

Spring 2013 Semester Begins April 9! Classes at Three Locations!

JSC Tuesdays at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History 1811 R St NW DC (near Dupont Circle Metro-Red Line)

Challah-Baking (April 9 6:30PM)
Panel: Intellectual Property Rights and Jewish Law (April 30)
Family Stories (June 2—Sunday), 1-5PM
Origins of Jewish Food (June 11)

JSC Wednesdays at Adas Israel Congregation 2850 Quebec Street NW DC (near Cleveland Park Metro-Red Line) Classes: 7 P.M. and 8:15 P.M.

Proverbs: Great One-Liners (April 24)
Psalms (April 24)
Women at the Wall (June 5)
Who is a Rabbi? (June 5)

Series on Jews of Africa and Asia:
Film: Jews of Nigeria (April 24)
Film: Jews of Philippines (May 1)
Sassoon Family of India (May 8)
Orthodox Feminism in America (May 8)
Jews of Libya (May 22)
Jews of China (May 29)

JSC Sundays at the Hill Center 1-3 P.M.
921 Pennsylvania Avenue. S.E. (near Eastern Market Metro)
(Co-sponsored by Hill Havurah)

Challah-Baking (April 14) Jewish Story-Telling (May 5)

Register for all our courses at www.jewishstudycenter.org
Phone: 202-332-1221

Tuesday nights at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History 1811 R Street, NW—(1 block NE of Dupont Circle Metro-Red Line) (Co-sponsored with the Museum)

Challah-Baking
6:30-8:00 P.M.
Instructor: Susan Finston

Have you ever wanted to experience the aroma of homemade challah in your kitchen on Erev Shabbat? Baking your own challah is a special way to bring the spirituality of Shabbat into your home. Longtime homebaking challah enthusiast *Susan Finston* will teach this one session workshop with tips on braiding and baking challah and adding that special Shabbat feeling. Join her to start your own tradition of baking challah at home!

Susan has been baking challah for friends and family since the early 1980's. Over the last 30 years she has baked or carried homemade challah to overseas destinations including Ahmedabad, Beijing, Manila and Bhutan. She is the founder and principal of Finston Consulting, LLC. (Class size limited to 15 participants.)

Pre-Registration and Pre-Payment required.

JSC, JWV and Museum members \$20, non-members \$25

Panel: Intellectual Property Rights and the Jewish Tradition
April 30 7:00-8:15 P.M.

The tragic suicide of Internet activist Aaron Swartz in the fall of 2012 drew public attention to the ethical problems that arise from the protection—or overprotection—of intellectual property. Does current U.S. law overreach in protecting intellectual property, whether by copyrights, patents, trademarks or trade secrets? Many mainstream institutions say it does, including Google, the World Bank, and backers of the Open Data Initiative. What does Jewish tradition—including Jewish law and the Talmud—have to contribute to the complex debate about intellectual property protection? Does information really want to be free, as the saying goes?

A rabbi and a noted intellectual property lawyer, along with users and makers of copyrighted material, discuss this from religious and secular angles. Rabbi *Barry Freundel* is spiritual leader of Kesher Israel: The Georgetown Synagogue. Professor *Peter Jaszi* teaches at the American University Law School and is the co-author (with Patricia Aufderheide) of "Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put the Balance Back in Copyright." *Other panelists to be announced*.

JSC, JWV, Museum members \$15; non-members \$20

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Origins of Jewish Food June 11 7:00-8:15 P.M. Instructor: Michael Bloom



Is the quintessential Jewish food – chicken soup, nicknamed "Jewish penicillin" by comedians – actually of Jewish origin? Why should we use dandelions as maror (bitter herbs) at the Passover seder? Are Boston baked beans actually a traditional Jewish food? How did the bagel become Americanized? What is "Jewish champagne"? Where did the knish and hot dog come from? And what am I – chopped liver? We will answer most of these questions – and have a good taste of the often strange but fascinating history of what cuisine we consider (or don't consider) Jewish.

Chaplain *Michael Bloom* is the author of several books, former Federal official, teacher, cantor, and Torah reader at various communities around town and a docent at Sixth and I Historic Synagogue.

JSC, JWV and Museum members \$15; non-members \$20

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Sunday, June 2 1-5 P.M. — Family Stories

At the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, 1811 R Street, NW, DC (1 block NE of Dupont Circle Metro-Red Line)

As part of the **Dupont Kalorama Museums Consortium Walk Weekend** on **Sunday, June 2 1-5 P.M.**The National Museum of American Jewish Military History and the Jewish Study Center will devote a special afternoon to Family Stories. We invite you to create a tribute to that special relative or friend through a skit, scrapbook, video, journal, film, etc. Open mike, walk-ins welcome or submit your piece early and reserve a 10 minute time slot. Special viewings of films: Hitler's Hat, produced by local independent film producer Jeff Krulik, and a collage of clips of documentary films made by Bernard (Buddy) Timberg, z''l (1945-2010) a student and professor of communications and popular culture including: Aba, Stockbroker to the Hippies, The New Jewish Radicals, The Jewish Bob Dylan (a radio documentary), Thirteen Years, and Jewish-American Experience in Hollywood Film (1927-2009).

Call Mary Westley (NMAJMH) at (202) 265-6280 or mwestley@nmajmh.org for more information.

Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel Congregation 2850 Quebec St NW—(1 block from Cleveland Park Metro-Red Line)

(Co-sponsored with Adas Israel Congregation)

Proverbs: Great One Liners in the Bible April 24, May 1, 22, 29 7:00-8:15 P.M. **Instructor: Norman Shore**

The books of Mishlei (Proverbs) and Koheleth (Ecclesiastes) are filled with immortal one-liners. We'll read single verses and explore their usage in Jewish tradition and commentary over the ages and how they entered into common Jewish and western parlance. Some examples: "The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked shall rot." "Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace." "Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise." "Stolen waters are sweet." "One who mocks the poor insults his Maker." We could go on, but "Even a fool, when he holds his peace, is counted wise."

Norman Shore is a veteran teacher in the Jewish community.

4 sessions: JSC and Adas members \$55; non-members \$75



Untangling the Psalms April 24, May 1, 22, 29 8:15-9:20 P.M.

Instructor: Amy Schwartz

The 150 poems that make up the Book of Psalms are both deeply familiar and deeply strange. Psalms are the backbone of the liturgy, but their language can be tangled and obscure. We'll untangle the poetry of some of the most familiar psalms—using a variety of English translations—and trace their different settings and uses across the centuries and up to the present day.

Amy Schwartz, a Washington journalist, has taught many classes on poetry. She is opinion editor of Moment Magazine and president of the Study Center.

4 sessions: JSC and Adas members \$55; non-members \$75

Orthodox Jewish Feminism in America: History and Challenges May 8 - 8:15-9:20 P.M.

Instructor: Jennifer Breger

This session will explore the rise of Orthodox feminism in America and the development of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA) since its founding in 1997. We'll look at how the movement has addressed feminist concerns that relate particularly to Orthodox Jewish women, such as the continuing tragedy of agunot (women "chained" to husbands who won't grant them Jewish divorces). What are the effects of factors such as the explosion of text-based study for Orthodox Jewish women and the expansion of both ritual and leadership roles, including clergy positions, for Orthodox Jewish women in American communities? What are the challenges ahead for Orthodox Jewish feminists in America?

Jennifer Breger is a board member of JOFA and was editor of its journal from 2002-2011. She co-edited and contributed articles to a series of booklets entitled "The Orthodox Jewish Woman and Ritual: Options and Opportunities," published by JOFA in 2002.

JSC and Adas members \$15; non-members \$20

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Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel Congregation 2850 Quebec St NW—(1 block from Cleveland Park Metro-Red Line) (Co-sponsored with Adas Israel Congregation)

Global Jewish Cultures: Jews of Africa and Asia April 24, May 1, 8, 22, 29 7:00-8:15 P.M.

Come far afield with us as we learn about historic Jewish communities from the Philippines to Libya and even Nigeria. Trace the fortunes of the Sassoon family of Iraq as they span the globe and shape Jewish communities. A multi-media experience with films, lectures and a book-signing.

Single sessions: JSC, Adas members \$15, non-members \$20. Series of five: \$65/\$90.

April 24—Film: *Re-Emerging: The Jews of Nigeria.* Are the Igbo people of Nigeria really Jews? This thought-provoking and award-winning documentary by filmmaker Jeff L. Lieberman, perhaps best known for the viral election film "Call your Zeyde," traces the quest of the Igbo to embrace what they say is their Jewish heritage.

May 1— Film: *Rescue in the Philippines*. How an unlikely assortment of heroes rescued more than 1,200 Jews from the Nazisby resettling them to the Philippines. (To be confirmed).

May 8 — The Sassoons of Baghdad – Is Genealogy Destiny? David Sassoon, born in Baghdad in 1792, was one of the world's most prominent Jews when he died in 1864. The owner of one of India's largest businesses, he oversaw an enterprise stretching from London to Shanghai. Over the next century his descendants were prominent in business and politics as well as supporting Jewish causes worldwide. Their Sephardic origin gives their family story a particular interest and a unique historical context. *Dr. Thomas Timberg*, an independent scholar, is an economist who has spent most of his adult life in India, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Indonesia and Nigeria.

May 22 — The Jews of Libya: An Ancient Community Buffeted by History. The Jewish community of Libya was founded in the third century BCE, one of the most ancient in the diaspora, and lasted nearly to the present day. Jews staged a major uprising against Roman rule in Cyrenaica, where we find the first use of the menorah as a political symbol. *Judith Roumani* is translator of a history of the Jews of Libya, Renzo De Felice's *Jews in an Arab Land*. She is the editor of Sephardic Horizons, a journal of Sephardic studies, and has written extensively on Jewish culture of North Africa.

May 29 — Three Waves of Jewish Migration to Shanghai, 1845-1940. Shanghai has been a haven for successive waves of Jewish immigration. Instructor *Liliane Willens* was part of one of those waves, born in Shanghai to Russian parents who had fled the Bolshevik Revolution. She lived under the Japanese occupation, the turmoil of the Chinese civil war and for two years the newly established People's Republic of China in Shanghai, where she attended French schools before coming to the U.S. A retired professor of French literature, she is the author of the memoir *Stateless in Shanghai*, available for purchase and signing after the class.

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Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel Congregation

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Women of the Wall: A Paradigm for Advancing Religious Pluralism in Israel

June 5 7-8:15 P.M. Instructor: Linda Yitzchak



The protests at the Western Wall by Women of the Wall, a group of women who for 24 years have sought to pray and read Torah there peacefully as a group and have captured the imagination of a worldwide public--and of the Israeli public as well. Could this mean real change for religious politics in Israel? We'll discuss the elements of this campaign, its challenges and successes and the implications for other religious pluralism controversies within Israel.

Linda Yitzchak, one of the leaders of Washington Friends of Women of the Wall, is the Chaplain at the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes and a longtime Jewish educator specializing in family education.

JSC and Adas members \$15; non-members \$20

Who is a Rabbi?
June 5 8:15-9:20 P.M.
Instructor: Jonina Duker



Interfaith seminaries. Messianic seminaries. Movement seminaries. Online ordination. Private ordination. Trans-denominational seminaries. Female rabbis. Gay rabbis. Non-Jewish rabbis. Transgender rabbis. Unmarried rabbi. We will survey the ways the traditional title is now being used — or some might say mis-used. We will start with essential background information like the history of the rabbinate; the traditional role of the rabbi as teacher; and the process of ordination. We look at some institutions; a few individuals; the Reform position on patrilineal descent; and online ordination programs. Where do you draw the line? Whom are you willing to call "rabbi"?

Jonina Duker, Taibel bas Rachel Leah v'Shlomo Yehoshua, is a lifelong passionate genealogist; she is proud to claim noted rabbis among her ancestors. She teaches adults and children, and learns whenever she can.

JSC and Adas members \$15; non-members \$20

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Sunday afternoons at the Hill Center

921 Pennsylvania Avenue. S.E. (2 blocks from Eastern Market Metro (Co-sponsored by Hill Havurah)

Challah-Baking

Sunday April 14 12:30-3:00 P.M. Instructor: Susan Finston

ARRON .

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Pre-Registration and Pre-Payment required.

Hill Havurah, JSC members \$20, non-members \$25

Stories from the Heart: An Introduction to Jewish Storytelling

Sunday May 5 1:00-3:00 P.M.

Instructor: Bob Rovinsky



Come listen to a master storyteller and learn how to enrich your lives and the lives of your families with Jewish stories! Storyteller *Bob Rovinsky* will lead us through the telling and retelling of folk tales, wisdom tales, rabbinic tales and more modern stories, to see and experience how stories and storytelling are intrinsically bound up with Jewish customs, practice and morality. With Bob, you'll explore what makes a story "Jewish" and how to tell stories both from the tradition and from your own families. This class is appropriate for adults who can listen like children, children who can listen like adults, and families of all kinds.

Bob Rovinsky s a founding member of the Voices in the Glen storytelling guild; he has taught storytelling to the students at Van Ness Elementary school in Southwest D.C. and has been a performer of storytelling for over 20 years. He specializes in both Jewish and Arab stories and especially likes stories that have something to say to both our hearts and our minds. Bob is a longtime teacher at the Jewish Study Center and was its president for six years.

JSC and Hill Havurah members \$15, non-members \$20

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The Jewish Study Center proudly co-sponsors these community programs



Sunday May 5 1 P.M. — General Orde Wingate Memorial Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery Section 12 • Gravesite 288

Parking permitted at Gravesite (west side of Grant Avenue).

(In the event of rain, ceremony will be held in the auditorium of The Women in Military Service for America Memorial)

British General Wingate was a great soldier, a lover of Zion, and an admirer of the Jewish People. For his initiatives during the British Mandate he is known in Israel as "Ha'Yedid - The Friend", and Spiritual Forebear of the Israel Defense Forces. In addition, he helped liberate Ethiopia and was a key leader in the China-Burma-India Theatre in WWII. A truly original, unconventional military thinker and leader, General Wingate is memorialized on several continents.

Free event and open to all. (Organized by the Jewish War Veterans of the USA Department of DC.)

Two Programs Co-Sponsored With the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington

Sunday, May 5 2PM —Walking Tour: Jewish Sites in Arlington National Cemetery

Visit memorials by or for Jews and headstones of prominent Jewish leaders buried at Arlington. Learn of Jewish participation from the Civil War to the present – men and women, Sephardim, Germans, and East Europeans. We'll start at the Visitor Center of Arlington National Cemetery at the stone benches facing the parking garage and entry road, and end at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Distance and duration: 1.5 miles (includes hill), 2.5 hours. Blue Line —Arlington Cemetery metro

Sunday, May 19, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.—Walking Tour of Downtown Jewish Washington

Learn what it was like to live and worship as a Jew in Washington from 1850 to 1950 in the historic Seventh Street, NW, neighborhood, originally settled largely by German Jews and later home to DC's Chinatown. The tour includes visiting the sites of four former synagogues. We'll start at the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum, 701 Third Street, NW (corner of G Street), and end at the former home of Washington Hebrew Congregation, 816 Eighth Street NW (between H and I Streets). Distance and duration: 0.75 miles, 1.5 hours Red line—Gallery Place metro

About the Jewish Study Center

The Jewish Study Center was founded in 1978 as an independent nonprofit institute of adult Jewish education in the Washington, D.C. area. Our mission is to provide classes and programs of Jewish study in the widest possible breadth of topics in an atmosphere where any person, regardless of background or level of current involvement, can feel comfortable studying and establishing a serious relationship with the Jewish tradition.

www.jewishstudycenter.org

Email: <u>info@jewishstudycenter.org</u> Phone: 202-332-1221

Weather-Related Cancellations

Classes may be cancelled for the following reasons:

- •The building is closed, due to inclement weather.
- •The teacher cannot make it to the class, due to inclement weather.
- •The teacher cannot make it to the class due to illness.

The easiest way to see if a class is cancelled to inclement weather is to call the building where your class will be held: Adas Israel Synagogue: (202) 362-4433, www.adasisrael.org; National Museum of American Jewish Military History and Jewish War Veterans of America, (202) 265-6280; The Hill Center (202) 549-4172.

If a class is cancelled due to teacher illness we will notify you as soon as possible. Class sessions cancelled due to weather will be rescheduled as soon as possible and when possible at the same place, time and day of the week as the original session. For information about rescheduled class sessions, refunds or other matters, please call (202-332-1221) or message the Study Center at info@jewishstudycenter.org.

Enrollment-Related Cancellations

We request that you pre-register and pre-pay for the classes so we can inform you of any potential changes in the class. If there are no pre-registrations 24 hours before a class, that class may be cancelled.

If fewer than five students show up for a class's first session, the instructor has the option of cancelling the class after waiting 15 minutes. (However, many instructors choose to proceed.) If your class is cancelled due to under-enrollment prior to the first session, we will make every effort to inform you if you have signed up. Cancellations will also be posted on our web site. All advance cancellations will be posted by 12 pm the day of a scheduled program.

We suggest you check our web site after 12 pm the day of your program to confirm your course status...

Volunteer Program

If you would like to take classes but tuition is a barrier, please contact us about receiving free tuition in return for volunteering your time. We are a teaching and learning community and want no one turned away for financial reasons. Contact us at: info@jewishstudycenter or (202) 332-1221 to be scheduled as soon as possible and when possible at the same place, time and day of the week as the original session.

FOR DONATIONS TO US THROUGH THE COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC):

OUR CFC # IS: 29158



Register for all our courses at <u>www.jewishstudycenter.org</u>

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Help the Study Center continue to grow...



For information about registration, classes or to make donations go to our website:

WWW.JEWISHSTUDYCENTER.ORG

Or contact us at: (202) 332-1221 or info@jewishstudycenter.org

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Registration—Spring 2013

Tuesdays at Museum (Dupont Circle)		Wednesdays at Adas Israel (Cleveland Park)					
Session	Date	# Attend/Fee	Cost	Session	Date	# Attend/ Fee	Cost
<u>Challah-</u> <u>Baking</u>	April 9 6:30-8 PM	x \$20JSC, JWV Museum, members x \$25 non-members		One-Liners of the Bible	April 24 May 1, 22, 29 7-8:15 PM	x 55 JSC, Adas mem- bers x \$75 non-members	
Panel: Intellectual Property	April 30 7-8:15 PM	x \$15 JSC, JWV, Museum members		<u>Psalms</u>	April 24, May 1, 22, 29 8:15-9:20 PM	x 55 JSC, Adas mem- bers x \$75 non-members	
Rights Origins Jewish Food	June 11 7-8:15 PM	x \$20 non-members x \$15 JSC, JWV, Museum members x \$20 non-members		<u>Jews</u> <u>of Africa</u> <u>and Asia</u>	April 24 May 1, 8, 22, 29 7-8:15 PM	5 sessions:x \$60JSC, Adas membersx \$90 non-members Per session:x \$15JSC, Adas membersx \$20 non-members	
Sunda			et)	Orthodox Feminism	May 8 7-8:15 PM	x \$15JSC, Adas members x \$20 non-members	
<u>Challah-</u> <u>Baking</u>	April 14 1-3 PM			Women at the Wall	June 5 7-8:15 PM	x \$15JSC, Adas members x \$20	
<u>Jewish</u> <u>Storytelling</u>	May 5 1-3 PM	x \$15 JSC, Hill Havurah members x 20 non-members		Who is a Rabbi	June 5 8:15-9:20 PM	non-members x \$15JSC, Adas members x \$20 non-members	
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JSC Class Locations—near metro stops!

National Museum of American Jewish Military History (Tuesdays)—1811 R Street, NW, DC (1 block NE of Dupont Circle North Metro—Red Line)

Adas Israel Congregation (Wednesdays)—2850 Quebec Street, NW, DC (1 block from Cleveland Park Metro—Red Line)

Hill Center (Sunday afternoons)—921 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, DC (2 blocks from Eastern Market Metro—Blue and Orange Line)

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