

HERE FOR YOU. HERE FOR GOOD.



November 3, 2021 - 28 Cheshvan 5782

Daylights Savings Time Reminder!

Don't forget to [Fall Back](#) an hour on Sunday November 7th at 2AM



JCA COVID POLICY UPDATE

Our commitment to community, and to the safety and well-being of our members, visitors and staff, frames everything we do. We are inspired by the Jewish value of *pikuach nefesh* (saving of a life) and our tradition that the preservation of human life takes precedence over other practices. The JCA Board has therefore decided to require proof of full vaccination to participate in our programs and special events. [View the full policy here.](#)

JCA PROGRAMS

*Local programs highlighted in light blue

SIGD 2021: In between Israel & Ethiopia **Marking the 30th Anniversary of Operation Solomon**

A Zoom event presented by the Consulate General of Israel to New England, and co-sponsored by Combined Jewish Philanthropies, Get Connected, Hebrew College, and the JCA
Wednesday, November 3rd | 7:00 PM ET



The Consulate General of Israel to New England invites you to the 2021 Sigd event, dedicated to the cultural heritage of the Ethiopian Jewry, also known as the Beta Israel community. We will explore the remarkable story of the community's journey to Israel and their integration process, through the ancient holiday of Sigd. The State of Israel recognized Sigd as a national holiday in 2008.

[Register](#)

Join MJFF for 17 feature and documentary films and related programs, all available to view from the comfort (and safety) of your home. For a preview of the films, visit www.mjff.org

The JCA is pleased to present the following films with MJFF:

Saul & Ruby's Holocaust Survivors Band

A free screening sponsored by The Cedars and presented in partnership with the JCA

Like many survivors of the Holocaust after World War II, Saul and Ruby moved to America, started families and careers, grew old, and retired to South Florida. Then in their 90's, they decided to start a klezmer band, named the Holocaust Survivor Band. In this enthralling film, we follow Saul and Ruby's musical journey, which travels from playing in residential homes for the elderly and small Jewish community organizations, to being invited to perform at venues across the country, including a performance at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage.



Trailer: <https://youtu.be/5VgtCCYaj1c>

Love it Was Not

Sponsored by Ocean View at Falmouth and presented in partnership with the JCA

Helena Citron is taken to Auschwitz as a young woman, and soon finds unlikely solace under the tutelage of Franz Wunsch, a high-ranking SS officer who falls in love with her and her magnetic singing voice. Risking a certain execution if caught, their forbidden relationship went on until her miraculous liberation. But when a letter arrives from Wunsch's wife, thirty years later, begging Helena to testify on Wunsch's behalf, she's faced with an impossible decision: will she help the man who brutalized so many lives, but saved hers, along with some of the people closest to her?



On Sunday, November 7 at 2:00 PM, Director Maya Sarfaty joins MJFF for a live conversation.

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/413976173>

MJFF tickets and films will be available from Eventive. If you are new to Eventive or need a refresher course, [click here](#) for more information on how Eventive works. You'll have the option to buy an all festival pass, a package of six tickets, or individual tickets. All tickets are per household.

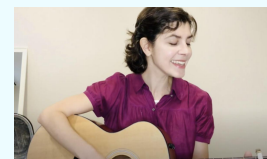
All films will be available during the entire festival. Conversations with filmmakers will be held at specific times and will also be recorded for later viewing. **Tickets are on sale now!**

[MJFF tickets and more info](#)

SONG CIRCLE, OUTSIDE with Cantor Sheila Nesis

JCA green space – 1342 Congress St., Portland - the lawn at the back of our property, behind our parking lot

Sunday, Nov. 7th | 2:00 – 3:00 PM



Join us for this *kumzitz* (literally from Yiddish, "come", "sit", and sing!), an opportunity to sing in community, and learn new songs or *niggunim* (traditional folk melodies). Bring your own blanket or chair, as we gather at the green space outdoors, weather permitting. No singing or musical experience required; just bring your smile and desire to experience community through song!

This free event is intended for adults / people ages 12+. Participants must be masked and maintain social distancing.

RSVP by Friday Nov. 5th at 12 pm to Cantor Nesis. Registered participants will be notified via email if the event is cancelled due to the weather.

[RSVP to Cantor Nesis](#)

JUDY BATALION DISCUSSES *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos*

A virtual author talk presented by the JCA in partnership with the JCCs of Albuquerque, Ann Arbor, Cincinnati, Houston, Marblehead, Richmond and Tenafly - Hosted online by the Houston JCC

Sunday, Nov. 14th | 8:00 PM EST



Powerful and inspiring, *The Light of Days* is an unforgettable true tale of war, the fight for freedom, exceptional bravery, female friendship, and survival in the face of staggering odds.

Advanced registration required by 12PM on Sunday 11/14 to receive the Zoom link.

Tickets: \$10 – JCA members | \$12 – General public. The book is available to [order locally from our friends at Longfellow Books.](#)

[Register](#)

VOICES OF MAINE'S LOST SYNAGOGUES

Live virtual panel discussion with audience Q+A

Presented by the Maine Jewish Museum | Co-sponsored by the JCA, the Center for Small Town Jewish Life, and the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine

Wednesday, November 17th | 7:00 PM



Jews have been living in Maine for 200 years, practicing in up to 30 active synagogues built to anchor Jewish communities across the state. Half of those synagogues no longer exist. Veteran ABC, CBS, CNN, and FOX producer, writer, director and media consultant Jo Dondis will bring together voices of these lost synagogues who will help tell the story of the impressive span of Maine's Jewish community life throughout the state.

Streaming link to come and at www.mainejewishmuseum.org

PJ LIBRARY CHANUKAH PARTY

In-person in the Sam L. Cohen Community Hall at the JCA – 1342 Congress St., Portland

Sunday, Nov. 21st | 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Join [PJ Library](#) and [Center Day Camp](#) for a fun family gathering to celebrate Chanukah, with interactive games, holiday stories and crafts, and activities to take home. Geared for families with children ages 3-8. There will be no eating or drinking at this indoor event.



For the safety of our community, please note:

- **Advanced registration is required by Friday, Nov. 19th at 12 PM.**
- This event will be **capped at 25 families.**
- **All attendees age 2+ must wear a face mask** fully covering their nose and mouth at all times.
- Per the JCA's [updated COVID policy](#), **all attendees age 12+ must provide proof of full COVID vaccination** – by either presenting your vaccination card or a photo of the front of your card. Please submit proof of vaccination by Friday 11/19 at 12 noon via email to jca@mainejewish.org or in person at the JCA. We will not retain

- copies of vaccination cards – digital images will be deleted. We will not be able to admit participants ages 12+ who have not provided proof of vaccination.
- There will be no eating or drinking at this indoor event.

Register

JCA ADULT EDUCATION

TORAH CONVERSATIONS: A weekly online study group **facilitated by Ellie Miller**

Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM



We continue our journey through the the Torah, beginning with the book of Exodus, engaged in a careful reading of every word of the text. We focus on language and structure along with the stories and values the text imparts.

This is a weekly Zoom 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. The sessions will last one hour, with an opportunity to continue the discussion for an additional 15 minutes until 11:15 AM.

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

Sign up to join the group

AROUND THE JEWISH WORLD

*Local programs highlighted in light blue

IFFA'S CHARLOTTESVILLE TRIAL **October 25th - Ongoing**



Nearly four years to the day that the Integrity First For America lawsuit was filed against the white supremacist leaders and hate groups that organized the "Unite the Right" violence in Charlottesville, *Sines v. Kessler* went to trial on October 25 in the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

This afternoon, renowned Holocaust scholar and expert on antisemitism Deborah Lipstadt testified about the hate and extremism that fueled the Unite the Right violence. You can read the [Times' preview of Deborah's testimony here](#).

Federal trials are not televised, but you can dial-in for live audio of proceedings, which will last from 9am-5pm most days. Details on how to follow the trial are available [here](#), and you can dial in at: 888-808-6929 / Access Code 4334643.

Learn how to follow the Trial

ADL | NEVER IS NOW
UNITE. LEARN. ACT. NOW. **NOVEMBER 7-9, 2021**

NEVER IS NOW SUMMIT ON ANTISEMITISM

Presented by the ADL

November 7 - 9, 2021

This year's Never Is Now, the world's largest annual summit on antisemitism and hate, is a virtual event you won't want to miss! ADL is honored to welcome Vice President Kamala Harris to address Never Is Now about the clear and present dangers of antisemitism and extremism.

Vice President Harris will commence our opening session on November 7 at 7:30 PM ET with a vital reminder that antisemitism knows no political party nor does it adhere to any partisan divides. We also welcome Yair Lapid, Israel's Alternate Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Actor/Producer/Activist Daniel Dae Kim, Chairman of the L'Oreal Group Jean-Paul Agon in an event hosted by ABC News' Nightline co-anchor Juju Chang.

Session Spotlight:

UNITY IN THE FACE OF ANTISEMITISM: Jewish Leaders on How to Fight Hate

Monday, Nov. 8th | 12 PM ET



The Jewish community represents an incredible diversity of constituencies, beliefs, geography and points of view. Antisemitic incidents have many manifestations, but their impact can be felt by the entire Jewish community. Come hear from community leaders representing the various religious movements on how antisemitism is affecting their communities and how they are finding common ground and working together to take action.

- Nathan Diament: Executive Director for Public Policy of Orthodox Union
- Rabbi Jacqueline Mates-Muchin: Senior Rabbi of Temple Sinai in Oakland, CA (Reform)
- Rabbi Jeffrey Myers: Rabbi and Cantor for Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh (Conservative)
- Rabbi Motti Seligson: Director of Media Relations at Chabad-Lubavitch

[Register for Free](#)

MARKING THE 5TH YAHRZEIT OF OUR MODERN PSALMIST – LEONARD COHEN

A virtual event from the Temple Emanuel Streicker Center
Tuesday, November 9th | 7:00 PM | Free



For more than a half century, a raw and world-weary Leonard Cohen led us along the tightrope he danced between the sacred and the profane in his quest for redemption. As he sang about his fears for a fractured universe, the flimsiness of human attachment and the constraints on freedom, his sensibility was unmistakable, his work laced with characters he'd discovered in Hebrew school, with memories of Jewish sorrow and with ancient prayers to which he gave new melody, new life.

To mark the anniversary of Leonard Cohen's passing, we celebrate his Jewish roots with a discussion of the religious paradoxes in his work and life with Dr. Marcia Pally, author of the new book *From This Broken Hill I Sing to You*.

[Register](#)

VIRTUAL TV & MOVIE DISCUSSION GROUP

With Congregation Bet Ha'am

Wednesdays | 7:00 PM | All are welcome!

Please join Melissa Montefel and Wendy Hayes, co-facilitators, for a discussion group about Jewish-themed movies and shows. The group meets on Zoom for fun, talk, and insights – see schedule below.

Questions or suggestions? [Email Wendy](#)



Wednesday, November 10th
Asia film - please watch first

This award winning mother-daughter drama follows the story of a Russian Ex-pat young mother, 'Asia,' and her teenage daughter who live alongside each other rather than together in Jerusalem. When her daughter develops a catastrophic illness, they both adjust to a new relationship. Starring well known Israeli actress Shira Haas, Asia won 8 Ophir Awards, including best actress and best supporting actress. FREE SCREENING but you must get tickets at www.mjff.org.

Join the online discussion with this Zoom Link

Beyond the Pew Report: UNDERSTANDING SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE IN AMERICA With Rabbi David Freidenreich

A virtual event presented by Congregation Etz Chaim, Biddeford
Thursday, November 11th | 6:30 PM



Over a million American Jews - one out of every eight - live in counties with fewer than 10,000 Jews. In some respects, Jews who live outside of major metropolitan areas reflect broader trends captured in national studies like the 2020 Pew Report, but these studies fail to capture distinctive aspects of small town Jewish life. We'll explore the current state of American Jewishness, with particular attention to dynamics in places like Biddeford.

David Freidenreich, the Pulver Family Professor of Jewish Studies at Colby College, directs the national impact efforts of the Center for Small Town Jewish Life. The Center cultivates vibrant, socially equitable communities rooted in their own sense of place, nourished by transformational learning, and intertwined with the broader Jewish world.

RSVP to Cantor Beth Strassler

JCA NEWS & UPDATES

JCA APPROVED AS HIAS REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PARTNER

Last week, [HIAS](http://www.hias.org) announced that the Department of State has approved seven new resettlement locations that will be part of HIAS' national resettlement network to help provide homes and support for refugees when they arrive in the United States. The new locations, including Portland, Maine, are spread across the nation, a sign that there is a place for refugees everywhere in the United States and in Maine.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NOW HIRING AT THE JEWISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE:

[Refugee Resettlement Program Manager](#)

[PJ Library Coordinator](#)

[Toddler Teacher - Goldman Family Preschool](#)

[Support Teacher - Goldman Family Preschool](#)

NOW HIRING IN THE COMMUNITY:

[Executive Director - Maine Jewish Museum](#)

[Administrative Assistant - Congregation Bet Ha'am](#)

1342 Congress St. Portland, ME 04102 | 207-772-1959
Website: www.mainejewish.org | email: jca@mainejewish.org



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

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