing.

Please select “ME - JCA of Southern Maine - Portland” when asked through which program partner you learned about this event. A portion of the proceeds benefit the JCA.

BEGUILING BUENOS AIRES
Mondays, March 1, 8, 15, 22

Join our JCC colleague James Sokol to escape the winter by enjoying summer in “the Paris of South America.” Meet our local guide, Pablo, who will lead four interesting “trips” showing diverse aspects of the capital of Argentina.



- March 1 - Argentina Overview & History
- March 8 - Northern Neighborhoods: Recoleta, Palermo, Retiro
- March 15 - Southern Sections: San Telmo, La Boca, Puerto Madero
- March 22 - Cultural Highlights: Food, Dance & Art

Register

BOOK FESTIVAL IN YOUR LIVING ROOM

Presented in partnership with the JCC Literary Consortium and the Atlanta JCC
A portion of the proceeds benefits the JCA

BILL GATES - How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need

Interviewed by Kristen Welker, Co-Anchor, "Weekend Today" and NBC News Chief White House Correspondent
Weds. February 24th | 8 PM ET

In this urgent, authoritative book, Bill Gates sets out a wide-ranging, practical--and accessible--plan for how the world can get to zero greenhouse gas emissions in time to avoid a climate catastrophe.

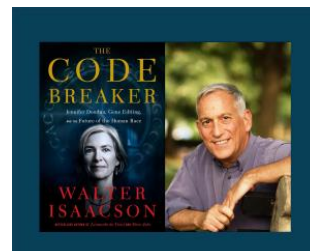


Tickets: \$36 for a virtual ticket and hardcover copy of the book

Register

WALTER ISAACSON - *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race*
Thursday, March 4th | 8:00 PM EST

The bestselling author of Leonardo da Vinci and Steve Jobs returns with a gripping account of how Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna and her colleagues launched a revolution that will allow us to cure diseases, and have healthier babies. Should we use our new evolution-hacking powers to make us less susceptible to viruses? What about preventing depression? Should we allow parents to enhance the height or muscles or IQ of their kids?

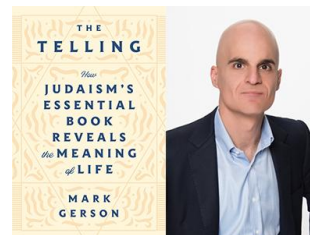


Tickets: \$11 – virtual ticket, or \$38 – one virtual ticket and one copy of the book

Register

MARK GERSON - *The Telling: How Judaism's Essential Book Reveals the Meaning of Life*
Sunday, March 7th | 4 PM ET

Life changing wisdom from one of Judaism's most powerful texts. The Haggadah, which can be found in Jewish homes around the world, has guided Jewish families and friends through Pesach celebrations for millennia. In *The Telling*, author Mark Gerson shows how even the most familiar passages from the Haggadah are sitting on top of buried treasures ready to help us live more meaningful and fulfilling lives today.



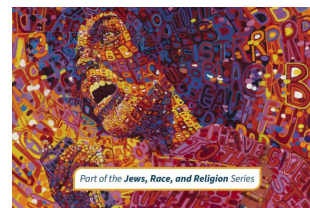
Free event; every registered guest will receive a complimentary copy of the book

Register

AROUND THE JEWISH WORLD

BLACK POWER, JEWISH POLITICS: REINVENTING THE ALLIANCE IN THE 1960S - Featuring Marc Dollinger
Presented by University of Pennsylvania's Katz Center
Thursday, Feb. 25th | 1:30 PM

How the Jewish ethnic and religious revival of the 1970s was influenced by the civil rights and Black Power movements that came before.



Register

HOW WOMEN CHALLENGE AND CHANGE OUR LAWS

A 3-part series with Dr. Sylvia Solomon

Presented by the Miles Nadal JCC, Toronto

In honor of International Women's Day

Mondays, March 1, 8, 15 | 1:30-3:00 PM



Over the years, women have successfully challenged and changed laws, both in the United States and Canada.

Explore 3 landmark human rights trials: 1954's Brown v

Board of Education concerning segregation in US schools; 1969's Roe v Wade and a

woman's right to choose, and 2015's Carter v Canada which gave Canadians the right to die with dignity - learn how "great triumphs can only come out of Great Trials."

[Register](#)

MANIFESTO FOR ENDING WHITE SUPREMACY

With *New York Times* columnist Charles M. Blow

A virtual event from the Temple Emanuel Streicker Center

Wednesday, March 3rd | 6:30 PM EST



Charles M. Blow is tired of waiting for violence against Black Americans to cease, for the myths that govern thinking about race to vanish, for the promise of equality to become a reality.

In *The Devil You Know: A Black Power Manifesto*, he issues a call to action for Black Americans to amass the political power needed to topple white supremacy. And he will join us to discuss his disillusionment ... and his hope. Moderated by Rabbi Joshua M. Davidson.

[Register](#)

FORWARD FOCUS | Exploring Religious Diversity in Israel

Presented by JFNA's Jewish Together initiative

A 4-part series | March 4, 11, 18, 25 | 12 PM EST



Forward Focus is a four-part educational series that explores the importance and development of religious pluralism in

Israel. Over the course of four days, experts, religious leaders, and changemakers will discuss the growing prevalence of practicing Judaism within the religious and cultural framework, but outside traditional norms.

[Register](#)

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