

Limmud[®] AZ

FEBRUARY 8, 2015

PROGRAM GUIDE



Jewish Community
Foundation
OF GREATER PHOENIX



Jewish Federation[®]
OF GREATER PHOENIX



SCHOOL OF
Historical, Philosophical
& Religious Studies
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



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A special thank you to all of our community partners and everyone who helped make Limmud AZ possible.

AND THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

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Debbie Yunker Kail

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WELCOME TO LIMMUD AZ 2015

Welcome to the First Annual Limmud AZ!

You are making history simply by being here today, as part of the very first Limmud conference to happen in Arizona. The heart of Limmud is its values: a program entirely planned and run by volunticipants; a place where everyone teaches and everyone learns; and a place that demonstrates the breadth, depth, creativity and joy of Jewish life.

It is our hope that Limmud AZ will create a re-energized and vibrant Jewish Arizona.

So take risks and live dangerously: meet new people today; study something you have never learned about before. Challenge yourself to move out of the comfort of what you already know, and into the exciting places you've never been.

However you've gotten here today, settle in, enjoy, and be both a learner and a teacher.

Thank you to all of our volunticipants, presenters, supporters and all who have worked to make this dream come true. Have a wonderful day.

Elana, Sandy, Suzanne

A LETTER FROM LIMMUD INTERNATIONAL

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to you to congratulate you on your first ever Limmud Event in Arizona. We are very excited that you are joining the global Limmud community and look forward to hearing all about the event.

2015 will represent the 35th year of Limmud's existence and its growth around the world has been astounding. Limmud's unique model of volunteer-led, cross-communal, multi-generational and transformational Jewish experiences is now truly global. There are now 80 Limmud groups in 41 countries round the world, and in 2014 there were 62 Limmud events run by 3,000 volunteers with 28,500 participants. These events are all inspired and supported by Limmud International and you can find out more at www.limmudinternational.org. Limmud is now truly a global network and we encourage you to attend Limmud events in other parts of the world if you are able to.

Limmud seeks to take every individual who attends our events one step further on their Jewish journey. Each individual will have a different Jewish journey yet I have no doubt that given the excellent and diverse programme that has been developed, Limmud Arizona will achieve this goal. I would like to extend my congratulations to the wonderful team of pioneers who have put so much effort into creating Limmud AZ this year and wish you a very successful first event.

David Bilchitz
Chair Limmud International

January 2015



LIMMUD'S MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION - LIMMUD'S PROMISE:

Wherever you find yourself, Limmud will take you one step further on your Jewish journey.

Limmud's mission is informed by the following values:



LEARNING

- Everyone should be a student and anyone can be a teacher
- Learning embraces personal development, knowledge and skills
- Learning changes people, inspires action and opens new worlds
- We encourage the creation of a learning environment in which people are able to reflect and grow
- There are many inspirations that can offer opportunities for learning

EXPANDING JEWISH HORIZONS

- We strive to create individual, collective and communal experiences, through which we strengthen and develop our Jewish identity

ENABLING CONNECTIONS

- We aim to create opportunities for communities and individuals to connect
- We recognize the strength of providing a space where spiritual, emotional and intellectual connections are made

PARTICIPATION

- Volunteerism is a key feature of almost everything we do
- We are all responsible for each other and for the communities we create - everyone has an important contribution to make
- We encourage participants to take an active part in all we do

EMPOWERMENT

- We inspire people to be ambitious about their contribution
- We challenge people, and trust them to rise to that challenge
- We see the potential of individuals and communities, and support their development
- We empower people to make choices and provide the information they need to inform those choices (including in the biographies which we ask presenters to provide)

DIVERSITY

- We value the rich diversity among Jews, and so we seek to create cross-communal and inter-generational experiences
- We value accessibility, and aim to be accessible to all
- We value choice in form, content and style in our programs
- We encourage people not to stereotype others

COMMUNITY & MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Limmud is a community of learning
- We can achieve more together than we can individually
- We gain from, and should give something back to, the Jewish and wider community

RESPECT

- No one is more important than anyone else
- We expect all participants to be respectful to one another, and to recognize that all volunteers are also participants

ARGUMENTS FOR THE SAKE OF HEAVEN

- We recognize and appreciate that 'arguments for the sake of heaven' can make a positive contribution to furthering our education and understanding
- We do not participate in legitimizing or de-legitimizing any religious or political position found in the worldwide Jewish community. Anyone coming to Limmud seeking opportunities for this will not find them. We have no part to play in the debates between/across denominations
- Sessions which encourage vigorous debate are entirely acceptable but we will seek to avoid religious or political conflict. Sessions should be educational, and not polemical

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

- Shabbat and kashrut are observed in all public areas
- We recognize that in private areas, people will behave as they wish
- Should participants wish to hold a prayer group, they may do so providing they supply all resources and are responsible for the session or prayer group in its entirety

LIMMUD RULES

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR DAY!

REGISTRATION

Registration will be open all day beginning at 8:15am. You will receive a badge and a program book.

PLEASE wear your badge at all times for security purposes. If you lose your badge, please get a replacement at the registration table.

HELP/VOLUNTEER DESK

The Help/Volunteer desk is located in the hallway right near registration. Please visit with any questions.

FOOD

All snacks and lunch are under rabbinical supervision. NO outside food is allowed in the lunch room.

Lunch will be served at 12:30-1:30pm in MU221 Arizona Ballroom.

BOOKSTORE

To help the learning continue, many of our presenters' books will be on sale in MU 221 Arizona Ballroom. A portion of each sale will benefit Limmud AZ. The store will be open during breaks and lunch. Please stop by!

SECURITY

For your protection there will be security personnel on the premises at all times. Remember, please wear your badge.

LIMMUD ETIQUETTE

- During every session, please make sure your phone is on silent. Please respect our presenters and do not text during the session.
- The Limmud culture is one built on punctuality. Every session is expected to begin and end on time so please be prompt. Some sessions have limited space due to fire codes. Please, if a session is full when you arrive at the room, choose another session that is of interest to you.
- We realize that there may be many sessions that you want to attend during each scheduled time period. If after a session has started you would like to move to another session, please feel free to do so, but leave in the most respectful and quiet way possible so as not to disturb the presenters or other attendees.
- Please be considerate of the others in the room so as not to interrupt their experience of the program.

CLASS SCHEDULE

9:00AM-10:00AM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Bible and The Boss: Bruce Springsteen's Lyrics and the Hebrew Bible***

PRESENTER: **Elana Kanter**

TOPIC: **Text/Torah**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

There are many allusions to Biblical texts in the lyrics of Springsteen's music. We'll explore how the "Boss" creates his own midrash on the texts, in songs such as "Adam Raised a Cain," "The Promised Land" and more.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The "Art" of Care-giving***

PRESENTER: **Richard Address**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

Longevity has created a new "life stage": The care giver. This session will explore how Jewish texts and tradition can serve as a guide for individuals and families who deal with these challenges. Among the issues we hope to cover will be the issue of who and how an adult child "pays" for care, the mandate to "honor" and "respect," how we can be guided in making a decision of when to place a loved one in a facility, and how care-giving challenges may be met in light of dementia and Alzheimer's.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***We Plan, God Laughs: What To do when Life Hits You over the Head***

PRESENTER: **Sherre Hirsch**

TOPIC: **Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

The old Yiddish proverb, "We plan, God laughs," expresses a truth everyone can relate to. At every stage of life we make plans, setting out where we want to go and imagining what we will be like when we have "arrived." But things have a way of turning out not quite as we hoped or expected. Addressing serious spiritual issues, Hirsch takes listeners through ten basics steps for formulating a plan that reflects who we are now and who we want to be—a plan that is alive, organic, and in sync with God. Hirsch teaches the importance of letting go and recognizing that even the most ordinary life is extraordinary in the eyes of God. She makes no foolish promise that life will turn out as we plan, but shows that with hope, faith, and belief, we can change our lives for the better and make a positive difference.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Judaism and the Ecological Crisis***

PRESENTER: **Hava Samuelson**

TOPIC: **Text/Torah/Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 227 Pinal**

Discussion on how contemporary Judaism has responded to the environmental crisis, how traditional sources have been reinterpreted and what eco-Judaism signifies about contemporary Jewish spirituality.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Hybrid Judaism: Why Yitz Still Matters***

PRESENTER: **Darren Kleinberg**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

In this session we will consider the implications of Rabbi Dr. Irving "Yitz" Greenberg's theology of encounter. Offering nothing less than a this-worldly messianic vision, Greenberg invites us to move beyond the boundaries of our own communities to encounter the image of God in all human beings. Together, we will reflect on the meaning of Greenberg's theology in a "post-Pew" American Jewish context.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Practical Pantry***

PRESENTER: **Cathy Barrow**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

With pickling, canning, and other traditional techniques enjoying a surge of popularity, Barrow offers a guide to all kinds of food preservation in her new book Mrs. Wheelbarrow's Practical Pantry. Canning, smoking, brining, and curing are among the skills she covers: beyond jams and pickles, Barrow shows that homemade cream cheese is within the grasp of the weekday cook. Barrow will reminisce about preserving with her great-grandmother, and reviving these techniques in her own kitchen 50 years later.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Masada – Story, History, Mythology***

PRESENTER: **Stav Lefler**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

What do the story of Masada and related stories teach us about Jewish history and values, and what is the preferable approach to teaching it? Inspired by years of debating and storytelling in Israel, and accompanied by visuals and commentaries.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***What to Read: A Curated Survey of Current Jewish Literature***

PRESENTER: **Sylvia Gotlib**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 223 Yavapai**

This presentation will focus on 15-20 current titles that are worth considering for anyone's reading list. The session is a short review on each title and integrates current trends in books in general when appropriate.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Lessons “Turning Points”***

PRESENTER: **Justin Cooper**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mojave**

Life's journey is made up of lessons and turning points. This presentation will reflect on my life. From losing my vision to glaucoma, to becoming successful in business and even my love story about why I went on Bravo to declare that I wanted a Jewish woman to enjoy life's journey with. These stories provide a new lens on family, career and the pursuit of happiness in the modern world.

10:15AM-11:15AM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Why Shylock?***

PRESENTER: **David Kader**

TOPIC: **Text/Torah**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

Shylock is the central character in Shakespeare's THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. The title's question and this session explores both the place of Jews in Elizabethan England (and before), but also the place of this character, over time, in the Western imagination.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Grandparenting your Interfaith Grandchildren***

PRESENTER: **Paul Golin**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Today there are more Americans under the age of 20 born to intermarried than in-married Jews. Some of these young people consider themselves Jewish, some do not, and many fall somewhere in between. This session will address the issues with an optimism rarely offered by the organized Jewish community. Come hear and share what works (and what doesn't) in imparting Jewish culture, spirituality, and/or identity in future generations, and the incredibly powerful role Jewish grandparents have to play in that work.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Art of Spiritual Writing***

PRESENTER: **Shmuly Yanklowitz**

TOPIC: **Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 227 Pinal**

This session will be a participatory and interactive self-exploration workshop. We will learn and practice the skill and art of spiritual writing. We will also learn some thought provoking texts to stimulate thought and emotion and share together.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Jews on the Chocolate Trail***

PRESENTER: **Deborah Prinz**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

The next time you pick up a piece of chocolate, consider that you are partaking in an aspect of Jewish history. Explore the story of Jews and chocolate. On the Chocolate Trail uniquely melds a popularity of chocolate with a fascination about Judaism. Those interested in Judaism and religion will crave this unique approach.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Introduction to Hebrew Calligraphy***

PRESENTER: **Laura Goldstein**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 223 Yavapai**

The word calligraphy comes from the Ancient Greek, meaning ‘beautiful writing.’ The art of writing beautiful letters is one of the most ancient forms of Jewish Art. Learn how to write the aleph bet with a calligraphy pen as we discuss the symbolic meanings of the letters and their forms.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Photographic Narration of Israel Today***

PRESENTER: **John Linder**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mojave**

This session will share a narration of Israel today, through photographs taken over the past decade. The viewer will have an opportunity to see Israel, literally through a rabbi’s eyes. Photographs, as words, carry multiple interpretations. Photographs will be used as a way to understand more deeply the beauty and tensions of Israel today.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Save, Spend, Tzedakah***

PRESENTERS: **Tina Sheinbein, Ellen Sacks & Emily Schwartz**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

Being “rich” is less about making a ton of money and more about knowing how to manage it responsibly and give whole-heartedly. The sooner you start to understand how to take care of your finances, while being able to make a difference in the world, the better! Come learn simple strategies to prioritize your needs and wants, save for big purchases, keep track of your expenses, and incorporate tzedakah into your everyday life. (*Jewish Free Loan and MidFirst Bank’s Money Moments Program present this financial literacy workshop for teens and young adults. This program is funded, in part, by a grant from the B’nai Tzedek Youth Philanthropy Board.*)

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***What Do I Have To Believe As A Jew?***

PRESENTER: **Jack Silver**

TOPIC: **Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

Today an increasing number of self-identified American Jews report they do not have a religion. Secular Humanistic Judaism may provide an alternative for people who are proud of their Jewish heritage, but do not feel they connect with traditional Jewish approaches. This presentation will explore the philosophy and principles of Secular Judaism, and provide examples of life cycle and holiday celebrations that may resonate with those proud to be Jewish yet who describe themselves as having no “religion.”

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Jewish Campus Life in 2014: Challenges and Opportunities***

PRESENTERS: **Kail/Interns**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Come hear what it’s like to be Jewish at ASU from several student leaders and the ASU Hillel director. This panel will touch on strategies we use to build Jewish community and educate about Israel on campus.

11:30AM-12:30PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Jewish Mysticism Made Simple: The Radical Theology of the S’fat Emet***

PRESENTER: **Michael Wasserman**

TOPIC: **Text/Torah/Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

Jewish mysticism can be difficult and complicated. But in his S’fat Emet, Rabbi Yehudah Leib Alter of Ger (1847 - 1905) boiled the Jewish mystical tradition down to a simple essence. We will explore a selection of his teachings, and see how they can enrich our spiritual lives today.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***New Rituals for New Life Stages***

PRESENTER: **Richard Address**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle/Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

This session will look at the explosion of new rituals that are being created to deal with new life stages that

CLASS SCHEDULE

our people are experiencing. We will look at the meaning of ritual and explore some rituals that have been created such as: disposing of fertilized embryos, celebrating aging, older adult cohabitation and the removal of a wedding ring following the year of mourning.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Soulful Meditation***

PRESENTER: **Micah Caplan**

TOPIC: **Spirituality/Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Join us as we use guided meditation and imagery to see the world through a spiritual lens that we do not often experience on a daily basis. Have an open mind and soul and enter a world that is meaningful, spiritual and fun. At the end of the session, the hope is for us to all be transformed and able to spread the meditative energy to others that we encounter.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Hallways and Rooms: How to Thrive Through the Transitions in our Lives***

PRESENTER: **Sherre Hirsch**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Whether it's our cozy bedroom, our toy-strewn family room, or our newly renovated kitchen, we all have our favorite rooms in our homes. But who thinks about the hallways? We spend a lot of time traversing the hallways, both literally and metaphorically. The hallways of our lives, refer to those moments when we have to make a decision that will change the outcome of our lives but we are not sure how and when to take the plunge.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Basic Nuts and Bolts of Media Bias***

PRESENTER: **Gary Kenzer**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Are you able to tell what media bias is and is not? Learn how to understand when fact goes out the door and opinion marches in. Learn more about photo bias is. The old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words is so true. And learn how dangerous photo and text bias are toward policy and the future of Israel. Be prepared to be challenged.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Who is Like You***

PRESENTER: **Rebekah Mirsky**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 223 Yavapai**

Singing is a powerful tool to express our emotions. Join us for a sing along as we take a trip through some of our most meaningful liturgy.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Israeli Wines in the 21st Century: Not Your Bubbe's Kiddush***

PRESENTER: **Stav Lefler**

TOPIC: **Israel/Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

Over the last few decades, the wine industry in Israel has seen explosive growth both in varieties of wine as well as in recognition by the larger world of wine connoisseurs. Join us for an historic and archaeological description of wine production in Israel, and taste some new Israeli wines being produced today. ***This presentation includes wine tasting and is thus only open to those 21 years and older. The class is limited to 40 attendees.***

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Extreme Imbalance: Global Poverty and the Jewish Imperative***

PRESENTERS: **Dean Shapiro, Shmuly Yanklowitz & Melissa Berman**

TOPIC: **Jewish Thought/Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mojave**

So many human beings live in extreme poverty, with unreliable access to food, clean water, medicine or education. Yet these people live far away from us, and the reasons for their low standards of living are complex. Why should Jews care about people who live so far away from us? What power does the Jewish community have to affect meaningful improvements? How far do our obligations extend? What do Jewish texts and values say about poverty?

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***How to Woo a Jew Over 40***

PRESENTER: **Tamar Caspi**

TOPIC: **Contemporary Jewish Life/Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

Are you an older adult who is divorced, a single parent, an empty-nester, widowed, or never married? Does JDate make your head spin? Are you looking for the elusive love of your life, or just a companion to enjoy the rest of your life with? Let JDate's resident expert help you with step-by-step instructions to set up an online dating profile, prepare you for mixers and blind dates, and advise you how to introduce the expected baggage that almost automatically comes with being single later in life.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Israeli Americans – No Longer Bystanders***

PRESENTER: **Shahar Edry**

TOPIC: **Israel, Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 227 Pinal**

Some 600,000 Israelis live in the US, largely not very integrated into the American Jewish community. As a vital component of American society, Israeli's play major role in social activism, academia, culture and innovation. With two homelands, many of the Israeli Americans are suffering from "split personality." This session will look at how Israeli Americans and the Jewish Americans work together to create a better future to the next generation, and to secure the Jewish state of Israel.

12:30PM-1:30PM

LUNCH

ARIZONA ROOM

1:30PM-2:30PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***All You Need Is Love – On Relationships and Marriage***

PRESENTER: **Pinchas G. Allouche**

TOPIC: **Text and Torah/Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

How does Judaism define "Love"? What are the secret Jewish ingredients to a happy and healthy marriage? Who are the models of 'love' in Jewish History and what can we learn from them? Explore and analyze a variety of texts and resources that tackle the fundamentals of human interaction and relationships and provide you with new, empowering ideas and applicable tools.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Torahs and Tepees: Jewish Cowboys of the Old West***

PRESENTER: **Cary Silverstein**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track, Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Take a journey through time from the 1600s to the beginning of the twentieth century. The early old west Jews were merchants, butchers, government officials and businessmen. Many arrived through Ellis Island and others through Galveston, Texas. Learn about Torahs, tepees and buckaroos.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Rethinking Israelite Women: What Does Archaeology Teach Us?***

PRESENTER: **Beth Alpert Nakhai**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

The Hebrew Bible is filled with stories about women, but no single story provides a complete picture of women's lives – nor is any biblical woman meant to be typical of all Israelite women. Archaeology provides an alternate resource, one that allows us to go beyond the Bible and examine day-to-day life in Iron Age Israel. This presentation uses archaeological resources to explore the lives of Israelite women, helping us place the biblical narratives into their ancient setting.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Branching Out***

PRESENTERS: **Todd Herzog & Deborah Sarna**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

This will be a very interactive, fun and lively session that encourages participants, through music to look more deeply at their own relationship to text. This session will explore how music impacts our lives Jewishly.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Israeli Folk Dancing***

PRESENTER: **Ora Kurland**

TOPIC: **Israel/Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Bo-u lirkod – come and dance! Join in on an active and energetic Israeli folk dance session! We will learn a variety of Israeli folk dances on a beginner/intermediate level, depending on the skill level of the participants. The repertoire will include old and new dances and a variety of styles.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Post-Ethnic/Post-Denominational Judaism - What Does the Future of the American Jewish Community Look Like?***

PRESENTER: **Paul Golin**

TOPIC: **Contemporary Jewish Life/Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

For most of us, the way we express our Jewish identity looks very different than the way our grandparents did. Ours is an evolving culture, religion, and people. So why do some Jewish leaders express panic over how the next generations might express their Judaism? This session will identify some sweeping changes impacting the organized Jewish community, such as intermarriage and disaffiliation, and discuss real-world challenges. We may still have more questions than answers, but this session will sharpen the focus of those questions, offering useful next steps to get past the at-times paralyzing fear of change.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Lean Pilots: An Approach to Accelerate Innovation***

PRESENTER: **Adam Pollack**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 223 Yavapai**

Feeling like change doesn't happen fast enough? Want to be a change-maker and looking for a framework to guide you? If so, come learn about an approach that accelerates the innovation process and is used by the most successful companies in the U.S. It is easily adaptable, so you'll walk away with a practical tool for yourself.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Jewish Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Board Meeting (2 hours)***

PRESENTER: **Andrea Cohen**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 227 Pinal**

This is intended for the members of the 2014-2015 Jewish Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Board ONLY. The Board will be focusing on vetting grant proposals submitted to them from various communal agencies focusing on Jewish engagement.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Confessions of a Jewish Journalist***

PRESENTER: **Gary Rosenblatt**

TOPIC: **Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

Gary Rosenblatt, the editor of America's largest Jewish newspaper, will discuss the challenges of Jewish journalism. Often referred to as "the dean of Jewish journalism," he will discuss some of the more dramatic issues he has reported on in his four-decade career and about his own struggles to be both a loyal member of the community and an independent and sometime critical voice. He is the author of *Between The Lines: Reflections on the American Jewish Experience*.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Reel Theology: An Introduction to Jewish Theology Using Science Fiction Television & Films***

PRESENTER: **Jeremy Schneider**

TOPIC: **Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

Through science fiction films and television shows, this class introduces basic concepts in Jewish Theology. No prior knowledge required.

CLASS SCHEDULE

2:45PM-3:45PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Soul Maps: Kabbalah to Navigate Your Inner World***

PRESENTER: **Mendy Deitsch**

TOPIC: **Text/Torah/Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

Perhaps you have struggled before with the elusive search for meaning, and wished you had a personal mentor to guide your growth. What if you had the chance to meet one of the greatest masters of Kabbalah and learn ancient proven strategies for self-realization and contentment? You will receive insight into your inner world and you will discover new strategies for overcoming obstacles to change and progress.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Drum Shalom: Drum for Peace, Drum for Healing, Drum For Fun (2 hours)***

PRESENTER: **Sarah Leah Grafstein**

TOPIC: **Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

Drum Shalom introduces our historic tribal rhythm into the Jewish community. Our roots are in the Middle East where drumming and rhythms thrived for millennia. Today, in North America there is a resurgence of interest in hand drumming. This is inspiring Jews to pick up their drums and reconnect with this most basic primal Biblical instrument. ***This class is limited to the first 20 attendees.***

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Yoga - A Path to Your Essential Self (All levels)***

PRESENTER: **Amy Tyre**

TOPIC: **Contemporary Jewish Life/ Spirituality**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Quiet your mind, open your body and elevate your spirit in this moving meditation. All levels welcome. Wear comfortable clothes. Please bring a mat if you have one. We have a limited number of mats available.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean***

PRESENTER: **Cary Silverstein**

TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Come sail the warm waters of the Caribbean. No luggage or passport needed, just bring your imagination, your parrot and your eye patch. We will sail on the Queen Esther with famous sixteenth century Spanish Jewish pirates along the coast of Northern Africa and among the islands of the Caribbean. Our ship will cruise the routes they followed as they battled the Spanish Armada and settled along the coasts of Brazil, Mexico, Jamaica and North America.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Tallit Making (2 hours)***

PRESENTER: **Merle Weiner**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 223 Yavapai**

*Special Note: Extra \$36 for the kit paid at registration. **Maximum 10 people.***

The tallit is a garment that many Jews wear as they pray. This four-cornered prayer shawl has tzitzit or, ritual fringes, attached on each corner, reminding the wearer of the mitzvot. Come learn about the Tallit and try your hand at making your own!

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Finding God in Hawaii***

PRESENTER: **Allison Josephs, aka Jew in the City**

TOPIC: **Jewish Thought**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

Allison Josephs talks about her childhood existential crisis, her search for meaning, and the life-changing answers she found in a tropical rain forest.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***How to Woo a Jew Under 40***

PRESENTER: **Tamar Caspi**

TOPIC: **Jewish Future**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

Do you feel like you've been single longer than the Jews wandered the desert? Have you given up hope that your beshert is out there? Does JDate intimidate you? JDate's very own expert will help you navigate the journey to find your very own MOT: from matchmaking to mixers, honing your Jewdar, getting ready for

CLASS SCHEDULE

a date, what topics to avoid on a date, tips for creating the best JDate profile, and more! This session will be geared towards those in their 20's, 30's, and early 40's and will include a Q&A session for personalized advice.

PRESENTATION TITLE: *How to Be a Top Notch Social Media Advocate for Israel*

PRESENTER: **Gary Kenzer** **TOPIC:** **Contemporary Jewish Life/Jewish Future/Israel** **ROOM:** **MU 226 Graham**

Are you skilled at using the internet? Do you wonder if your advocacy is falling on deaf ears? In this session we will learn the skills necessary to be a trained social media advocate for Israel. Once you learn how to be a better communicator using social media, you will realize that you are no longer just preaching to the choir.

PRESENTATION TITLE: *You Want me to Officiate at What?!?!?*

PRESENTERS: **Mari Chernow & Stephen Kahn** **TOPIC:** **Life Cycle** **ROOM:** **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

Nowadays, so many couples are asking their close friends and family to officiate at their wedding ceremonies. Don't be scared... be prepared! You don't need to be a rabbi to be a mesader kiddushin (wedding officiant). Kahn and Chernow will walk you through a Jewish wedding, teaching the meaning behind the symbols, rituals and traditions involved.

4:00PM-5:00PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: *Engaging Children During T'fila: The Attraction of MagneticShul*

PRESENTER: **Justin Sakofs** **TOPIC:** **Jewish Thought/Family** **ROOM:** **MU 240 Navajo**

As adults, we learned the shul experience. We often take our children in tow and have them sit with us or participate in "groups," but are we meeting the developmental needs of our children? In other adult environments we may bring toys electronic or otherwise to entertain our children, but in shul we expect decorum, quiet and PARTICIPATION. MagneticShul seeks to answer our needs by allowing children to play with shul while in shul. Come learn with us how as parents we can engage our children in a meaningful, lifelong Jewish experience.

PRESENTATION TITLE: *Stories of Jewish Phoenixians & Their Habitats*

PRESENTER: **Michael Alan Ross** **TOPIC:** **Off the Beaten Track** **ROOM:** **MU228 Cochise**

In this session, Michael Alan Ross will share stories of Phoenix and Scottsdale Jews who contributed to making this city great. He will share aspects of Phoenix and Scottsdale Jewish history that are frequently overlooked, ranging from stories of well-known figures to forgotten Phoenixians. His most recent guidebook, *Phoenix & Scottsdale, Arizona JEWISH FRIENDSHIP TRAIL TOUR GUIDEBOOK - 7 TOURS - History Synagogues Cemeteries Restaurants*, was published in 2014.

PRESENTATION TITLE: *Talmudic Ethics: Finding Your Way to Good Decisions*

PRESENTER: **Mendy Deitsch** **TOPIC:** **Text/Torah** **ROOM:** **MU 236 Mohave**

When your heart is pulled in two directions, how do you know which tug to follow? The Talmud lays down principles that can help you disentangle warring intuitions so that you can clearly discern right from wrong. In this course, we invite you to experience the fascinating application of law and logic as the rabbis struggle to determine what is just.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Child'Space: Bonding With Your Baby***

PRESENTER: **Jill Davis**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 227 Pinal**

Child'Space teaches us to maximize our baby's potential through movement and touch. Touch is a baby's first language. Child'Space utilizes the latest brain studies to address and support your baby's motor, social, emotional and cognitive growth. New parents, grandparents, teachers and child care providers will learn how to deepen their connections with the baby. Come and learn how to support this precious gift in the 21st Century with Child'Space.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Myths About Modern Orthodox***

PRESENTER: **Allison Josephs**

TOPIC: **Contemporary Jewish Life**

ROOM: **MU 225 Yuma**

Outsiders to the Orthodox Jewish world can find it mystifying. In this session, Allison will explain and debunk some of the misconceptions that have arisen about Orthodox Jews.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Do We Raise Our Daughters To Be Good Mothers?***

PRESENTER: **Ada Anbar**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

In this presentation you will:

- Discover the #1 factor affecting your daughter's mothering skills.
- Explore the common mistakes in preparing today's girls for motherhood.
- Discover a new solution for the work/motherhood dilemma.
- Meet three successful examples.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Ahavat Yisrael - Loving Israel, the Land, the State, and the People***

PRESENTER: **Arthur Lavinsky**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 229 Santa Cruz**

We are taught "Kol Yisrael Arevim Ze Lazeh" - All of Israel is responsible for one another. What are our connections to other Jews and to the Land and State of Israel? We will explore some texts, ancient and modern, to examine how we relate to one another as well as our brothers and sisters in Israel.



Enriching lives of the communities we serve



When you support the Campaign for Jewish Needs, you help to strengthen and sustain a vibrant Jewish community and to meet critical needs here in Phoenix, in Israel and around the world.



The Federation helps countless people overcome poverty, hunger and despair, and funds valuable programs that sustain Jewish identity and enriches lives.

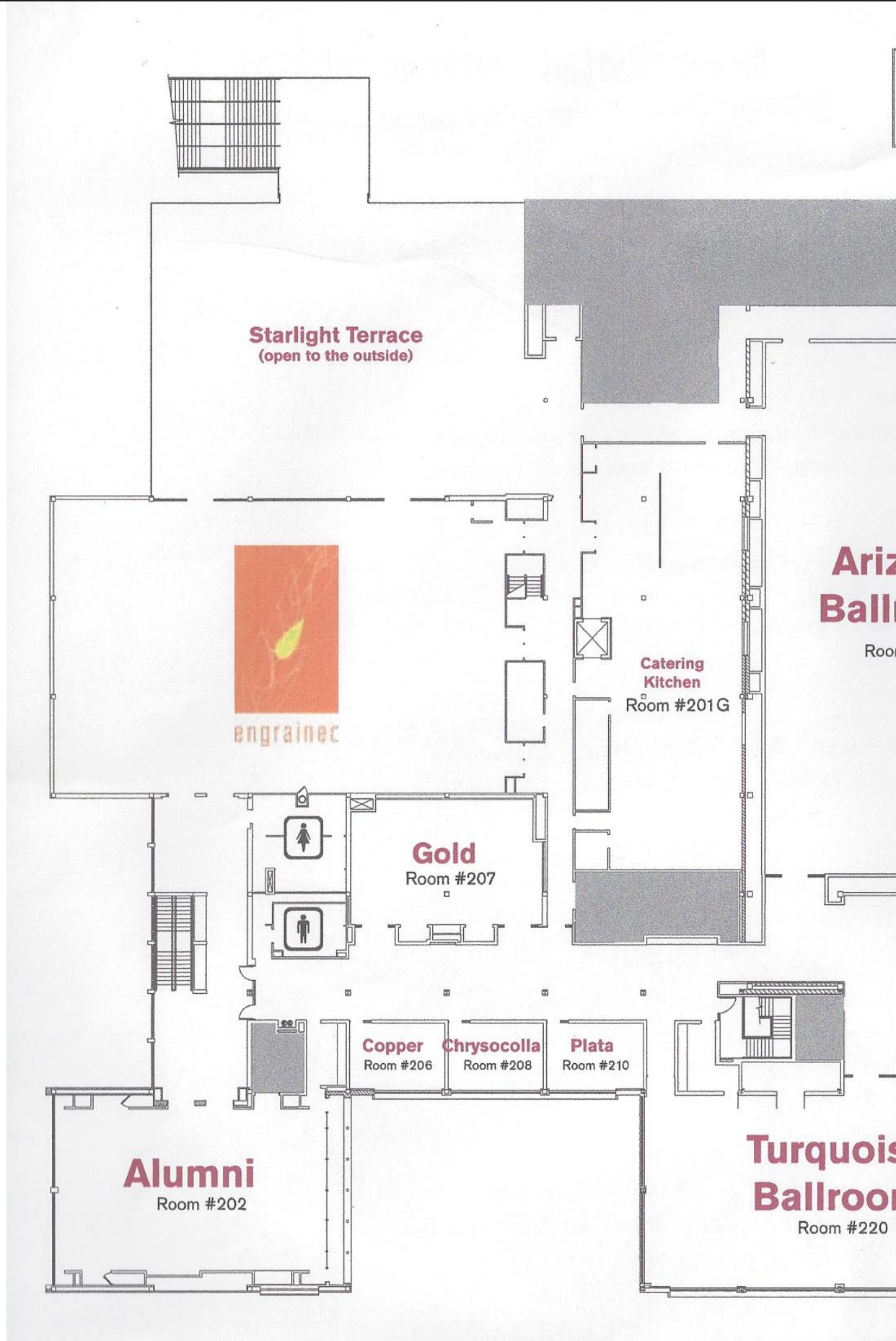
By investing in our community today, we ensure its future. The Federation develops and supports programs, agencies and communal organizations that have strengthening Jewish identity as a goal.



Become a part of the Federation movement and protect and enhance the well-being of Jews worldwide!

Donate Online at JewishPhoenix.org or Call 480.634.4900 and ask for Campaign

MAP OF MEMORIAL UNION



Memorial Union

Second Floor Room Features

rev. July 2010



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

GOLD MU 207

9:00am	The Practical Pantry	Barrow
11:30am	Israeli Wines in the 21st Century: Not Your Bubbe's Kiddush	Lefler
1:30pm	All You Need is Love--On Relationships and Marriage	Allouche
2:45pm	Drum Shalom: Drum for Peace, Drum for Healing, Drum for Fun (2 hour session)	Grafstein

YAVAPAI MU 223

9:00am	What to Read: A Curated Survey of Current Jewish Literature	Gotlib
10:15am	Introduction to Hebrew Calligraphy	Goldstein
11:30am	Who is Like You?	Mirsky
1:30pm	Lean Pilots: An Approach to Accelerate Innovation	Pollack
2:45pm	Tallit Making (2 hour session)	Weiner

GILA MU 224

9:00am	Hybrid Judaism: Why Yitz Still Matters	Kleinberg
10:15am	Grandparenting Your Interfaith Grandchildren	Golin
11:30am	Soulful Meditation	Caplan
1:30pm	Torahs and Tepees: Jewish Cowboys of the Old West	Silverstein
2:45pm	The Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean	Silverstein
4:00pm	Do We Raise Our Daughters to be Good Mothers?	Anbar

YUMA MU 225

9:00am	The Bible and The Boss: Bruce Springsteen's Lyrics and the Hebrew Bible	Kanter
10:15am	Why Shylock?	Kader
11:30am	New Rituals for New Life Stages	Address
1:30pm	Branching Out	Herzog/Sarna
2:45pm	Finding God in Hawaii	Josephs
4:00pm	Myths about Modern Orthodox	

GRAHAM MU 226

9:00am	Masada - Story, History, Mythology	Lefler
10:15am	Jewish Campus Life in 2015: Challenges and Opportunities	Kalil
11:30am	The Basic Nuts and Bolts of Media Bias	Kenzer
1:30pm	Post-Ethnic/Post Denominational Judaism - What Does the American Jewish Community Look Like	Golin
2:45pm	How to Be a Top Notch Social Media Advocate for Israel	Kenzer

PINAL MU 227

9:00am	Judaism and the Ecological Crisis	Samuelson
10:15am	The Art of Spiritual Writing	Yanklowitz
11:30am	Israeli Americans--No Longer Bystanders	Edry
1:30pm	Jewish Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Board Meeting	Cohen
4:00pm	ChildSpace: Bonding With Your Baby	Davis

COCHISE MU 228

9:00am	We Plan, God Laughs: What to Do When Life Hits You Over the Head	Hirsch
10:15am	Jews on the Chocolate Trail	Prinz
11:30am	Hallways and Rooms	Hirsch
1:30pm	Israeli Folk Dancing	Kurland
2:45pm	Yoga - A Path to Your Essential Self (<i>all levels</i>)	Tyre
4:00pm	Stories of Jewish Phoenicians and Their Habits	Ross

SANTA CRUZ MU 229

9:00am	The "Art" of Caregiving	Address
10:15am	What Do I Have To Believe As A Jew?	Silver
11:30am	Jewish Mysticism Made Simple: The Radical Theology of the S'fat Emet	Wasserman
1:30pm	Confessions of a Jewish Journalist	Rosenblatt
2:45pm	You Want Me to Officiate at What?!?!?	Chernow/Kahn
4:00pm	Ahavat Yisrael - Loving Israel, the Land, the State, and the People	Lavinsky

MOHAVE MU 236

9:00am	Lessons: "Turning Points"	Cooper
10:15am	Photographic Narration of Israel Today	Linder
11:30am	Extreme Imbalance: Global Poverty and the Jewish Imperative	Shapiro/Yanklowitz/Berman
1:30pm	Rethinking Israelite Women: What Does Archaeology Teach Us?	Nakhai
2:45pm	Soul Maps: Kabbalah to Navigate Your Inner World	Deitsch
4:00pm	Talmudic Ethics: Finding Your Way to Good Decisions	Deitsch

NAVAJO MU 240

10:15am	Save, Spend, Tzedakah	Sheinbein/Sacks/Schwartz
11:30am	How to Woo a Jew Over 40	Caspi
1:30pm	Reel Theology: An Introduction to Jewish Theology Using Science Fiction Television & Films	Schneider
2:45pm	How to Woo a Jew Over 20	Caspi
4:00pm	Engaging Children During T'fila: The Attraction of the Magnetic Shul	Sakofs

PRESENTER BIOS

ADDRESS, RICHARD

jewishsacredaging.com

Rabbi Richard Address was ordained from HUC-JIR in 1972 and has served congregations in the Los Angeles and Philadelphia areas. He received his certificate in Pastoral Counseling from Post Graduate Center for Mental Health (1998) and his Doctor of Ministry (1999). He serves as adjunct faculty at HUC-JIR in NYC teaching issues related to families in both the rabbinic and education as well as in the Doctor of Ministry programs. His Sacred Aging project received a Best Practices award from National Coalition on Aging in 2010. He has edited and contributed to numerous books and articles on aging, baby boomers and spirituality and recently published *Seekers of Meaning: Baby Boomers, Judaism and the Pursuit of Healthy Aging* (URJ Press). He also serves as rabbinic advisor to Men of Reform Judaism.

ALLOUCHE, PINCHAS

Rabbi Allouche was born in Toulouse, France and grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa and Jerusalem, Israel. He is highly respected and tremendously involved in the Jewish community of Greater Phoenix. He is a member of the Think Tank Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix, and he teaches middle-school Judaism at the Pardes Jewish Day School. Rabbi Allouche is also member of the Vaad Harabanim, the Orthodox Rabbinic Council – Arizona's Committee of Orthodox Rabbis. In 2013, Rabbi Allouche was listed in the Forward as one of America's 36 Most Inspiring Rabbis, who are "shaping 21st Century Judaism." He is fluent in English, Hebrew, French and Italian. Rabbi Allouche is the Spiritual Leader of Congregation Beth Tefillah in Scottsdale, AZ.

ANBAR, ADA

adaanbar.com

Ada Anbar holds a Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education from the University at Buffalo. After a forty-year teaching career, she is now a full-time writer. The author of several parenting books, she wrote *How to Choose a Nursery School—A Parent's Guide to Preschool Education*; *The Secret of Natural Readers—How Preschool Children Learn to Read Without Formal Instruction*; and *The Drama of the Mother-Child Bond—What Every Woman Should Know About Motherhood, Career and Children*. Ada is married to Dr. Michael Anbar and is the mother of two sons: Dr. Ran D. Anbar of Syracuse, NY, and Dr. Ariel D. Anbar of Tempe, AZ. She is the proud grandmother of six grandchildren.

BARROW, CATHY

mrswheelbarrow.com

Cathy Barrow writes the food blog Mrs. Wheelbarrow's Kitchen. She has written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Garden & Gun*, *Southern Living*, NPR, and *Modern Farmer*, among others. She lives in Washington, DC.

BERMAN, MELISSA

congregationortzion.org

Melissa Berman is Cantor at Or Tzion Congregation. Hailing from Long Island (with roots in Arizona), she graduated from Duke University with a B.A. in Music, specializing in classical voice. Cantor Berman served three years as student Hazzan at Temple Beth Ahm in Aberdeen, New Jersey. In May 2010, she completed her cantorial studies at the H.L. Miller Cantorial School and was invested at that time. She earned an additional M.A. in Jewish Education at the Davidson School. With a passion for chaplaincy work, Cantor Berman completed four intensive units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE).

CAPLAN, MICAH

congregationortzion.org

Rabbi Micah Caplan is the spiritual leader at Congregation Or Tzion in Scottsdale. Rabbi Caplan joined Congregation Or Tzion on July 1, 2010. He has long-standing ties to Phoenix having grown up here where his father served as Cantor and mother as Musical Director of Har Zion Congregation. Rabbi Caplan has led large congregations in Florida and California where he introduced exciting adult learning and youth programming.

CASPI, TAMAR

howtowooajew.com

Tamar Caspi has been a syndicated Jewish dating advice columnist since 2008 and has been published in various magazines and newspapers around the world including *The Jerusalem Post*. She has also been giving dating advice for the massively popular Jewish dating website JDate since 2010. Her first book *How to Woo a Jew: The Modern Jewish Guide to Dating and Mating* gives step-by-step instructions on finding your Chosen One and was received with high acclaim. Caspi has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Women's Studies from UCLA and lives in San Diego, California with her family.

PRESENTER BIOS

CHERNOW, MARI

Rabbi Mari Chernow joined the Temple Chai team in 2003 and was installed as Senior Rabbi in 2009. Her rabbinic passions include the Jewish healing movement, the study of Biblical literature and the power of vibrant worship. Rabbi Chernow graduated from UC San Diego and was ordained from the Los Angeles campus of the Hebrew Union College (HUC-LA). She is a graduate of the Shalom Hartman Institute three-year Rabbinic Leadership Initiative. She currently serves on the Board of Overseers of HUC-LA, the Reform Movement Think Tank and the Board of Directors of Pardes Jewish Day School.

COOPER, JUSTIN

Justin believes that he would not be where he is today without his Jewish upbringing, from USY to spiritual guidance from his Chabad Rabbi. He has learned lessons from overcoming extensive personal obstacles like losing his vision in his early twenties, which became fuel at a turning point in his life. Those lessons have driven his dedication to be the best, which has led to him being honored as Atlanta's "Power 30 Under 30" and given him the opportunity to meet his Jewish soulmate on Bravo's *Millionaire Matchmaker*.

DAVIS, JILL

Jill Davis has been working in the mental health field for over 40 years with families, couples, adolescents, children and now babies and their moms, dads, grandparents and caregivers. She uses humor, empathy and kindness to assist people in learning how to have better relationships with themselves and others. A graduate of the University of Michigan with a B.A. and an M.S.W., Jill has authored two books, *Life's a Trip* for high school students and *The ABC'S of What You Can Be*.

DEITSCH, MENDY

Rabbi Deitsch is a graduate of Central Yeshiva Tomchei Tmimim Lubavitch Rabbinical Seminary in Brooklyn, New York. He has majored in Kabbala and Jewish Mysticism, has traveled to Bangkok, Singapore, Central America, Russia and Australia teaching Kabbala and Jewish mysticism. He serves as Rabbi and Director of Chabad of the East Valley and he is the Director of Pollack Chabad Center for Jewish Life. He is married and is the father of nine children.

GOLDSTEIN, LAURA

Laura Goldstein is a lifelong lover of beautiful letters. From doodling during school to studying calligraphy with master teachers, she is continually intrigued by letters and their shapes. After being introduced to Hebrew calligraphy in a class at her shul, she was inspired to write the ketubah for her own wedding. She has since been commissioned to write ketubot for other couples and continues to study the art of calligraphy. She is the Curatorial Assistant at the Musical Instrument Museum and a professional harpist and teacher.

GOLIN, PAUL

Paul Golin is associate executive director of Big Tent Judaism/Jewish Outreach Institute, a national, independent, transdenominational organization reaching out to unaffiliated Jewish families with an emphasis on engaging intermarried households and helping the organized Jewish community better welcome them in. Paul consults with synagogues and other Jewish organizations on engagement and marketing, and is a frequent writer and speaker on Jewish inclusion. He co-authored two books with Rabbi Kerry Olitzky, *How to Raise Jewish Children Even When You're Not Jewish Yourself* (2010) and *Twenty Things for Grandparents of Interfaith Grandchildren To Do (And Not Do) To Nurture Jewish Identity In Their Grandchildren* (2007). Paul is the white Ashkenazi half of a "Jewpanese" (Jewish/Japanese) Jewish multiracial household. He maintains the Jewpanese page on Facebook and tweets @paulgolin.

GOTLIB, SYLVIA

Sylvia Gotlib is a lifelong book lover with a Master's degree in English. She taught English literature for several years. A book club member for well over 30 years, she currently participates in three different book clubs. Her involvement in Jewish Book Fair has been going strong over the past twenty years, both in Detroit and Arizona. She has co-chaired the event multiple times and been in charge of the book selection for the event. Sylvia has attended the Book Expo America publishing convention at least ten times, reads well over 100 books a year, and also reads multiple publications about books, both in print and online.

PRESENTER BIOS

GRAFSTEIN, SARAH LEAH

ruach.org

Reb Sarah Leah founded Ruach Hamidbar – Spirit of the Desert in 1989. She is committed to inspiring, educating and supporting people to joyfully experience and celebrate their Jewishness. Reb Sarah Leah blends her background in the arts and traditional Judaism with Jewish renewal spirituality, chassidut and kabbalah. Her mentors include Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach and Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi from whom she received her Rabbinic ordination. Reb Sarah Leah is also an accomplished documentarian and is the producer of a growing multi-volume DVD library on the topic of Jewish Renewal. She is currently completing a feature documentary about Jewish Renewal.

HERZOG, TODD

toddherzog.com

Todd Herzog is an artist who takes the material of life experiences and creates soulful, spiritual acoustic pop music that's at the intersection of John Mayer, Jason Mraz and Josh Groban. His mission is to use music to achieve a deeper understanding of life and spirituality and to share that understanding with others. His award-winning music has been featured in television and film in shows such as *Brotherhood*, *The Young & The Restless*, *All My Children*, *One Life To Live*, *Who Wants To Marry My Dad?*, *The Osbournes*, and *Melrose Place*. He is the Cantorial Soloist at Temple Solel in Paradise Valley, AZ.

HIRSCH, SHERRE

sherrehirsch.com

Rabbi Sherre Hirsch is President of Sherre Hirsch Inc. Based in LA, she has been sharing her intimate and friendly style with people in all kinds of "pulpits," from *The Today Show* to small Southern Baptist churches. She serves as the spiritual life consultant for Canyon Ranch Properties as a speaker, teacher and retreat facilitator for their constituency of 25,000 guests. She is also a frequent writer and contributor for magazines and online websites, and an inspirational speaker for corporations throughout the US. Her first book, *We Plan, God Laughs: What to Do When Life Hits You Over the Head* (Doubleday), was published in April 2008. Her second book, *Thresholds: How to Thrive Through Life's Transitions* was published by Random House in 2014. It explores the way we handle threshold moments in our lives and how we can move forward in seeing them as opportunities rather than obstacles.

JOSEPHS, ALLISON

jewinthecity.com

Allison has been involved in the field of Jewish Outreach for over a dozen years, teaching and lecturing, working at Partners in Torah, Sinai Retreats, and NCSY, and is the Partner in Torah mentor to actress Mayim Bialik. She was named one of NJOP's Top Ten Jewish Influencers in 2012 and was one of the Jewish Week's 36 under 36 in 2013. Allison has been quoted or written about in numerous publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *CNN*, *The Daily Beast*, *Huffington Post*, and *Yahoo News*. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University in Philosophy and lives with her husband and four children minutes from the George Washington Bridge.

KADER, DAVID

David Kader is a professor of law at Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, where he has taught since 1979. He taught at Cambridge University in England in the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies summer abroad program a course entitled *The Merchant of Justice: Shakespeare and the Law of Elizabethan England*, upon which his Limmud AZ offering is based: *Why Shylock?*

KAHN, STEPHEN

Rabbi Stephen Kahn was born in San Francisco, California. After receiving his B.A. in Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz, Rabbi Kahn attended the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion where he was ordained as a rabbi in 1995. He became Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel in July of 2003. Rabbi Kahn's passion for Jewish education, youth work and his dedication for creating an inter-generational congregation has guided him throughout his years in the rabbinate.

KANTER, ELANA

womenlearning.org

Rabbi Elana Kanter, Director of the Women's Jewish Learning Center, is a graduate of Barnard College and a member of the first class of women rabbis of the Jewish Theological Seminary. She was ordained in 1989. In 1998, Rabbi Kanter received the Covenant Award for Exceptional Jewish Educators for her work in Adult Jewish Learning. The Women's Jewish Learning Center has been selected for the *Slingshot Guide*, a publication that honors innovative programs in Jewish learning, for the past three years.

PRESENTER BIOS

KENZER, GARY

honestreporting.com

Gary Kenzer holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Chicago Jane Addams College of Social Work. He is a member of the Conservative and Reform Educators Associations and has published articles and been on television and radio programs throughout the USA speaking about issues in Israel. He is the first USA Director of Honest Reporting.com and has held that position since 2006.

KLEINBERG, DARREN

Darren Kleinberg is Head of School at Kehillah Jewish High School in Palo Alto, CA. Previously he served as the founding Executive Director of Valley Beit Midrash in Phoenix, AZ. Ordained in 2005, Darren recently completed his Ph.D. at Arizona State University. The title of his dissertation is: *Hybrid Judaism: Irving Greenberg and the Encounter with American Jewish Identity*.

KURLAND, ORA

Ora Kurland recently relocated to Phoenix from the New York area where she had been working as a teacher/administrator in Jewish Education for over thirty years. She has also been an avid Israeli folk dancer since her college years. She has taught folk dancing to children and adults in a variety of settings, coordinated dance performances and has also presented teacher training workshops for the New York Board of Jewish Education and CAJE.

LAVINSKY, ARTHUR

bethelphoenix.com

Arthur Lavinsky has been the rabbi of Beth El Congregation since the summer of 2003. Raised in New York, Lavinsky is a graduate of Columbia University where he majored in psychology and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America where he pursued a degree in Talmud, and was ordained as a rabbi in 1981. He received his Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in December of 2007. Lavinsky has earned a reputation as a charismatic teacher and preacher. Committed to the three pillars of Torah, *Avodah*, and *Gemilut Chassadim* (Torah Study, Divine Service, and Acts of Loving-kindness) he has consistently endeavored to empower his congregants to take an active role in all facets of Jewish life. He is also a retired Chaplain (Lieutenant Commander) in the United States Navy.

LEFLER, STAV

A native of Israel, after completing his service in the IDF, Stav Lefler started studying in the School of Tourism in Israel and has training as a graphologist and handwriting expert. An active tour guide in Israel since 2000, his experience includes leading 82 Taglit-Birthright Israel groups and many others, mostly with the Jewish-American community. He represented Birthright at the GA of 2002 in Baltimore as the first tour guide on that stage. Stav studied Middle Eastern Studies at Tel Aviv University and Music at Rimon School.

LINDER, JOHN

templesolel.org

John A. Linder has served as Senior Rabbi at Temple Solel in Paradise Valley, Arizona since 2008, following 5 years at B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim in Glenview, IL. Prior to his ordination in 2003 from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, John worked in his family's scrap metal business, United Alloys & Steel Corp. in Buffalo, NY, and prior to that, served as a union organizer with the Hospital and Health Care Employees Union, 1199, AFL-CIO. John is blessed with his bride of 29 years, Nancy Levy Linder, and son David, a graduate student at ASU.

MIRSKY, REBEKAH

Cantor Rebekah Mirsky is a 2010 ordinee of the Academy for Jewish Religion in Los Angeles. Her passion is Jewish liturgy and the interpretation of text. She has just completed her CD *Who is Like You*, which was produced by Sam Glaser. In her previous life as a recording artist and songwriter she received radio play all over the USA and toured and opened for Emmy Lou Harris, Lucinda Williams, Tom Paxton and others. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband Lawrence Price, a psychotherapist.

NAKHAI, BETH ALPERT

Beth Alpert Nakhai is Associate Professor in the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies and the School of Anthropology at The University of Arizona in Tucson. She teaches courses on archaeology, Hebrew Bible, Near Eastern history and the lives of women in ancient Israel. She received her M.T.S. from Harvard Divinity School, and her M.A. and Ph.D. from The University of Arizona. Her books include *Archeology and the Religions of Canaan and Israel* and a number of edited volumes.

PRESENTER BIOS

POLLACK, ADAM

birthrightisraelnext.org

Adam Pollack joined the NEXT team as the Senior Western Regional Director in 2012 where he provides training and consultation to organizations seeking to maximize the impact of the Birthright Israel experience. Prior to NEXT, Adam worked as a Program Officer at the Covenant Foundation, where he managed grants and special events. He has also worked at the National Ramah Commission, the Harold Grinspoon Institute, and the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS). Adam earned his M.A. in Jewish education from JTS and his B.A. from Muhlenberg College. He spends much of his leisure time running, biking, and volunteering.

PRINZ, DEBORAH

onthechocolatetrail.org

Rabbi Deborah Prinz is the Rabbi Emerita of Temple Adat Shalom, Poway, California, where she served as its Senior Rabbi for almost twenty years. Prior to that, she served a congregation in Bergen County, New Jersey, as well as Central Synagogue in Manhattan. In 1991, she was named "Woman of the Year" by Brandeis National Women's Committee. Rabbi Prinz is married to Rabbi Mark Hurvitz. She is the proud mother of Avigail, Noam, and Rachel, and is the amazed grandmother of Amiel and Pele.

ROSENBLATT, GARY

thejewishweek.com

Gary Rosenblatt has been editor and publisher of *The Jewish Week of New York*, the largest Jewish newspaper in America, since the summer of 1993. Prior to that he was editor of *The Baltimore Jewish Times* for 19 years. He has received numerous awards, including Finalist for The Pulitzer Prize. His book *Between The Lines: Reflections on American Jewish Life* is a collection of 20 years of his *Jewish Week* columns and deals with a wide range of topics, including investigative exposés, personal essays and humorous pieces.

ROSS, MICHAEL ALAN

Michael Alan Ross leads tours of Phoenix & Scottsdale Jewish history sites for the Arizona Jewish Historical Society and the Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center, and teaches a class for the Bureau of Jewish Education. He previously authored *BostonWalks*, *The Jewish Friendship Trail Guidebook*, *The Ten Commandments Guidebook*, and a 3-act screenplay *When Einstein Met Brandeis*. For many years, Mr. Ross had an active law practice. Today, he is blessed to be married to Shaindel and to be the active dad of two children, Ora and Bella.

SAKOFFS, JUSTIN

magneticshul.com

Justin is a father, educator and entrepreneur. He has traveled across the US, Canada and Israel to develop himself, improve education and create learning opportunities for learners of all ages. He is a passionate human-centered educator. He believes in meeting people (of any age) at their level and giving them appropriate ways to access experiences in order to learn and grow. From this, he created a children's toy and ultimately an enterprise to radically change the face of children's media for the Jewish experience. Professionally, Justin has worked in day schools, afternoon schools, synagogues as a youth director and Montessori environments. He and his wife Rachel are proud parents of Amit and Mira.

SAMUELSON, HAVA

Hava Samuelson is the Irving and Miriam Lowe Professor of Modern Judaism, Director of Jewish Studies, and Professor of History at Arizona State University. Born in Israel in 1950, she received a B.A. in 1973 and Ph.D. in 1978. Hava has taught at Columbia University (1980-1988), Emory University 1988-1990, Indiana University 1990-1998) and Arizona State University 1999-present. She is the author of 2 books, 50 essays, 20 book reviews, and 20 encyclopedic essays, and the editor of 16 books.

SARNA, DEBORAH

Deborah Sarna is the director of the Raker Religious School at Temple Solel in Paradise Valley, AZ. She brings over 25 years of educational experience in the areas of Jewish and secular elementary education. In addition, she coordinates various aspects of programming and involvement for Temple Solel's youth population.

SCHNEIDER, JEREMY

templekolami.org

A proud, native Texan, Rabbi Jeremy Schneider grew up in Houston, attended the University of Texas in Austin earning a Bachelor of Science in Applied Learning and Development, and attended seminary at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion where he received a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters and a Master of Arts in

PRESENTER BIOS

Jewish Education. Rabbi Schneider serves Temple Kol Ami in Scottsdale for the last three years. Before coming to Arizona, he served Temple Shalom for five years in Dallas, Texas. Currently, Rabbi Schneider serves as the Vice President of the Greater Phoenix Board of Rabbis.

SHAPIRO, DEAN

beitdean.blogspot.com

Rabbi Dean Shapiro serves Temple Emanuel of Tempe. For Rabbi Shapiro, synagogue is a place for personal growth and communal action, for enriching lives through learning, prayer, culture, and care for the vulnerable. He loves teaching people of all ages, and serving as a guide on Jewish journeys. Rabbi Dean received his Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and his Bachelor's Degree from Harvard College. He also holds a Certificate in Jewish Communal Service from HUC-JIR. As a rabbinical student, Shapiro joined American Jewish World Service's service learning trip to El Salvador, a profound experience of the Jewish value of social justice.

SILVER, JACK

humanjew.com

Certified as a Madrikh by the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism, Jack Silver has served as Ceremonial Leader for Or Adam Congregation here in the valley and also occasionally serves as a rabbi for the Jewish Secular Circle in Tucson. He has been a guest leader at the Birmingham Temple in Michigan. For the past three years, Jack has functioned as a cruise ship rabbi during the High Holidays and Passover. Additionally, Jack is a licensed professional social worker who is currently the Director of Jewish Counseling Services with JFCS. He has worked as clinician, educator, and chief executive officer. Jack retired from the U.S. Army as a Lt. Colonel.

SILVERSTEIN, CARY

Cary Silverstein is the President and CEO of SMA, LLC & The Negotiating Edge, a consulting group that focuses on conflict resolution and negotiation skill development. He was a senior professor at DeVry University/Keller Graduate School in Wisconsin for over 22 years. Cary and his wife Susie serve on Mazon's National Advocacy Committee and are members of the family that established the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies. Cary holds an M.B.A. from Long Island University's Arthur T. Roth School of Business in Marketing and Organizational Behavior. His interest and study in Jewish history and genealogy leads him to the fascinating topics that he will share at Limmud AZ.

TYRE, AMY

Amy Tyre's warmth, wisdom, humor and kindness permeate her yoga classes allowing her students the opportunity to feel nurtured, engaged and challenged. Her 15 plus years of practice and deep love of yoga shine through in every class, as she strives to meet each student wherever they are, both on and off the mat. Highly influenced by Astanga, Anusara and Bikram styles of yoga, Amy's teaching style is compassionate and instructive, often drawing couples and multiple generations of family members to her classes. Off the mat, she enjoys hiking, biking and indulging her senses at the local farmers' market.

WASSERMAN, MICHAEL

thenewshul.org

Michael Wasserman serves as co-Rabbi of The New Shul. He is a graduate of Harvard University, the Jewish Theological Seminary, and the Shalom Hartman Institute's Rabbinic Leadership Initiative. He has published numerous articles in professional and academic journals; his most recent article, *The Vendor Trap: Why Selling Spirituality Doesn't Work*, appeared in eJewishphilanthropy.

WEINER, MERLE

Merle Weiner became interested in the art of tallit making years ago when her rabbi spoke one day about where his own tallit had originated and why it was important to him. She started teaching classes on tallit making after she found a company that sold kits with the needed materials. Since then she has presented at many tallit making classes and finds that people who make their own tallit find their tallit more personal and meaningful.

YANKLOWITZ, SHMULY

valleybeitmidrash.org

Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz is the Executive Director of the Valley Beit Midrash. He is a modern Orthodox Rabbi, activist, educator, author, motivational speaker, social entrepreneur, the founder and president of Uri L'Tzedek, the Orthodox Jewish social justice organization, and the founder and CEO of The Shamayim V'Aretz Institute. In March 2012 and in March 2013, *Newsweek* called Yanklowitz one of the most influential rabbis in America.

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