

# HERE FOR YOU. HERE FOR GOOD.



May 5, 2021 - 23 Iyar 5781

## JCA PROGRAMS

### **THE WORDS OF MY FATHER: Love and Pain in Palestine** **A Zoom book talk with author Yousef Bashir**

*Presented by the JCA as a member of the Jewish Book Council Network*

**Thursday, May 6th | 7 PM EST**



*"An urgent, impassioned call for peace between Palestine and Israel... eloquent and affecting memoir... an inspiration to peace activists in all theaters of war and struggle and a book that deserves a wide audience." - Kirkus Reviews*

*"At one of the darkest times in the elusive effort to end the conflict in the middle east... [comes a] remarkable new memoir.... full of youthful exuberance, unlikely adventures, and raw discovery ... captivating." - Robin Wright, The New Yorker*

Bashir is a Palestinian American from the Gaza Strip who made his way to the United States, where he earned a BA in international affairs from Northeastern University and an MA in co-existence and conflict from Brandeis University. Now living in Washington, DC, Bashir has worked on Capitol Hill, and served as a member of the Palestinian Diplomatic Delegation to the United States. Yousef is an accomplished author, and vigorous advocate of Israeli-Palestinian peace. In this book, he offers a powerful memoir of love, growth, survival, and unfashionable generosity of spirit inspired by his father. This is not an exploration of the broader socio-political context, but rather a personal narrative which contains some hints at the larger landscape.

The book is available to order from our friends at Longfellow Books:

<https://www.longfellowbooks.com/event/community-event-words-my-father>

Limited copies will include a signed bookplate.

### **Advanced Registration Required TODAY - Weds 5/5**

The Zoom link will be emailed to registered participants this afternoon (Wednesday 5/5)

*The JCA is pleased to offer virtual programs so that they are accessible to all. Financial support from community members like you makes this programming possible; we encourage you to pay what you can. We appreciate your support, which will help ensure that we can continue to offer programs like these in the future.*

[Register](#)

---

### **EXPLORING BROADWAY: Love Songs**

*Presented with the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance*

**Four Thursdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27 | 4:00 - 5:30 PM EST**

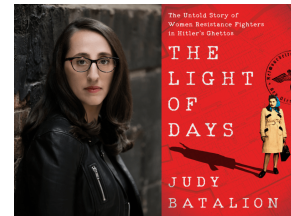
Since "I love you" is easily said, in song the sentiment must be expressed in a more clever, less clichéd way. Go on a musical journey of love songs from over 30 Broadway shows from Show Boat through "the Golden Age" to recent hits. Join instructor James Sokol to explore the creative ways lyrics of love are expressed in a variety of melodies creating charming patter songs, soaring ballads, heartbreaking torch songs and more!



Register

---

**JUDY BATALION - *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos***  
*Presented in partnership with the JCC Literary Consortium*  
**Monday, May 10th | 8 PM EST**



One of the most important stories of World War II: A spectacular, searing history that brings to light the extraordinary accomplishments of the brave Jewish women who became resistance fighters, a group of unknown heroes whose exploits have never been chronicled. A gripping, poignant tale of extraordinary female agency, *The Light of Days* reminds us of the importance of recognizing the control we have over our own selves even during the darkest times.

**Tickets:** Free virtual admission, or \$36 includes the book and shipping

Register

---

**STILL TRAVELING: Morocco - More than Marrakech**  
*Presented with the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance*  
**Mondays, May 10, 24 & 31 | 2:00 - 3:15 PM EST**



Many visitors go to Morocco to visit its most famous city, Marrakech. But the country holds countless interesting treasures throughout the land from its coasts to its deserts! Pour yourself a cup of mint tea and let James Sokol Zoom you away on our virtual "trips" to this magical North African country. Morocco has its own unique, fascinating culture – a blend of indigenous Berber, Arabian, Sub-Saharan African and European (Christian and Jewish) influences. Join our wonderful local guide for visits around his diverse and vibrant country to discover wonders that await!

Register

---

**PAULA SHOYER - *The Instant Pot Kosher Cookbook***  
*Presented in partnership with the JCC Literary Consortium*  
**Thursday, May 13th | 7:30 PM ET**



Live cooking demo for Shavuot with Paula Shoyer, "the Kosher Baker!" Paula will be pulling out all the stops, making a few delicious dishes just in time for Shavuot! First, it's NY cheesecake in the Instant Pot followed by a more traditional recipe for her famed blintzes. Either way, you don't need an Instant Pot to participate -- all of her recipes can be made using appliances you already own! Both recipes are available at the link if you'd like to purchase your ingredients in advance and cook along with Paula!

**Tickets:** \$6 virtual admission, or \$30 includes the book and shipping

## **FIGHTING WHITE SUPREMACY IN 2021: FROM CHARLOTTESVILLE TO THE CAPITOL**

*Presented by the JCA's Community Relations Council*

**Tuesday, May 25th | 7 PM**



Join Integrity First for America Executive Director Amy Spitalnick, lead attorney Michael Bloch, and Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows for a critical conversation hosted by the JCA's Community Relations Committee. Together they will explore the path from Charlottesville to the Capitol and beyond, and discuss how we hold these violent extremists accountable-- starting with IFA's Charlottesville's lawsuit, *Sines v Kessler*, which takes on the leaders of this violent movement and heads to trial this fall.

*Integrity First for America (IFA) is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization dedicated to holding those accountable who threaten longstanding principles of our democracy—including our country's commitment to civil rights and equal justice.*

***Save the date!* - Registration information will be announced soon.**

## **'J Talks' Podcast - Episode 13 with Sara Hallie Richardson**

*A JCA podcast highlighting the voices of community leaders & amazing people in Southern Maine*



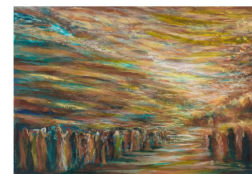
In this episode, Molly talks with the JCA's Welcoming Receptionist and local musician, Sara Hallie Richardson. They talk about performing live during a pandemic, serving celebrities in LA, and observing Judaism with a broader lens.

[Watch or Listen to the Podcast](#)

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

### **TORAH CONVERSATIONS**

**An online weekly study group facilitated by Ellie Miller  
Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM**



We continue our journey through the book of Genesis, engaged in a careful reading of every word of the text. We focus on language and structure along with the tales the text imparts.

This is a weekly gathering, informed by various translations of the Hebrew text and a variety of commentaries, ancient and modern. All are welcome to participate on a drop-in basis – no prior experience is necessary. A text of the Hebrew Bible is required - all translations are appropriate.

To join the study group email list and receive the Zoom link, weekly readings and schedule updates, contact our volunteer Diane Newman.

[Email Diane for the Zoom link](#)

## **AROUND THE JEWISH WORLD**

*\*Local programs highlighted in light blue*

### **YIDDISH FOLK SONG: THE NEXT GENERATION**

*Presented by JArts Boston and The Forward*

**Tuesday, May 11th | 2:00 PM**

Join a new generation of Boston-based Yiddish folk singers keeping the tradition alive and fresh – Adah Hetko, Kirsten Lamb, Eden MacAdam-Somer and Abigale Reisman – and hear from them what it means to be part of this beautiful tradition, in conversation with Hankus Netsky, founder of the Klezmer conservatory band, and Rukhl Schaechter, editor of the Yiddish *Forverts*.



Register

### **JEWISH FLAVOR: A SEPHARDIC SHAVUOT FEAST**

*Presented by Sixth & I, Washington DC*

**Tuesday, May 11th | 7:00 PM ET**



The week before Shavuot, Chef Vered Guttman puts a Sephardic twist on the Ashkenazi tradition of eating dairy dishes on the holiday. Dishes include Sephardi pastelikos (type of borek) with eggplant and feta, green pea, kale, and ricotta pashtida (kugel), Iraqi crepes (kahi) with butter and cream, Israeli-style cheesecake.

Register

### **WHY WE NEED EACH OTHER: TACKLING WHITE SUPREMACY AND ANTISEMITISM**

*Presented by ADL New England, JCRC, and Temple Israel of Boston*

**Tuesday, May 11th | 7:00 PM ET**



Eric K. Ward

Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss

Join leading experts Eric K. Ward, Executive Director of the Western States Center and Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss, Director of the Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Lab for an important discussion on the intersection of white supremacy and antisemitism and what we can do to combat extremism and hate.

Register

### **MJFF WEEKEND EDITION Film Streaming**

*Presented by the Maine Jewish Film Festival*

**Friday, May 14th at 9 AM – Sunday, May 16 at midnight**

#### ***Here We Are (2020)***

Aharon, a devoted and protective father, puts his career as an artist aside to care full time for Uri, his autistic son. But on the eve of his son's entering a special-needs boarding school, Aharon decides to take Uri on a road trip across Israel.



#### ***Love & Stuff (2020)***

Months after helping her terminally ill mother have a “good death” filmmaker Judith Helfand becomes a single mother at 50. At the same time, she faces the challenges of how to deal with the mountains of ‘stuff’ her parents left her. Judith Helfand will join MJFF for a live discussion on May 16 at 7 PM.

Reserve Tickets

### **The Garden Committee's 11th Annual Outdoor Plant Sale**

*Congregation Bet Ha'am - 81 Westbrook St. South Portland*

**Sunday, May 16, 2021 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

All plant sale proceeds support the Garden Committee's efforts to plant, harvest and donate fresh produce from our raised bed gardens to those in need, to promote educational gardening events and projects at Bet Ha'am and to care for our beautiful gardens.



\*All Covid Safety Protocols will be followed.

## JCA NEWS & UPDATES

### **Israeli Culture at Center Day Camp**

Are you passionate about sharing Israeli culture, history, songs, stories, or food with kids? This summer at Center Day Camp, our beloved Shlichim program (emissaries from Israel) will be on hiatus, so we are looking for community members to help bring the joy and magic of Israel to CDC! Whether you are interested in running a program for one week or one day, we'd love to talk with you! Please contact Director Chris Thurston at [cdc@mainejewish.org](mailto:cdc@mainejewish.org)



### **KJFS Mobile Food Pantry - New Food Box Pickup & Deliveries!**

Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services is thrilled to announce that beginning April 27th we will be offering food box pickups at the JCA, along with deliveries directly to homes of individuals and families in Cumberland & York Counties. The food boxes have been generously provided by Wayside Food Programs and include a variety of non-perishable items. We will be delivering twice weekly, on Tuesday and Thursdays. If you are in need, or if you know of any individuals/families who are homebound and in need of food, please contact us at 207-772-1959 or [kjfs@mainejewish.org](mailto:kjfs@mainejewish.org).



### **Employment Opportunities at the JCA and Center Day Camp**

The JCA's mission is to enhance and promote Jewish life and continuity locally, in Israel and throughout the world, and to generate the financial resources to develop, provide and support diverse programs, education and services in order to accomplish these goals.



To view all current employment opportunities [CLICK HERE.](#)

1342 Congress St. Portland, ME 04102 | 207-772-1959  
Website: [www.mainejewish.org](http://www.mainejewish.org) | email: [jca@mainejewish.org](mailto:jca@mainejewish.org)



Jewish Community Alliance | (207) 772-1959, 1342 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04102

[Unsubscribe\\_gleckman@mindspring.com](mailto:unsubscribe_gleckman@mindspring.com)

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [communityupdates@mainejewish.org](mailto:communityupdates@mainejewish.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!