

Limmud *AZ*

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

PROGRAM GUIDE

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A special thanks to all our community partners and everyone who helped to make Limmud AZ 2020 possible.

AND THANKS TO OUR STEERING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS:

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Special thank you to our cohort of Limmud AZ Ambassadors! Watch for them in the pink shirts for questions and help during the day!

LETTER FROM LIMMUD NORTH AMERICA'S NATIONAL DIRECTOR

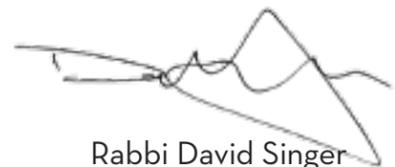
Our sages taught that when two Jews learn together the Divine presence dwells among them. How much more so does today's programming bring holiness into our world!

By attending today, you are joining a global movement to break down barriers and increase understanding and curiosity, a movement that says that every Jewish person is equal heir to a magnificent heritage. We believe firmly that the Jewish community thrives when we build more opportunities for connecting and engaging.

Limmud AZ is a leader in the field, and we salute and recognize your hard work bringing together Jewish community for such an important day of learning and connecting. Yasher koach!

Thank you for helping us to animate and re-imagine Jewish community across North America.

L'shalom,



Rabbi David Singer
National Director, Limmud North America



Animating Jewish Community



LIMMUD NORTH AMERICA IS PROUD TO SUPPORT LIMMUD AZ

LEARN MORE: LIMMUDNA.ORG

אנחנו הוזחתי
כדל מסנסע
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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.

Thank you
Limmud for all that you do to educate,
inspire and bring our community together.



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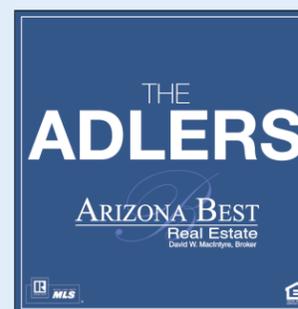
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A PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AGES 25-45

- 1. Monthly Group Study Sessions**
A Jewish lens on leadership and networking
- 2. Monthly meetings with an experienced mentor**
Skills & project development
- 3. A Community Project**
Launched, executed by mentee with mentor help

Applications for 2020-21 Cohort 5
close at the end of February 2020

For more information, contact Rabbi Elana Kanter
elanakanter@womenlearning.org



MINKOFF CENTER FOR JEWISH GENETICS

Knowledge is Power

Know your genetic risks & options

Our Center has two programs- Prenatal
testing for Jewish young adults and BRCA
Founder mutation screening for those men
and women with Ashkenazi ancestry.

Our mission is to provide awareness,
knowledge, and screening to empower the
Jewish community to make informed
decisions regarding genetic diseases.

Register online:
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In Recognition of Jewish Disability Awareness,
Acceptance & Inclusion Month
Geshher Disability Resources is proud to sponsor
Rachel Simon, author

Presentation:
"The Story of Beautiful Girl - COMMUNITY READ"

CLASS SCHEDULE

9:00AM-10:00AM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Jewish Music From the Ancient Israelites to 1900 C.E.***

PRESENTER: **Michael Steingart**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 241A Ventana**

What makes Jewish music Jewish? Let's travel through time wandering with Moses to hear the Song of Songs on the banks of the Sinai, enter the Promised Land to attend an instrumental Shabbat Service, and listen to King David perform. Through a tympanic thunderstorm of events, the Jews are soon scattered like seeds, windblown through Europe and Asia, where the foundation for Klezmer and the music of the Sephardim are planted. The modern symphony of Jewish music has just begun.

"Praise him with the trumpet sound, praise him with the lute and the harp", says Psalm 150. According to the Baal Shem Tov, God illuminated the world with music. The Kabbalists believed music to be the spiritual connect to Judaism. While today we are enjoying the diversity of our heritage through an orchestrated medley of different harmonies, the musical chords that bind the fabric of our tradition will lead us on this journey of what makes Jewish music Jewish. Listen in and enjoy.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Healthy Aging***

PRESENTER: **Larry Waldman**

TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves**

ROOM: **MU 242 La Paz**

A discussion of the current research on healthy aging—including strength training, aerobics, flexibility, balance, socialization, emotional and spiritual issues.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Love and Death in Rhodes—Where Archaeology and Biblical History Meet***

PRESENTER: **Marcia Fine**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Marcia Fine shares her research about why the island of Rhodes was so important in Jewish history. With Byzantines, Romans, Crusaders, Ottomans, Italians and Germans as occupiers, how did they survive? In her newly released novel, LOVE and DEATH in RHODES she explores the true stories of one woman's escape, the false prophet, Shabbatai Tzvi, and Babatha, a woman who owned date farms in biblical times and left her treasures in the Cave of Letters.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Beth Hebrew Experience***

PRESENTER: **Michael Levine**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

I'd like to introduce you to a story in Phoenix that is unique. I own Beth Hebrew, a 1955 mid-century Synagogue in Phoenix, Arizona, that was co-founded by Holocaust survivors. One of the founders, Elias Loewy, helped free 1,500 people from Vichy internment camps. His son Fred was the youngest French lieutenant at the end of the war. The Jewish architect of Beth Hebrew, Max Kaufman, designed it based on the address of the building – 333 E Portland St – and its relation to the synodic month and 18, or chai. The design of the architecture reveals why 18 is chai. The Holocaust testimony of Elias's son Fred exists today because it was recorded by USC Shoah Foundation in 1996. USC Shoah Foundation is the creation of a kid who was Bar Mitzvah'd in 1960, at the Synagogue founded by Fred's father, Elias Loewy.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Divine Relationships Through Shekhina***

PRESENTER: **Na'amah Segel Karas**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 246 Coconino**

How to build an authentic bond by knowing yourself and your partner through *Shekhina*-focused connection.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Conversations Regarding your Wishes, Jewish Style!***

PRESENTER: **Wendy Blum, Monica McCullough**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 238 Apache**

Have you thought about how you'd like your last months/days of life to look? Join us in a discussion on how to have those end of life conversations. Do you want to hear the music of Frank Sinatra, The Beatles or just have a peaceful quiet environment when you are ill? This will be an interactive activity to help foster your communication so no one has to guess at what you or your loved ones preferences are. Be prepared BEFORE that time comes.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Abundance: Our Journey in Urban Gardening***

PRESENTER: **Jolene Kutty**

TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Dr. Jolene Kutty of Kutty Chiropractic created an urban farm paradise from an empty lot of clay dirt. Inspired by family and health, learn about how you too can make your garden vision a reality. Learn how gardening is in keeping with Jewish values. Gardening in Phoenix can bring abundant harvests, help you engage with your community, and enable you to live your best health.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Power of Unplugging and De-Stressing - A Shabbat Lifestyle***

PRESENTER: **Sharon Stills**

TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves**

ROOM: **MU 241C Ventana**

The world has turned into a toxic and stressful place. Observing Shabbat is a powerful way to reconnect each week and help yourself heal. Dr. Stills will guide us and give us powerful action tips to implement in your life every day to harness the energy natural healing techniques she uses with patients every day.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Israeli Pioneering and Making the Desert Bloom***

PRESENTER: **Jennifer Sosnow**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

In this session, we will explore the changes taking place in Israel's Negev Desert. We will explore how the Negev has gone from an uninhabitable expanse to a thriving ecosystem of humanity, and how the Jewish National Fund is making the pioneering dream a reality for citizens of all religions and ethnicities. We'll talk geography, explore some JNF projects and partners in the region, and discuss what has been done and what can be done to further the connection between Arizona and Be'er Sheva- the Capital of the Negev and Israel's fastest growing city.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Digging Into The Depths of the Soul through Meditation***

PRESENTER: **Micah Caplan**

TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

The presentation will begin with guided imagery, melodic chants and meditative breathing techniques, bringing calm and serenity to the healthfulness of the body. Meditation has been a part of Judaism for several thousands years and is still relevant today. Please join us for a moving morning to begin your day at Limmud AZ 2020.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Spiritual Awakening in Judaism***

PRESENTER: **Brian Yosef Schachter-Brooks**

TOPIC: **Sacred Text**

ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Spiritual awakening is the realization that you are far more than your thoughts and feelings. Beneath your personality, there's a radiant field of awareness, free from negativity and connected to the aliveness of the present moment. The spiritual awakening traditions of the east are familiar to many people, but Jewish teachings and practices on awakening are far less known. In this workshop we will look at Torah and rabbinic texts through this self-transformational lens, as well as learn a foundational practice for accessing the experience of inner freedom inherent within our own field of awareness.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Holocaust by Bullets: A Little Known Part of the Holocaust***
 PRESENTER: **Sheryl Bronkesh** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 241B Ventana**

Name three concentration camps. Most Jews can do that without a problem. Now name three sites where thousands of Jews were murdered by bullets during the Holocaust. Stumped. This Limmud session on Holocaust by Bullets will unsilence a chapter of history that has remained silent for far too long. This session will introduce participants to Father Patrick Desbois, a French Catholic priest who has dedicated his life to researching the Holocaust and fighting anti-Semitism. Through more than 150 research trips to Eastern Europe, the priest and his team have identified over 2,600 mass graves and interviewed over 6,300 eyewitnesses. These researchers have documented the deaths of over 2 million Jews killed by bullets by roving German units and their collaborators.

In this session you will listen to eyewitnesses, most of whom had never spoken about what they saw as children until asked by Father Desbois. Learn the five steps of the crime. Understand how and why women, men, and children watched or participated in the murder of their neighbors. You will also travel with presenter Sheryl Bronkesh when she traveled with her 88-year-old mother back to Ukraine to say Kaddish at the site of the mass grave where their relatives were murdered by bullets. You will come away with a better understanding of the need to keep lessons of the Holocaust alive and relevant to younger generations and will be shown the relevance of the Holocaust to present day genocides.

10:15AM-11:15AM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Crocheting for Health***
 PRESENTER: **Deb Madsen** TOPIC: **Arts & Culture** ROOM: **MU 221 Arizona**

Various levels of skilled or unskilled crocheters welcome. Simple to more detailed projects can be instructed simultaneously. Item such as washcloth with design which can be completed within length of an hour....or very close. Item such as yarmulke for more advanced crocheters. Yarn, suggest 2 colors 100% cotton - \$2.50 per skein at event; Crochet hook (G,H or I), \$2.50 at event; Darning/Crochet needle; Tapestry Scissors; Darning/Crochet needle; Printed Patterns given to each - various levels. **Yarn & hook can be purchased at presentation or brought by participant.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Fiction vs Non-Fiction stories: Which Are More Unbelievable?***
 PRESENTER: **Judy Laufer** TOPIC: **Arts & Culture** ROOM: **MU 241B Ventana**

It is often said "truth is stranger than fiction". Come, to hear and experience how true that statement is. Her second book released "Hidden Pearl" will certainly raise as many questions as it answers. You will be introduced to the magical world of "Gigglyville" in her four children's books and captivated by the unimaginable true stories that unfold in the two YA/Adult books, that are now available. Judy is very proud to be back at Limmud again to spend some time teaching and learning.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***At the Mikveh: Immerse in Creativity and Spirituality***
 PRESENTERS: **Amber Caulkins** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Learn about the ancient and contemporary reasons people immerse in a mikveh, explore how you can make this ritual meaningful in your own life, and discover creative approaches to designing your own immersion ceremony. Participants will leave with a better understanding of the modern mikveh movement, ideas and resources for creating their own meaningful mikveh practice, and a deeper knowledge of how the mikveh can be a place for healing, transformation and renewal.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Story of Beautiful Girl – COMMUNITY READ***
 PRESENTER: **Rachel Simon, Amy Hummel** TOPIC: **Israel** ROOM: **MU 241C Ventana**

Join author Rachel Simon and Gesher Disability Resources executive director Amy Hummel in discussing "The Story of Beautiful." If possible read the book in advance. Summary of the book: It is 1968. Lynnie, a young white woman with a developmental disability, and Homan, an African American deaf man, are locked away in an institution, the School for the Incurable and Feebleminded, and have been left to languish, forgotten. The rest of the story is their adventure together toward a more normal life. New York Times Best Seller and 4.5 stars on Amazon.com.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Writing Memoir Through a Jewish Lens: A Workshop***
 PRESENTER: **Linda Pressman** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

How do we make certain that our Jewish stories, our personal histories, are not lost? How do we tell our unique story that, somehow, has so much in common with others' – the clashing of Christmas and Hanukkah, the food, synagogue rituals, Yiddish, crazy relatives who are crazy in a certain Jewish way? Conversion stories, a secular or religious journey, Israel stories, wedding and divorce stories – there are many stories to tell.

Many people feel they have a story to tell that must be told, but when they sit down to write, the words don't come. Or they don't come out the way they appeared in our minds. Sometimes they're boring, other times the story grinds to a halt, and others lose the exact flavor of Jewish life with which we were trying to imbue them. In this workshop, Linda Pressman, the award-winning author of Looking Up: A Memoir of Sisters, Survivors and Skokie, a story of her own Jewish childhood, teaches some of the best methods she's learned in twenty years of study to access your Jewish story and get the words down in a way that you'll be proud to have others read. With some short examples from literature and some quick writing exercises shared (or not shared) in a safe, mini-workshop atmosphere, you can learn the most important thing about telling your story: beginning.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Social Justice Gone Wild—Does Judaism Provide Any Help?***
 PRESENTER: **Gerry Burk** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 246 Coconino**

The internet and the information age have brought about a new wave of how we view someone. No longer do we look at the person in front of us the same way as in the past. We want to know who that person was and what they did. Today, we hold a person responsible for acts done in their youth. Is that a proper way to evaluate the person?

Is it fair to evaluate the person for a job because they voted for someone you wouldn't? Should a school be allowed not to hire someone who violates their cardinal beliefs? Should we shame a religious group for adhering to their principles? Should a person's donation to a cause be grounds for firing them? Should one be allowed to speak their viewpoint, even if its hurtful to our way of thinking? And what if the person changed their ways and is no longer that 'same' person, do we have a right to hold that person accountable? This problem was grappled with by the great Jewish leaders in our past and they have eloquently defined some rules for us to follow. This course will discuss some of those rules.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The First World War and the Jews***
 PRESENTER: **Lawrence Bell** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 241A Ventana**

This is a presentation about the role of Jews in the First World War and its legacies for Jewish history.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Jewish Enlightenment***

PRESENTER: **Stanley Mirvis**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Stanley Mirvis will explore the history of the Jewish Enlightenment (haskalah) of the late 18th century. This survey style session will include discussions of major figures such as Moses Mendelssohn, Naftali Herz Wessely, and Isaac Euchel and some of the major trends including philosophical, literary, and social. This course is a cultural holistic and geographically expansive look at the haskalah.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Three Contemporary Genocides: Bosnia, Myanmar and China***

PRESENTERS: **John Liffiton**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

The Holocaust ended 79 years ago, but genocides continue to happen. This presentation discusses the Bosnian Genocide of the 1990s, and the Rohingya and Uighur genocides that are currently happening. Background information as to why these genocides happened, what transpired and what were or are the results politically and culturally.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Promoting Ethical Literacy With Our Children***

PRESENTER: **Peter Gordon**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 242 La Paz**

Discerning "right versus wrong" is what we develop in our children from a very young age. However, more and more, they are involved in situations and dilemmas that are framed as "right versus right". This session will explore the challenges of childhood through the lens of ethical decision making. Parents and educators will become familiar with the concept of universal values and how they inform the process of making good decisions. Additionally, parents will become familiar with the four ethical dilemma paradigms.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Ten Commandments to Discover the Best Marriages and Relationships***

PRESENTERS: **Deena Harari**

TOPIC: **Life Cycle**

ROOM: **MU 238 Apache**

Discover the 10 commandments to create the best marriages and relationships you can have. Relationships are what life is all about, but relationships can also be confusing stressful and complicated. This presentation breaks down some essential skills to help improve our relationship skills to build marriages/relationships that bring us to the best person we are meant to be.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Jewish Community Foundation's Keys to Writing a Successful Grant Proposal***

PRESENTERS: **Rich Kasper, Sheryl Quen**

TOPIC: **Off The Beaten Track**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

Most organizations aspire to secure at least some of their funding from foundations and other organizations that require written grant proposals. When great ideas don't receive funding, the reasons often lie within the grant proposal. In this session, you will learn some practical tools and tips to enhance the odds that your grant proposal will be well received, and that you will succeed in securing grants from the Jewish Community Foundation and other funders.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Yoga and the Value of Silence through a Jewish Lens***

PRESENTERS: **Madeline Dolgin**

TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves**

ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

Judaism is a tradition with a lot of words. Family gatherings are loud, rambunctious affairs and our prayers are filled with words, even the silent prayers. It is less well-known that Judaism values silence. Join us for a beginners vinyasa flow yoga class while exploring the value that incorporating silence can have on your life and well-being.

CLASS SCHEDULE

11:30AM-12:30PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Current Jewish books, Trends and Titles***

PRESENTERS: **Sylvia Gotlib**

TOPIC: **Arts & Culture**

ROOM: **MU 242 La Paz**

This presentation will be an overview of the trends in current Jewish writing discussing specific titles. A handout containing the books that will be discussed will be shared.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Both Sides Now: Looking at BDS***

PRESENTERS: **Howard Cabot, Vicki Cabot**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 241B Ventana**

What is BDS (Boycott Divest Sanctions) – a movement to apply non-violent pressure on Israel to further the rights and claims of Palestinians living in the occupied territories – and why has it enflamed both Palestinian sympathizers and Israeli supporters? While some see BDS as a legitimate boycott, others view it as a campaign rooted in anti-Semitism and directed at delegitimizing the State of Israel. Join us in a robust, timely discussion of BDS, BDS legislation, and the resulting legal and ethical issues raised by this controversial movement.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Diamond Jewry, The Evolution of Israel's Diamond Industry***

PRESENTERS: **Cary Silverstein**

TOPIC: **Israel**

ROOM: **MU 238 Apache**

Out of the darkness of the Inquisition in the 15th Century, the Jews of Spain and Portugal give birth to the diamond industry, which eventually finds its way from Antwerp to Palestine in the 20th Century.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today***

PRESENTERS: **Pam Nadell**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

In this groundbreaking history, Pamela Nadell asks: What does it mean to be a Jewish woman in America? Weaving together stories from the colonial era's matriarch Grace Nathan and her great-granddaughter poet Emma Lazarus to union organizer Bessie Hillman and the great justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Nadell shows two threads binding the nation's Jewish women: A strong sense of self and a resolute commitment to making the world a better place. Informed by the shared values of America's founding and Jewish identity, America's Jewish women—the well-known and the scores of activists, workers, wives, and mothers whose names linger on among their communities and families—left deep footprints in the history of the nation they call home.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Curry and Kreplach: Unique Jewish Communities around the World***

PRESENTERS: **Dan Fellner**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 246 Coconino**

Take a virtual journey across some of the most interesting and off-the-beaten path Jewish communities on five different continents: from India's historic Bene Israel community, to Alaska's tight-knit "Frozen Chosen," to Ecuador's opulent JCC located just miles from the center of the world, to Myanmar's miraculous synagogue in Yangon. This talk will explore the survival and resilience of Jewish life in places you might least expect to find it.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Polski Affair – The More We Learned, The Less We Understood***

PRESENTERS: **Leon Gildin**

TOPIC: **Jewish Experience**

ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

When the Nazis invaded Poland on September 1, 1939 there were many visitors and foreign business people, both Jews and non-Jews in Poland. The Nazis did not want to antagonize the foreign governments from which these people came and evolved a scheme for returning them to their home countries. This scheme became the unfathomable story that took place at the Hotel Polski after the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto, and was discussed at the Nuremberg Trials.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***When Gravestones Lie***
 PRESENTERS: **Janette Silverman** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Gravestones are often the only resource we can consult when looking for family Hebrew names. What happens when the information on the gravestones is incorrect? This discussion will explore one genealogist's search for the truth behind what was written on a gravestone.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Guiding Compass: Why You Should Have End-Of-Life Conversations Now***
 PRESENTERS: **Liz Vaisben** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

In October of 2018, Liz spent a lovely weekend with her mother, Margaret, in honor of Margaret's 71st birthday. They enjoyed an outing in New York City, a visit to the local beach on Long Island Sound, and a birthday dinner in a favorite Indian restaurant. There was so much to be grateful for as Margaret pushed into the second year of her 70s. She was active with her local Hadassah, a key member of her local representative town meeting, a regular at her synagogue, and enjoyed outings with friends to plays, concerts and luncheons. Margaret was enjoying a healthy and active lifestyle in her retirement. Nonetheless, over the weekend, Liz had a difficult yet important end-of-life conversation with her mother that would serve as a critical decision-making compass just seven weeks later.

Please come hear Liz's story, learn from it, ask questions and participate in a conversation about the importance of having end-of-life conversations with your parents, spouse and/or children, BEFORE the conversation outcomes are needed!

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Mitzvah Matchmaker***
 PRESENTERS: **Michele Czopp** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Mitzvah Matchmaker is a discrete and complimentary Jewish Single Dating Service. Since Michele Czopp started this dating service in January 2019, she has interviewed, locally and state wide, hundreds of singles. Her goal in the future is to become a non profit and hire a Mitzvah Matchmaker in every state in the USA and in every country around the world. Assimilation is at a high of 70 percent in the USA and anti-Semitism is on the rise. There is a need to strengthen our Jewish Heritage. Please go directly to the website Mitzvahmatchmaker.com to learn more about Michele's mission and how to book an appointment.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Stand! Empowering Teens to be Proud Jews in an Increasingly Turbulent World***
 PRESENTERS: **Andre Ivory** TOPIC: **Off The Beaten Track** ROOM: **MU 241C Ventana**

This session is open to teens and parents concerned about establishing a positive Jewish identity in an increasingly troubled world. Kids today face such tough challenges, antisemitism, school violence, bullying, and a changing economy. This session will introduce 5 key steps in creating a positive Jewish identity for children and teens today.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Immigrant Rights in the Bible & Talmud***
 PRESENTERS: **Eddie Chavez Calderon** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 241A Ventana**

Eddie Chavez Calderon will approach the contemporary conversation about immigration through two unique modes: a text study Biblical and Talmudic teachings on immigrants and personal stories about life as an immigrant.

CLASS SCHEDULE

12:30PM-1:30PM LUNCH MU 221 ARIZONA

1:30PM-2:30PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***What if Israel Wasn't Created in 1948?***
 PRESENTER: **Moshe Apelas** TOPIC: **Israel** ROOM: **MU 238 Apache**

Let's assume the British kept administering the Palestinian mandate. How would the Middle East look today? Would American and European Jews have a different sense of being Jewish? What would become of the 850,000 Jews living in Arab countries in 1948? Would we still have the "startup nation" and all the technology that's come out of Israel?

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Lost in the Shoah: Reclaiming a Family's History***
 PRESENTER: **Janette Silverman** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

This presentation is a case study of a search for a family who was murdered during the Holocaust, many of whose names were also lost. We will discuss strategies of how to locate documents from the Shoah, and how to discover who the family was before it. During this presentation, we will explore how to go about reconnecting with our family's history in Eastern Europe.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***My Jewish Journey: Joy in the Potholes and the Smooth Pavement***
 PRESENTER: **Judy Schaffert** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 246 Coconino**

Every modern Jew is a Jew by choice, even those of us who were born into the tribe. Some take meandering paths to Jewish identification and activities, while others have followed a straighter line to their own Jewish expression. Attendees will hear stories of some famous and lesser-known paths to meaningful Jewish lives. Those who wish to will be encouraged to share their travels and the pleasures (and perhaps pitfalls) of the journey.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***Veiled Encounters***
 PRESENTER: **Vicki Cabot** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 241B Ventana**

A peek under the scarf, hat, snood, sheitel to explore the meaning of observant women's head coverings. In the midst of the #metoo movement and a surge in traditional religion, what do head coverings convey about women sexually, spiritually, politically, personally. We'll be taking a look into the heads—and hearts—of observant women from across the religious spectrum to better understand why they choose to cover up, and what it says about them, and us, now.

PRESENTATION TITLE: ***The Torah of Grief***
 PRESENTER: **Gila Silverman** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Jewish laws and traditions prescribe a fixed set of mourning rituals for the first week (shiva), month (shloshim) and year (aveilut) after a death, and annually beyond that. These rituals are designed to balance two core commandments: k'vod hamet - honoring the deceased, and nichum avelim - comforting the mourners. Where do these rituals come from, and what are they designed to do? In this workshop, we will study the texts from Torah and Talmud that form the basis for Jewish mourning rituals, and look at how these rituals facilitate the psychological processes of grief.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: **"Justly Spoke the Daughters of Tzelophehad" – Exploring Women's Voices in Bible and Talmud**
 PRESENTER: **A. Nitzan Stein Kokin** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

In this workshop we will take a deeper look at how the female voice of the daughters of Tzelophehad is heard and portrayed in the Biblical story and its ancient Rabbinic interpretation. What made the daughters so successful in the eyes of the Rabbis? This workshop will include small group—Hevruta style—study as well as group discussion. All are welcome.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Grandparents and the Importance of Storytelling**
 PRESENTER: **Alison Betts** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 241A Ventana**

Storytelling is a long-standing tradition for parents and grandparents around the world, but most especially for Jewish parents and grandparents. The very foundation of Judaism is reciting stories, both written and verbal, to teach our core values.

This session will explore:

- (1) The strong emotional connections that storytelling builds between children and grandparents as well as the kinds of deeper engagement that storytelling can bring to families.
- (2) The types of stories that matter most coming from parents & grandparents.
- (3) How to tell your stories. What are the resources and ideas that will provide a lasting resource for your grandchildren and help them maintain the story of your family?

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Gentile Heroes and Anti Heroes in the Tanach – From Jethro to Job**
 PRESENTER: **Michael Weil** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 242 La Paz**

The session will take the form of a discussion about why some gentiles are so significant in shaping early Jewish history in the Old Testament. We will learn about Jethro as the first management consultant and why Bilaam was called "the wicked", blessed Israel but finally succumbed; and how Job kept his faith despite being not Jewish. We will learn about the gentile women who saved the Jewish people like Pharaoh's daughter and Rahab the madam in Jericho. We will discuss what motivates non-Jews to risk their lives for Jews yet stay faithful to their own religion and why others used their spiritual powers sometimes for the Jewish people and sometimes against. Finally we will get to vote for our favorite hero.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Shabbat Journal: Writing As A Spiritual Practice**
 PRESENTER: **Nikki DeLeon Martin** TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves** ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

Learn how a brief daily writing practice can help you heal, connect, and create a meditative refuge in a fast-paced, demanding world.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **How To Keep Your Marriage Vows 'Til Death Do Us Part—Without Killing Someone First**
 PRESENTER: **Iris Krasnow** TOPIC: **Life Cycle** ROOM: **MU 241C Ventana**

Presentation will focus on long marriages, and what it takes to go the distance.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Creating Musical Midrash**
 PRESENTER: **Dannah Rubinstein** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 236 Mohave**

During this session, we will discuss how music functions during worship to create mood and tell a story. We will study a few texts and learn how music can deepen our understanding of Jewish prayer.

CLASS SCHEDULE

2:45PM-3:45PM

PRESENTATION TITLE: **From Agam to Chagall to Rothko: Jewish Visual Artists**
 PRESENTER: **David Benkof** TOPIC: **Arts & Culture** ROOM: **MU 241A Ventana**

Learn to recognize – and analyze – the work of Jewish visual artists from painters Marc Chagall and Ben Shahn; to sculptors Yaacov Agam and Judy Chicago; to photographers Diane Arbus and Annie Leibovitz. Cartoonist Al Jaffee, Pop Artist Roy Lichtenstein, etc. Participants will identify their own insights into seminal works by these creative geniuses.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **One Mitzvah+18 Reasons to Visit Israel!**
 PRESENTER: **Mindy Franklin** TOPIC: **Israel** ROOM: **MU 242 La Paz**

If You...Love food, history, the beach, travel, and meeting new and interesting people you will LOVE ISRAEL!

A trip to Israel is something you feel and experience. This is a country which gives you the opportunity to travel back about 3,000 years in Jerusalem and then a 10 minute walk brings you to a modern outdoor mall with incredible restaurants and stores. Or you can drive, take a bus, or train to Tel Aviv which is a mix of Miami and New York with beautiful beaches to museums, numerous high rises, and unusual architecture.

Or take a different route and volunteer with Volunteers for Israel on an IDF base. Working with other volunteers from around the world you will find adventure, learning, and purpose knowing you are making a difference.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Jewish Law and Social Media – Are They Compatible?**
 PRESENTER: **Gerry Burk** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 238 Apache**

With the advent of social media and the Internet, our ability to converse with another and share thoughts and ideas, praises and comments, love and hate has magnified exponentially. And in many cases, it has unleashed an unfortunate torrent. How should one conduct themselves when engaging this snarling monster? Must we remain civil at all times? And what does civil mean? What about answering these crazy comments with common sense, the truth and facts? How should one react when people have defined normal conversation or phrases as hate speech? Is there a proper code of conduct one should strive for when using this snarling monster? Jewish law has developed an extensive oeuvre in regards to how one should speak to another which is fully applicable to this new media. This course will introduce the basic ideas from classical Jewish sources that deal with this problem.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Rescue, Resilience, and Renewal: The Story of Beth Hebrew Phoenix**
 PRESENTER: **Volker Benkert, Marc Vance** TOPIC: **Jewish Experience** ROOM: **MU 236 Mojave**

Place is fundamental in human experience and the human condition. We enjoin and constitute place culturally and collectively, slipping and sliding into the future, generations unfolding, overlapping, and pushing forward as a fugue. Even far away from the places where the murder of the European Jews was perpetrated, Beth Hebrew, a mid-century Phoenix synagogue founded among others by a family who rescued 1500 Jews and non-Jews from a Vichy camp, stands as testimony to the Holocaust. The structure also shows how American Jews, survivors and those who had come earlier, were able to rescue their individual and collective life after the Holocaust by deliberately asserting the continuity with their religious past, defying the intents of the Nazis to make the world "free of Jews." The presentation will explore how scholars from diverse disciplines such as History, Religious Studies, Memory Studies, Jewish Studies and Geographers and Urban Planners can research the overlapping layers of memory of this place and communicate their importance to the wider public.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: **So You Want To Be A Published Author: Here's How**
PRESENTER: **Iris Krasnow** TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track** ROOM: **MU 241C Ventana**

Iris Krasnow will incorporate her 30 years experience as a college professor who teaches both students and faculty the fundamentals of how to take ideas and turn them into published works. This topic would be particularly valuable to older participants who had dreams of publishing a book and never got to it, or want to piece together memoirs for their children and grandchildren.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Mindful Movement with Mari**
PRESENTER: **Marriel Wilk** TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves** ROOM: **MU 207 Gold**

We will work through mindful movements and stretching, release stress inside and outside the body, and find our presence and gratitude through the the this meditative by practice. This is for all levels. All are welcome! I look forward to seeing you on your mat!

PRESENTATION TITLE: **You Are What You Eat – Kashrut in the 21st Century**
PRESENTER: **A. Nitzan Stein Kokin** TOPIC: **Our Bodies/Ourselves** ROOM: **MU 228 Cochise**

In this workshop we will explore biblical and rabbinical sources to explore the values of keeping kosher in a modern world that is based on industrialized mass food production. Our modern consumerism raises many questions regarding sustainability, treatment of factory workers, animal cruelty, fair trade and more. What do our biblical and rabbinic sources say about these modern issues? What can a wholesome kosher life look like? In this workshop we will explore the core values of Kashrut while at the same time reaching beyond the ritual aspects of kosher life.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **The Torah of Anti-Fragility: What Jewish Text Can Teach Us About Moving Beyond Resilience**
PRESENTER: **Suzy Stone** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 240 Navajo**

For the last 20 years, educators have been talking a lot about building a more resilient generation of students. But what if resilience is not enough in the face of the current American landscape? What can the Jewish texts and history teach us about moving beyond the notion of resilience? This interactive, discussion focused text-study will pull from multiple Jewish sources ranging from Torah to Kabbalah. As a campus rabbi working primarily with Gen Z, I will also be utilizing recent academic articles on the notion of anti-fragility.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Heretic! The Jewish Ethic of Religious Subversion, and Why it's OK to be Bad Jews.**
PRESENTER: **David Singer** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 224 Gila**

Studying a mix of ancient and modern texts, join Limmud North America National Director David Singer for an exploration of Jewish tradition's complicated love affair with cynicism, skepticism and moral outrage. You'll leave this session feeling a little better about all the terrible ways that you disagree with everything you think Judaism wants you to believe.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Can Women Say Kaddish?**
PRESENTERS: **Gila Silverman** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 226 Graham**

Saying kaddish is a central element of Jewish mourning rituals. Kaddish is to be recited by mourners every day for either 30 days (for a spouse, sibling or child) or 11 months (for a parent). Yet traditionally, women have been excluded from this ritual. What explains this exclusion? In this session, we will study texts from different periods in Jewish history that address women saying kaddish. We will examine the different justifications that have been given for women's exclusion from this important mourning ritual, as well as the interpretations, both traditional and modern, that have enabled Jewish feminists to reclaim this ritual.

CLASS SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION TITLE: **The AfterLife: Exploring the Soul's Journey in This World and the Next**
PRESENTER: **Pinchas Allouche** TOPIC: **Sacred Text** ROOM: **MU 241B Ventura**

Do Jews believe in heaven and hell? Can souls communicate with us from the heavens? Do we believe in Reincarnation and if so, how does it work? This session will explore the mysteries surrounding the spiritual dimension of our being. We will together examine the journey of the soul once it leaves the human body, and the many Jewish rituals and customs that help comfort those who were close to it. Besides for providing answers to life's big questions, this session will help us become more in touch with ourselves and it will help us discover a newfound relationship with our loved ones who are no longer here with us in body.

PRESENTATION TITLE: **Publishing in the Jewish News – How to Pitch Your Story**
PRESENTER: **Rich Solomon** TOPIC: **Off the Beaten Track** ROOM: **MU 246 Coconino**

This presentation will offer tips on how to submit articles to the newspaper, when to pitch a story, what is helpful in a press release, how to give a good quote, on the record vs. off the record vs. background information, etc.

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- the **intellectual, ethical, and theological dimensions** of Jewish medicine
- the **role of women and gender** in Jewish medical practices

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SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MU 207 GOLD

9:00 am	Digging Into The Depths of the Soul through Meditation	Caplan
10:15 am	Yoga and the Value of Silence through a Jewish Lens	Dolgin
2:45 pm	Mindful Movement with Mari	Wilk

MU 224 GILA

9:00 am	Abundance: Our Journey in Urban Gardening	Kuty
10:15 am	Three Contemporary Genocides: Bosnia, Myanmar and China	Liffiton
11:30 am	When Gravestones Lie	J. Silverman
1:30 pm	Lost in the Shoah: Reclaiming a Family's History	J. Silverman
2:45 pm	Heretic! The Jewish Ethic of Religious Subversion, and Why it's OK to be Bad Jews	Singer

MU 226 GRAHAM

9:00 am	Spiritual Awakening in Judaism	Schachter-Brooks
10:15 am	At the Mikveh: Immerse in Creativity and Spirituality	Caulkins
11:30 am	Guiding Compass: Why You Should Have End-Of-Life Conversations Now	Vaisben
1:30 pm	The Torah of Grief	G. Silverman
2:45 pm	Can Women Say Kaddish?	G. Silverman

MU 228 COCHISE

9:00 am	Love and Death in Rhodes--Where Archaeology and Biblical History Meet	Fine
10:15 am	The Jewish Enlightenment	Mirvis
11:30 am	Mitzvah Matchmaker	Czopp
1:30 pm	Shabbat Journal: Writing As A Spiritual Practice	DeLeon Martin
2:45 pm	You Are What You Eat - Kashrut in the 21st Century	Stein Kokin

MU 236 MOJAVE

9:00 am	Israeli Pioneering and Making the Desert Bloom	Sosnow
10:15 am	The Jewish Community Foundation's Keys to Writing a Successful Grant Proposal	Kasper
11:30 am	America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today	Nadell
1:30 pm	Creating Musical Midrash	Rubinstein
2:45 pm	Rescue, Resilience, and Renewal: The Story of Beth Hebrew Phoenix	Benkert

MU 238 APACHE

9:00 am	Conversations Regarding your Wishes, Jewish Style!	Blum
10:15 am	Ten Commandments to Discover the Best Marriages and Relationships	Harari
11:30 am	Diamond Jewry, The Evolution of Israel's Diamond Industry	Silverstein
1:30 pm	What if Israel Wasn't Created in 1948?	Apelas
2:45 pm	Jewish Law and Social Media - Are They Compatible?	Burk

MU 221 ARIZONA

10:15 am	Crocheting for Health	Madsen
12:30 pm	Community Kosher Lunch	

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

MU 240 NAVAJO

9:00 am	The Beth Hebrew Experience	Levine
10:15 am	Writing Memoir Through a Jewish Lens: A Workshop	Pressman
11:30 am	The Polski Affair - The More We Learned, The Less We Understood	Gildin
1:30 pm	"Justly Spoke the Daughters of Tzelophehad" – Exploring Women's Voices in Bible and Talmud	Stein Kokin
2:45 pm	The Torah of Anti-Fragility: What Jewish Text Can Teach Us About Moving Beyond Resilience	Stone

MU 241A VENTANA

9:00 am	Jewish Music From the Ancient Israelites to 1900 C.E.	Steingart
10:15 am	The First World War and the Jews	Bell
11:30 am	Immigrant Rights in the Bible & Talmud	Chavez Calderon
1:30 pm	Grandparents and the Importance of Storytelling	Betts
2:45 pm	From Agam to Chagall to Rothko: Jewish Visual Artists	Benkof

MU 241B VENTANA

9:00 am	Holocaust by Bullets: A Little Known Part of the Holocaust	Bronkesh
10:15 am	Fiction vs Non-Fiction stories: Which Are More Unbelievable?	Laufer
11:30 am	Both Sides Now: Looking at BDS	Cabot & Cabot
1:30 pm	Veiled Encounters	Cabot
2:45 pm	The AfterLife: Exploring the Soul's Journey in This World and the Next	Allouche

MU 241C VENTANA

9:00 am	The Power of Unplugging and De-Stressing - A Shabbat Lifestyle	Stills
10:15 am	The Story of Beautiful Girl - COMMUNITY READ	Simon, Hummel
11:30 am	Stand! Empowering Teens to be Proud Jews in an Increasingly Turbulent World	Ivory
1:30 pm	How To Keep Your Marriage Vows 'Til Death Do Us Part - Without Killing Someone First	Krasnow
2:45 pm	So You Want to be a Published Author: Here's How	Krasnow

MU 242 LA PAZ

9:00 am	Healthy Aging	Waldman
10:15 am	Promoting Ethical Literacy With Our Children	Gordon
11:30 am	Current Jewish Books, Trends and Titles	Gotlib
1:30 pm	Gentile Heroes and Anti Heroes in the Tanach - from Jethro to Job	Weil
2:45 pm	One Mitzvah+18 Reasons to Visit Israel!	Franklin

MU 246 COCONINO

9:00 am	Divine Relationships Through Shekhina	Segel Karas
10:15 am	Social Justice Gone Wild—Does Judaism Provide Any Help?	Burk
11:30 am	Curry and Kreplach: Unique Jewish Communities around the World	Fellner
1:30 am	My Jewish Journey: Joy in the Potholes and the Smooth Pavement	Schaffert
2:45pm	Publishing in the Jewish News—How to Pitch Your Story	Solomon

PRESENTER BIOS

ALLOUCHE, PINCHAS

Pinchas Allouche is the founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Tefillah in Scottsdale. He is a respected rabbinic figure, a renowned lecturer, and a prominent author of many essays on the Jewish faith, mysticism, and social criticism. Besides his academic pedigree, Allouche is richly cultural, having lived in France, where he was born, South Africa and Israel. He is fluent in English, Hebrew, French and Italian. He is also a blogger for the Huffington Post, Times of Israel and other large publications and was listed in the Jewish Daily Forward as one of America's 36 Most Inspiring Rabbis, who are shaping 21st Century Judaism.

APELAS, MOSHE

Moshe Apelas wrote flight plan software as an engineer in the US Air Force and also served as a Jewish chaplain.

BELL, LAWRENCE

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, Lawrence Bell received his Bachelor's Degree in History from Arizona State University and his Master's and Ph.D degrees in History from The Ohio State University. For the past 13 years, he has served as the Executive Director of the Arizona Jewish Historical Society where he has been involved in restoring Phoenix's first synagogue as the Cutler-Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center, a museum and cultural center open to people of all faiths. The center now hosts a variety of programs including regular exhibitions of Jewish history and art, a monthly documentary film series, book discussion group, genealogy society, and community archive. Lawrence Bell is also very passionate about promoting good interfaith relations in the Valley and is a member of the Interfaith Council of Arizona Interfaith Movement.

BENKERT, VOLKER

Volker Benkert is an Assistant Professor in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies at Arizona State University. His research focuses on the impact of sudden regime change on biographies after both totalitarian regimes in 20th century Germany. Benkert's new research project explores memory of the Nazi past in Germany through recent public television miniseries.

BENKOF, DAVID

David Benkof is a Jerusalem-based teacher whose Limmud sessions (worldwide) engage learners with Jewish cultural products (fiction, poetry, musicals, films, paintings). Other hats: Jewish historian, essayist, polyglot (English, French, Hebrew, German, Italian, Spanish, and Russian, in that order), political analyst, theater enthusiast, trivia buff.

BETTS, ALISON

Alison Betts is a volunteer in the Phoenix Jewish Community and spends much of her volunteer time on PJ Library, an organization that distributes millions of free books to Jewish children around the globe. Through her work with PJ Library, Alison has become focused on the importance of reading and storytelling for children as a critical part of family connections and childhood development. When she's not volunteering in the community, Alison works for American Express.

BLUM, WENDY

Wendy Blum has been involved with Limmud since it's inception in Arizona as both a participant and a volunteer. She has been in the Healthcare industry for nearly 30 years. As the Director of Operations of Madrona Hospice & Palliative Care she has looked to broaden the scope of what is currently being offered to the residents of Arizona. Madrona is now a Certified Jewish Hospice, the only one in the State! What that means is all of our staff have been trained in the customs, values and traditions of the Jewish culture; whether Orthodox, Conservative or Reformed thereby allowing patients to experience culturally sensitive care at the end of life.

BRONKESH, SHERYL

Sheryl Bronkesh is the president of Phoenix Holocaust Association. She was chair of Generations After, a program for descendants of Holocaust survivors. She is a frequent speaker on the topic of the Holocaust and growing up with survivor parents. She holds an undergraduate degree in communications from American University and a MBA from Arizona State University. She is a health care market research consultant and executive with The HSM Group.

PRESENTER BIOS

BURK, GERRY

Gerry Burk is a humble, eclectic, INTP (for Briggs-Meyer enthusiast), Renaissance man, who holds secular degrees in mathematics, computer science and law (JD). He is also an ordained rabbi, had the distinction of leading various congregations and has sat as a Dayan (judge) on beis din (Jewish rabbinical court) for conversion, divorces and resolution of civil matters.

CABOT, HOWARD

Howard Cabot, a partner at the international law firm Perkins Coie LLP, is widely recognized nationally as a leading courtroom lawyer in complex and sophisticated litigation, including antitrust, securities, intellectual property, mass tort/product liability and class actions. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, with experience extending to state and federal court matters, as well as emergency injunctions, jury and non-jury trials, and appeals. He also teaches trial advocacy, evidence and professionalism as an Adjunct Professor at the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law, Arizona State University and lectures at Rutgers University and is a frequent speaker on a variety of topics, ranging from leadership to ethics to the importance of public interest work to human rights issues.

CABOT, VICKI

Vicki Cabot has written and spoken widely on provocative issues of Jewish concern. Her byline appeared in Phoenix Jewish News and a variety of other publications for more than 30 years. As an adjunct professor in religion she taught World Religion at Glendale Community College for almost a decade. As a lecturer at ASU's Osher Lifelong Learning Center she stimulates conversation about religion's impact in the modern world. Cabot holds a PhD in philosophy and Master's in religion and mass communication from Arizona State University. She blogs on contemporary religious life at Times of Israel.

CHAVEZ CALDERON, EDDIE

Since he was a teenager, Eddie Chavez Calderon has been deeply involved in social justice work. From the trenches to the coasts and everywhere in between, Eddie fights for a progressive movement that works towards a more inclusive, diverse America. Despite having many obstacles in his way, nothing has deterred Eddie from continuing to fight for the Latino community as well as LGBTQ+ acceptance and inclusion, woman's rights, economic justice, workers' rights, citizenship and civic engagement, voter equality, and much more! He is excited to be a part of an interfaith coalition to continue to advocate for the dignity of every person no matter their creed or national origin.

CAPLAN, MICAH

Micah Caplan is beginning his 10th year as rabbi at Congregation Or Tzion. His vision is to always create a place of learning, sharing and celebrating Jewish living together as a *Kehillah Kedosha* – a holy community. He is known for his warm, personal outreach and is an avid sports fan.

CAULKINS, AMBER

Amber Caulkins is the director of the Rising Tide Open Waters Mikveh Network at *Mayyim Hayyim* Living Waters Community Mikveh and Paula Brody & Family Education Center in Newton, MA. Her work with Rising Tide is focused on supporting an international movement towards creating and sustaining inclusive, welcoming *mikva'ot* so that more Jewish people can experience healing, transformation and renewal through ritual immersion. She completed the Mikveh Guide training program at Mayyim Hayyim and is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island, where she holds a BA in Journalism and an MA in Communication Studies.

CZOPP, MICHELE

Michele Czopp launched the most-needed complimentary Jewish singles matchmaking service, Mitzvah Matchmaker, in January 2019. She and her husband live in Scottsdale and have owned The Diamond Source for 30 years.

DOLGIN, MADELINE

After exploring various meditation centers, Madeline took a mindfulness class about Jewish mussar taught by her local Hillel and discovered how mindful her own tradition, Judaism, truly was. After college she brought mindfulness to ASU Hillel by developing a fellowship that continues to this day to help college students manage stress through a Jewish

PRESENTER BIOS

lens. She is a certified yoga instructor and holds certificates in mindful leadership from ASU's Center for Mindfulness, Compassion and Resilience. She believes making time for silence is crucial in helping connect to our most authentic selves and loves sharing the practices of mindfulness and yoga with others.

FELLNER, DAN

Dan Fellner is a seven-time Fulbright fellow who has more than 35 years of experience in corporate public relations, television news, travel writing and university teaching in the United States, Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. He has been presenting this topic for several years -- both through ASU's Lifelong Learning Program, and the Arizona Humanities Speakers Bureau -- and it has been very well received. Dan has been a faculty associate at Arizona State University since 1998, where he has taught a variety of courses in journalism and communications.

FINE, MARCIA

Award-winning author and speaker, Marcia Fine, has written eight novels about Jewish identity. *HIDDEN ONES* examines conversos in Mexico during the Inquisition. It has won 5 prizes, including the WILLA Award from Women Writing the West. In 2020 she released *LOVE* and *DEATH* in Rhodes, the story of Greek Jews. Marcia has a BA from Florida State University and a Masters from Arizona State University.

FRANKLIN, MINDY

Mindy began her love of Israel on her first trip there in 1998 and quickly became an advocate for Israel. Her interest with Volunteers of Israel began as a chance encounter while attending a committee meeting of the Zionist of America chapter in Chicago. Currently Mindy is Regional Director for Volunteers for Israel covering Arizona and four additional states. Her additional advocate activities include volunteering with the Israel Ministry of Tourism and sponsoring an Israel table to encourage travel to Israel.

GILDIN, LEON

Leon Gildin is secular Jew who has lectured, written and published, about Jewish education, Jewish culture, and the Yiddish language. Leon is well versed in the subject matter and has researched and lectured often about this unusual historic happening.

GORDON, PETER

Peter Gordon, is the Head of School at Pardes Jewish Day School. He works closely with the Board of Directors to ensure that the Pardes learning environment reflects the school's core values and adherence to excellence. Additionally, he ensures that the school's mission is both adhered to and advanced. Providing a school community that is warm, inclusive, and positive and where each individual is inspired to do his or her best is very important to him.

GOTLIB, SYLVIA

A life-long reader, Sylvia was the co-chair for multiple years of the Detroit Jewish Book Fair and also served as book buyer for both the Detroit and the Valley of the Sun Jewish book fairs. She has a MA in Literature and taught high school English. Sylvia participated in four book clubs and reads about 170 books a year.

HARARI, DEENA

Deena is a young professional active in the Jewish community. She has a passion for giving back and helping people live their best life.

HUMMEL, AMY

Amy DL Hummell has been the executive director for Geshher Disability Resources (formerly Council For Jews With Special Needs) since April 2015. During her time at the agency, she has led successful fundraising efforts including helping the organization become a qualifying charitable organization for the state of Arizona's dollar-for-dollar tax credit, adding new members to the board of directors, increasing revenue streams while serving as educational resource professionals at Jewish Day Schools and overseeing the beginning of two new events: Geshher Model Seder and Special Needs Community Dance.

PRESENTER BIOS

IVORY, ANDRE

Andre Ivory is a dynamic Jewish educator with 20 years of dedicated service to the Jewish community. Specializing in programming for youth, Andre has served congregations in his hometown of Los Angeles, CA, and Toronto, Ontario where he served as Youth Director at Beth Tzedec Congregation, Canada's largest synagogue. Since moving to Phoenix in 2011, Andre has dedicated his service to synagogues and Jewish community organizations across the valley.

KASPER, RICH

Rich Kasper has been the CEO of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix since 2013. Before serving the Jewish community as a professional, Rich practiced law in Arizona for more than 20 years, serving a diverse group of clients including individuals, closely held and publicly traded businesses, and nonprofit organizations. In 1999, the Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix presented Rich its Sy Clark Young Leadership Award, and in 2018 Rich received the Anti-Defamation League's Al Brooks Community Leadership Award. A graduate of Oberlin College, Rich earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law.

KRASNOW, IRIS

Iris Krasnow is a *New York Times* bestselling author of seven books that focus on family/couples relationships, including *Surrendering to Marriage* and *I Am My Mother's Daughter*. A longtime writing/gender studies professor at American University, Iris is a frequent keynote speaker on issues related to aging with purpose and passion and how to create healthy, longstanding relationships.

KUTY, JOLENE

Chiropractic physician and health educator, Dr. Jolene Kutty, built an idyllic sustainable urban farm as a role model for her patients and her family. Her home and on-site chiropractic office, Kutty Chiropractic, is surrounded by 800 sq ft of raised organic vegetable gardens and over 20 Urban Farm fruit trees. They live, work, and play on a half-acre in Scottsdale, where their five children swing beside seedlings and balance beam surrounded by fresh growing fruit. They eat farm-to-table and share recipes and inspiration with all who visit.

LAUFER, JUDY

Judy Egett Laufer "J.E." J.E.Laufer (Judy Egett Laufer) was born in Budapest, Hungary and lived most of her life in Montreal, Canada. She is an award-winning children's book author of several picture books for young children as well as having published her first award-winning young adult / adult novel titled *Choices*, which won the Silver Medal Award in 2017.

LEVINE, MICHAEL

Since 1991, Michael Levine, artist, entrepreneur, maverick real estate developer, has been standard bearer for Downtown Phoenix and the Downtown Phoenix Warehouse District. He almost single-handedly rehabilitated several historically significant warehouses generating hundreds of jobs along the way. The economic impact is not only in embodied energy, sustainability and authenticity; it is in delivering a product that rarely exists in Phoenix. His adapted restored structures from 1905 to 1955 act now as a magnet to the creative class, tech start-ups and new smokeless industries.

LIFFITON, JOHN

John Liffiton, Director Genocide Conference & Faculty was born into a military family and thus moved all over the world. This instilled in him a sort of wanderlust, which has taken him to 50+ countries and four continents. He has lived and worked in England, France, Switzerland, Zaire, and spent thirteen years working in industry in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. John has a BS in Anthropology and a MA in English. He is also a 2012 graduate of the FBI Citizen's Academy and a Class XXIX graduate of Scottsdale Leadership.

MADSEN, DEB

Deb moved to AZ in 1988, originally from Utah. She is a practicing CPA. Deb relaxes, relieves stress and expresses her artistic side by painting and crocheting. Deb uses crocheting to help keep her hands nimble in the face of arthritis. She is busily crocheting daily for her mental and physical health. She enjoys showing others her creations.

PRESENTER BIOS

DELEON MARTIN, NIKKI

Nikki DeLeon Martin is a writer and storyteller. As a storyteller, she has performed at Herberger Theatre, Space 55, Lit Lounge, Phoenix New Times Bar Flies, and Storyline at Changing Hands. As a playwright, her work has been performed by Arizona Women's Theatre Company, Space 55, and the Brelby Theatre Company. Her short fiction and essays have been anthologized. Along with teaching writing as a spiritual practice, Deleon Martin serves as the Chief Marketing and External Affairs Officer with Phoenix Art Museum.

MCCULLOUGH, MONICA

Monica McCullough is an RN with a specialty in Geriatric Health. Monica has been involved with caring for patients in their homes for 25 years. As a trained clinician, Monica will offer valuable advice on how to engage in difficult conversations to discuss end of life wishes.

MIRVIS, STANLEY

Stanley Mirvis is the Harold and Jean Grossman Chair of Jewish Studies and Assistant Professor of History at ASU.

NADELL, PAM

Pamela Nadell holds the Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History at American University where she received the university's highest award, Scholar/Teacher of the Year. The New York Times praised her new book *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today* as a "welcome addition to the American historical canon." Her other books include *Women Who Would Be Rabbis: A History of Women's Ordination, 1889-1985*, which was a finalist for a National Jewish Book Award. A past president of the Association for Jewish Studies and the recipient of the American Jewish Historical Society's Lee Max Friedman Award for distinguished service, her consulting work for museums includes the National Museum of American Jewish History and the Library of Congress.

PRESSMAN, LINDA

Linda Pressman is a freelance writer, editor, and author. Her award-winning book, *Looking Up: A Memoir of Sisters, Survivors and Skokie*, is permanently housed in the collections at Yad Vashem, the U.S. Holocaust Museum, and the National Library of Israel. Her freelance work has been published in *Kveller*, *Sand Hills Magazine*, *The Fix*, *Six Hens*, *Midnight Oil*, *Brain Child Magazine*, *Motherwell*, and in the *Phoenix Jewish News*. She holds a BA in History and a Masters in English.

QUEN, SHERYL

Sheryl Quen is Director of Grants and Communications for the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix. In that capacity, Sheryl directs, administers, and refines the Foundation's competitive grantmaking program. She also oversees grants from donor-directed Field of Interest and Designated Endowment Funds, matching donors' philanthropic goals with the organizations working in the areas donors have selected. Having served as both a grantmaker and a grant seeker, she brings a unique and valuable perspective to the process. Sheryl has nearly 20 years' experience working for the Jewish Community Foundation.

RUBINSTEIN, DANNAH

Dannah Rubinstein grew up in an observant Jewish home in Hastings-on-Hudson, NY. She was involved in synagogue life, leading worship, reading Torah, and engaging others in Jewish experiences. Dannah attended Brandeis University where she received her B.A. in Music, with a minor in Film and Judaic Studies in 2002, and, later, Gratz College in Philadelphia, PA where she received her M.A. in Cantorial Studies and Jewish Music in 2008. In 2016, she joined Congregation Or Tzion as its cantor and has since enjoyed expanding her musical repertoire and understanding of spirituality in worship.

SCHACHTER-BROOKS, BRIAN YOSEF

Brian Yosef Schachter-Brooks is a Jewish spiritual teacher and musician. He has been teaching the practice of Presence (meditation, mindfulness) and Judaism since 2006, and founded Torah of Awakening in 2007. He received *s'miha* (ordination) as Minister of Sacred Music (Reb Yosef Briah Zohar, Menatzeiakh, Ba'al Tefilah) from Reb Zalman z"l (2012), Spiritual Teacher and Awakener of Souls (Morei Rukhani uM'oreir N'shamot) from Shaykh Ibrahim Baba Farajaje

PRESENTER BIOS

(may his secret be sanctified) and Rabbi SaraLeya Schley (2012), certification as Teacher of Jewish Meditation (Moreh L'hitbodedut) from Dr. Avram Davis (2004), and holds a Bachelor in Music from the Eastman School of Music (1991).

SCHAFFERT, JUDY

Judy Schaffert recently retired as the chief staff attorney for the Arizona Supreme Court. Earlier, Judy was an assistant Arizona Attorney General, a law clerk to Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice William A. Holohan, and a liability insurance underwriter. She studied English at Yale College and law at the UCLA School of Law. Judy has served in the leadership of several local Jewish non-profits including Temple Solel, and she currently volunteers, teaches, and sings, some say quite tunefully.

SEGEL KARAS, NA'AMAH

As an Emerging Kohenet, a group facilitator, communication coach, and public speaker, Na'amah studies Judaism and practices deep Feminine Divine connection in her Jewish practice. Her passion is teaching people better ways to get where they want to be and communicate their dreams, through debate, open dialogue and building bridges, especially between men and women. This presentation is about forming strong bonds in relationships through gratitude and prayer. Whether marriage or children, Na'ama teaches deep eye contact, open dialogue, authentic boundaries, and asking for what you want. Her foundation is a deep connection to Shekhina that guides the presentation.

SILVERMAN, GILA

Gila Silverman is a cultural anthropologist, applied researcher, and writer, working at the intersections of religion, spirituality, and healing. She is a Visiting Scholar at the Arizona Center for Judaic Studies, University of Arizona, and is writing a memoir, entitled *My Mother's Kaddish*, about gender and Jewish mourning rituals.

SILVERMAN, JANETTE

Janette Silverman began her genealogical journey more than 35 years ago as a hobby with her father. What started as a hobby quickly became more, as she immersed herself in Jewish history, both as a student and a teacher. She has been president of the Jewish Genealogy Society; is an active volunteer with JewishGen, heading up the Ukraine Special Interest Group; and was lead co-chair of the 2016 IAJGS conference. In 2017 she was named JewishGen Volunteer of the year. Since 2015 she has worked at AncestryProGenealogists, the division of Ancestry.com that does private client research. She heads up a group that specialized in Eastern European and Jewish research.

SILVERSTEIN, CARY

Cary Silverstein is a retired corporate executive, business owner, community volunteer, and author and lecturer on little known Jewish history. He has presented at LimmudAZ numerous times on different Jewish history topics. His soon to be released book, "The Mayor of Jackson Heights. Growing up Jewish in New York in the 1950s" will be available this fall on Amazon. Cary is the editor of Congregation Emanu-El's newsletter in River Hills, WI and holds MBA's in Marketing & Organizational Behavior from LIU's Arthur T. Roth School of Business. Cary also has certificates in Advanced Negotiation from Harvard's PON and in Labor Law from Marquette University.

SIMON, RACHEL

Rachel Simon is the award-winning author of six books and a nationally recognized public speaker on issues related to diversity and disability. Her titles include the bestsellers *The Story of Beautiful Girl* and *Riding The Bus With My Sister*. Both books are frequent selections of book clubs and school reading programs around the country. Rachel's work has been adapted for theater, NPR, the Lifetime Channel, and Hallmark Hall of Fame, whose adaptation of *Riding The Bus With My Sister* starred Rosie O' Donnell and Andie McDowell, and was directed by Anjelica Huston.

SINGER, DAVID

David Singer is a rabbi and serves as National Director of Limmud North America. He was previously the Executive Director of UC San Diego Hillel and as Associate Rabbi of Congregation *Shearith Israel* in Dallas, TX, where he was the Director and founding rabbi of *Makom*, a young spiritual community recognized by Slingshot 14-15 as one of the most innovative Jewish organizations in North America. Named by *The Jewish Daily Forward* as one of America's Most

PRESENTER BIOS

Inspiring Rabbis, David is a graduate of *Clal's* Clergy Leadership Incubator and Rabbis Without Borders. David studied history at the University of California, Berkeley and is a graduate of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies. He is the author of many articles as well as "*Yisrael Sheli*", a religious school textbook about Israel.

SOLOMON, RICH

Rich Solomon is the managing editor of the Phoenix Jewish News.

SOSNOW, JENNIFER

Jennifer Sosnow currently serves as Jewish National Fund's Israel Programs Admissions Director for Arizona and Nevada. She spends much of her time helping today's Jewish youth find their passion for Israel. Most recently Jennifer traveled to Israel for training on the Alexander Muss High School in Israel campus where she observed the education process and traveled with the students. Before joining Jewish National Fund Jennifer worked in global recruiting and Human Resources in the Valley for over 20 years. Originally from the Chicago area, Jennifer holds degrees in Psychology and Spanish from the University of Illinois as well as a Master's in Human Resources. She was a Momentum trip participant in 2017 which rekindled her love for the land of Israel. She also serves on the executive board for Geshar Disability Resources and is on her synagogue's youth and education committee.

STEIN KOKIN, A. NITZAN

Ordained as a rabbi in June 2017, A. Nitzan Stein Kokin is the first graduate of the Zacharias Frankel College, one of the five rabbinical seminaries of the Conservative movement. She holds a Master's in Jewish Studies from Hebrew University in Jerusalem, has been an active Jewish Educator since 2002. Her academic interest in Gender Studies inspires her to explore biblical and rabbinic literature from a critical, egalitarian perspective. She is a devoted Limmudnik since 2000 and has participated in Limmud conferences in the UK, Germany, Italy and now in Phoenix!

STEINGART, MICHAEL

Michael Steingart has been a participating member of multiple Jewish bands both in the synagogue and out. He has been performing for nearly 25 years.

STILLS, SHARON

Sharon Stills is a Naturopathic Medical Doctor who merges the mind and the body therapeutically to help patients heal from whatever ails them. She is the founder of the RED Philosophy to Reinvent your Health, Explore your Spirit and Discover your Purpose.

STONE, SUZY

Originally from Minneapolis, MN Suzy graduated from Brandeis University in 2002. In 2007, she became a Wexner Fellow and began her rabbinical studies in Jerusalem. She received ordination from the reform movement at HUC-JIR in Los Angeles in 2012. After ordination, Suzy served as the Associate Rabbi at Congregation B'nai B'rith in Santa Barbara, CA. As a part of the inaugural cohort of the Jewish Emergent Network, she served as a Rabbinic Fellow at Sixth & I Historic Synagogue in Washington D.C. from 2016-18. After serving as the Senior Organizer at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism during the 2018 election, she became the Assistant Director at ASU Hillel in 2019.

VAISBEN, LIZ

Liz was born and raised on the East Coast and moved to the Western U.S. a decade ago. She has worked in the field of communications for almost 20 years, mainly in the non-profit sector. Liz enjoys yoga, cooking, volunteering, reading, and spending time with friends and family.

VANCE, MARC

A graduate student at Arizona State University, Marc has researched World War II and the Holocaust. Focusing on the Loewy's, a family of Holocaust survivors in France, he has traced the story of migration, identity, rescue, resistance, and resilience through the lens of this family. In his time as a student, Marc has taken part in museum exhibits with local Jewish organizations, and several lectures on the family in Arizona and across the United States. A prospective PhD

PRESENTER BIOS

student, Marc hopes to continue his research with the same framework of World War II and the Holocaust, focusing on stories of Jews rescuing Jews and occupational resistance during the war.

WALDMAN, LARRY

Larry Waldman is a certified school psychologist and licensed clinical, forensic psychologist in Phoenix. In private practice for 40 years, he works with children, teens, parents, couples, and adults and consults with family, personal injury, immigration and estate planning attorneys. He has a Ph.D. in Educational/School Psychology from Arizona State University. Waldman was the Director of Psychological Services for Charter Psychiatric Hospital of Glendale and a top expert on Parenting for SelfGrowth.com and serves on the professional advisory board of Stepping Stones of Hope, serving children who have lost a parent. Waldman is the co-chair of the Early Career Psychologists Committee with the Arizona Psychological Association (AzPA). In addition to numerous articles, Dr. Waldman has written six books.

WEIL, MICHAEL

Michael Weil is a strategic consultant based in Israel & Arizona. He was CEO of the Jewish Federation of New Orleans from 2006-2017. Prior, Weil had been a fellow at the Jewish People Policy Planning Institute in Jerusalem. He is born and educated in the UK with a BSc in Economics with Technology from City University and an MA in Development Economics from Sussex University. Michael has presented at Limmuds in the UK, Arizona and New Orleans and serves on the Limmud International Advisory Council.

WILK, MARIEL

Mariel has been teaching yoga/ movement for several years including at retreats, events, and young Jewish professional outings. It is a passion of hers to teacher elementary students in school during the day and people of all ages in her free time with mindfulness, movement, and meditation!

For full presenter biographies, please visit www.limmudaz.org.



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The Ina Levine JCC announces plans for a senior living facility near Paradise Jewish Day School

Arizona to establish trade office in Israel
Arizona lawmakers approved an \$11.8 billion budget on Memorial Day, which will include funding for the establishment of an Arizona trade office in Israel. Gov. Doug Ducey signed the budget on Friday, May 31. The budget includes nearly \$500,000 dedicated to three trade offices: one in Israel and two in Mexico. Arizona Rep. Tony Rivera, R-Phoenix, spearheaded the legislation to obtain those three trade offices. The funding was championed by Rivera, who initially opposed the budget until his request was granted. "Israel's new trade office is a major victory for Arizona," said Rivera. "This development not only helps reinforce Arizona's reputation as a business-friendly state, but it also provides Arizona and Israeli companies with an additional avenue to succeed in the global marketplace." President of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry Glen Haner said that the new Israel trade office "makes perfect sense." "During Gov. Ducey's first term in office, he has made clear Arizona's support for a strong and growing Israel relationship," Haner said. "Israel is the starting point for many of our state's most important economic relationships. The trade office Commerce Authority will help establish a place between Israel and Arizona." In 2015, Ducey

Israeli elections: What happens now?
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud Party won 85 of 120 seats in the Knesset on April 9 and seemed to have a clear path to forming a coalition government. But on May 30, Netanyahu dissolved the government of the recently sworn-in MKs and announced new elections after he was unable to form that coalition. On Sept. 17, Israel will hold yet another election, with much at stake for Netanyahu, his potential ruling partners, the opposition and for many political careers in Israel. The call for new elections is something new in Israel's political history. "Since, in Israel, no one party has ever been able to win a majority of seats on the parliament, elections do not produce a new government until a coalition is formed among a majority of the elected members of the parliament," Ian Lustick explained.

Legislative election ballots from 2019.

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