



# Jewish Study Center

Come learn with us.

**Spring Semester Begins March 26, 2014 at Three Locations!**

**Sunday at the Hill Center (Eastern Market Metro)**

American Jewish Comedy – March 30, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

**Tuesdays at the DC Center for the LGBT Community  
in the Reeves Center (U Street Metro)**

Making Passover Your Own: Two Sessions – April 1 (at 7 and 8:15)

Create New Passover Menus and Make Your Own Haggadah

Introduction to Kabbalah – April 29

Judaism in the Public Square: What the Courts Say—May 6

**Wednesdays at Adas Israel (Cleveland Park Metro)**

Diarna: Mapping the Jewish Middle East – March 26

Getting Ready for Passover: The Many Flavors of Haroset – April 2

Special Free Event: The Yiddish Poetry Game – April 23

Spiritual Challah Baking – April 23

Judaism in Transition: Economic Choices – April 23, 30, May 7

Exploring the Zohar – April 30, May 7, 14

Untangling the Psalms – April 30, May 7

Stories of the Beautiful Land: Text on Israel – May 7, 14, 21, 28

Jews of Eurasia and the Silk Road

*Jews of Azerbaijan – May 7*

*Jews of Ukraine – May 14*

*Jews of Kirgizstan and Kazakhstan – May 28*

The Sephardic Tradition

*Medieval Poetry – May 14*

*Sephardic Liturgical Music – May 21*

*Judeo-Arabic Music of the Late 20th Century – May 28*

**Are You Under 30? Pay \$30 for a Package of 6 Class Sessions!**

(Choose them as you go.)

Register for all our courses at [www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)

Email: [info@jewishstudycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter.org)

Phone: 202-332-1221

**Tuesday Nights, April 1, 29, May 6**  
**New Location — The D.C. Center for the LGBT Community**  
**2000 14th St. N.W. — one block from U Street Metro**

**Making Passover Your Own**  
**Two Sessions on Tuesday, April 1**

**1st Session — Creative Passover Menus: Surviving Eight Days Without Leaven (7 - 8:15 p.m.)**

The first bites of familiar Passover dishes taste so special. If only they went on tasting that way all week! Instructor Susan Finston knew she was onto something when her husband said, “It can’t be over—I’m not sick of the food yet!” Prolong the pleasure of Passover with new and flavorful kosher-for-Passover soups, salads and main dishes. Bring your own favorite recipes to share with the class.



**Susan Finston** is the author of *Dining in the Garden of Eden*, an international vegetarian cookbook.

**2nd Session — Creative Haggadahs: Put Your Own Mark on the Seder (8:15 - 9:30 p.m.)**

The Haggadah, the book that takes us through the Passover seder, doesn’t have to be something to yawn over, and the Fifth Question doesn’t have to be “When do we eat?” Every Jew is enjoined to make his or her own Haggadah. Design and create your own version of leaving Egypt, or Mitzrayim, the “narrow place.” We’ll look at some 15 Haggadahs, including three the instructor made himself. Bring a favorite text.

**Steve Berer** is a poet and Jewish Study Center board member.

Both sessions: JSC members \$20; non-members \$25. One session, \$15/\$20.

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**Discovering Kabbalah**  
**April 29 ◀▶ 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

This one-session introduction to the philosophical and theological system known as Kabbalah will give you a wider understanding of Jewish rituals, prayer, repentance, evil, and Torah. We’ll explore the four classes of receiving that make up the core of Kabbalistic writings and practices: Creation-partnering, holiness, ethics and revelation. Ideal for the spiritual seeker and mystic as well as the student of philosophy or Judaism.

**Jay McCrensky** teaches at St. Mary’s College of Maryland and is the author of *Understanding Evil: Insights From Kabbalah* and *Receiving Holiness: Understanding Judaism Through Kabbalah*. He is on the board of the Jewish Study Center and a member of the Fabranken havurah.

**Are You Under 30? Pay \$30 for a Package of 6 Class Sessions!**  
(Choose them as you go.)

**Tuesday Nights, April 1, 29, May 6**  
**New Location — The D.C. Center for the LGBT Community**  
**2000 14th St. N.W. — one block from U Street Metro**

**Judaism in the Public Square: What the Courts Say**  
**May 6 ◀▶ 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

Recent controversies have rekindled the long-running question of whether—and how—the American legal system can shape our rights to practice Judaism. Can the state regulate circumcision? Can it police the use of kosher symbols or schedule school holidays to accommodate students' and teachers' religious needs? We'll explore the principles behind the way courts apply the First Amendment to such cases, as well as times when courts have felt that states overstepped their bounds.

*Adam Marker* practices employment law at The Goldsmith Firm, LLC, and serves on the Montgomery County Committee on Hate/Violence.

JSC members \$15; non-members \$20.

**American Jewish Comedy**  
**Sunday, March 30 ◀▶ 6:30 p.m.**

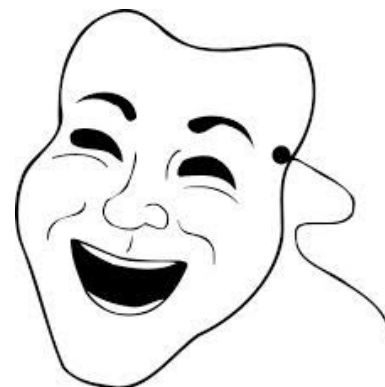
**At the Hill Center**  
**921 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E., D.C. — near Eastern Market Metro**  
**(Co-Sponsored by the Hill Havurah)**

*(This class is offered in loving memory of Asher Segal,  
a great raconteur whose jokes still make us laugh.)*

Laugh and learn at this hilarious yet thoughtful look at Jewish comedy in America. From vaudeville and the Catskills to the big screen, from radio and TV to the Web, we'll revisit the great comedians, actors and writers, watch video clips, hear classic jokes (remember number 43?), and discuss why American Jewish humor is written, spoken and acted the way it is.

*Michael Bloom* is a chaplain, docent, former Walt Disney Pictures writer, author of a humor anthology and the founder of an award-winning comedy club for seniors.

JSC and Hill Havurah members \$15; non-members \$20.



Register for all our courses at [www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)

Email: [info@jewishstudycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter.org)

Phone: (202) 332-1221

**Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel**  
**2850 Quebec St. N.W. — one block from Cleveland Park Metro**  
**(Co-sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation)**

**Mapping the Jewish Middle East**  
**March 26 ◀▶ 7-8:15 p.m.**



This course introduces participants to *Diarna* (“Our Homes” in Judeo-Arabic), an online geographic museum —*Diarna.org* — that explores Middle Eastern Jewish life through the prism of physical location. Using Google Earth satellite imagery, immersive panoramas, archival and contemporary photography, *Diarna* creates virtual entry points to once-vibrant Jewish communities, enabling users to bridge religious, political, generational and geographic divides.

**Jason Guberman-Pfeffer**, *Diarna*'s curator/coordinator, is a social entrepreneur specializing in melding intellectual and technical innovation and the founding executive director of Digital Heritage Mapping.

JSC members, \$15; non-members \$20.

**The Many Flavors of Haroset**  
**April 2 ◀▶ 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

One of the most loved symbolic foods on the Passover plate, haroset takes on many different ingredients and flavors depending on each family’s cultural and geographic background and the cooks — and children — preparing it. Learn to make Moroccan haroset balls and Persian haroset, a blend of fruits and nuts traditionally molded into a pyramid shape.

**Susan Barocas** is a writer, filmmaker, foodie, caterer and past director of the Jewish Food Experience of the Jewish Federation of the Greater Washington Area. The Jewish Food Experience, [jewishfoodexperience.com](http://jewishfoodexperience.com), is a project of the Federation that builds Jewish community and identity through food.



JSC, Adas members \$15, non-members \$20.

**Spiritual Challah-Baking**  
**April 23 ◀▶ 7-8:15 p.m.**

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. This one-session workshop will provide tips on braiding as well as making and baking.

**Susan Finston**, a longtime challah enthusiast, has carried her loaves to destinations including Ahmedabad, Beijing, Manila and Bhutan.

Pre-payment required for this class. JSC, Adas members \$20; non-members \$25.

**Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel**  
**2850 Quebec St. N.W. — one block from Cleveland Park Metro**  
**(Co-sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation)**

**Judaism in Transition: How Economic Choices Affect Religious Tradition**  
**April 23, 30, May 7 ◀▶ 7-8:15 p.m.**

Economist Carmel Chiswick offers a completely new way to understand the choices that have shaped the distinctive Judaism many American Jews practice. In a new book, *Judaism in Transition: How Economic Choices Shape Religious Tradition*, Chiswick shows how economic incentives affect the way American Jews have navigated the sometimes conflicting demands of everyday life and religious observance.

*Carmel U. Chiswick* teaches economics at George Washington University and is a member of Adas Israel.  
JSC, Adas members \$40; non-members \$55.

**Sefer HaZohar — The Core Text of Kabbalah**  
**April 23, 30, May 7 ◀▶ 8:15-9:25 p.m.**

The Zohar is the core text of Jewish mysticism and also a philosophical and theological work of tremendous depth. However, it is inaccessible unless you understand the symbolism and code language. This course will enable the student to decipher the text and find meaning and insight as well as spiritual revelation.

*Jay McCrensky* teaches at St. Mary's College of Maryland. He is the author of two books on Kabbalah.

JSC, Adas members \$40; non-members \$55.

**SPECIAL EVENT—FREE**

**The Yiddish Poetry Game**

**April 23 ◀▶ 7-9 p.m.**

**Co-sponsored by the Jewish Study Center and Fabrangen.**

You can write a poem — in Yiddish! Inspired by Jewish poetic tradition, progressive movements of Yiddish-speaking workers, and the spirit of the Yiddish language, we are hosting a special Yiddish-language round of the Poetry Game, which makes it fun and easy to write a poem using, among other things, a deck of cards. Yiddish speakers and those who don't know *bupkes* can all play. Each participant will leave the event, which will be attended by special guest poet Hermiyahu Ahron Taub, with an original poem and a Yiddish card with a definition of a juicy Yiddish word.

The Yiddish version of the Poetry Game is designed to contribute to the preservation of Yiddish language and culture. The Poetry Game is being marketed nationwide by an indiegogo campaign this spring and benefits Split This Rock, a D.C.-based progressive poetry organization. (People signed up for 8:15 classes this night are welcome to attend the first hour of this event.)

*Zahara Heckscher* teaches Writing for Social Entrepreneurship at the University of Maryland.

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**Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel**  
**2850 Quebec St. N.W. — one block from Cleveland Park Metro**  
**(Co-sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation)**



**Untangling the Psalms**  
**April 30, May 7 ◀▶ 8:15 - 9:25 p.m.**

The 150 religious poems that make up the Book of Psalms form the backbone of our liturgy and of Christian liturgy as well. They are familiar and yet deeply strange, expressing a vast range of emotional states. We will read, discuss and savor these texts and compare the many versions that have come down through the centuries. Readings will be in English. If there is interest, we will combine forces with Norman Shore's class "*Sipurei Eretz Tzvi--Stories of the Beautiful Land*" (see pg. 7) for a session on Temple psalms.

*Amy Schwartz* is opinion editor of Moment Magazine and president of the Jewish Study Center. She has taught many classes on poetry.

JSC, Adas members \$ 25; non-members \$35.

**Global Jewish Cultures:**  
**Jews of Eurasia and the Silk Road**  
**May 7, 14, 28 ◀▶ 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

**May 7—Jews of Azerbaijan.** Jews have called this Caucasus country home for centuries, and more arrived from Europe during the 20th century oil boom. Many left for Israel in the 1970s, but others remain and live in peace with their Muslim neighbors. Eminent Azerbaijani Jews include Mstislav Rostropovich, the Rothschild family and chess champion Garry Kasparov. *Diana Cohen Altman* is executive director of the Karabakh Foundation, which focuses on Azerbaijani culture and heritage.

**May 14—Jews of Ukraine.** The nation whose political upheavals have dominated the news this spring is also home to the former Soviet Union's second-largest Jewish community of more than 150,000. *Mark Levin* is the Executive Director of NCSJ, the former National Conference on Soviet Jewry, which advocates on behalf of Jews in Russia and Eurasia.

**May 28—Jews of Kazakhstan and Kirgizstan.** We'll explore the once-diverse Jewish presence in these historic stops along the Silk Road and consider their future. *Mindy C. Reiser, Ph.D.*, a sociologist, has worked in Central Asia and the Caucasus directing public opinion research, developing training programs and evaluating U.S. and U. N. community development programs.

Series: JSC, Adas members \$40, non-members \$55. Single session: \$15/\$20.

**Wednesday Nights at Adas Israel**  
2850 Quebec St. N.W. — one block from Cleveland Park Metro  
(Co-sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation)

***Sipurei Eretz Tzvi* — Stories of the Beautiful Land**  
**May 7, 14, 21, 28 ◀▶ 7 - 8:15 p.m.**

We will read a series of passages from traditional texts and legends about the land of Israel, its holiness, beauty, sorrow, danger and centrality in Jewish life and spirit. In addition to Biblical and Rabbinic texts, we will look at Hasidic stories, legal material and tales of Christianity and Islam. (If there is interest, we will join with Amy Schwartz's Psalms class for a session on Temple Psalms.)

*Norman Shore* is a veteran teacher and a founder and former president of the Jewish Study Center.

Adas, JSC members \$50; non-members \$75.

**The Sephardic Tradition in Music and Poetry**  
**May 14, 21, 28 ◀▶ 8:15 - 9:25 p.m.**

**May 14--Medieval Sephardic Poetry.** The class will look at both secular pieces and Hebrew liturgical poetry (*Piyyut*) from some of the best known medieval poets. *Rabbi Steven Glazer* is rabbi emeritus of Congregation Beth Emeth in Herndon, Va., and teaches at George Washington University.

**May 21--Sephardic Liturgical Music.** A look at the lovely and distinctive melodies that make up the tradition. *Rabbi Joshua Maroof* is spiritual leader of Magen David Sephardic Congregation in Rockville.

**May 28--Mizrahi (Judeo-Arabic) Music of the Late 20th Century.** The class will hear recordings, discuss the influence of Arab music, and survey the performers, instruments and styles that create the unique sounds of this genre. *Haim Malka*, deputy director of the Middle East program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, has wide-ranging expertise in Jewish and Arab music. *Naomi Malka*, Adas Israel's Ritual Coordinator, plays both Arabic and Western violin. She studied with Simon Shaheen, a master of Arabic music.



Series: JSC, Adas members \$40, non-members \$55. Single session: \$15/\$20.

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Phone: (202) 332-1221

**\*\*\* SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT \*\*\***

**Sunday, May 4, 1:30-3 p.m. — General Orde Wingate Memorial Ceremony  
Auditorium of The Women in Military Service for America  
at Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington Cemetery Metro. Paid parking available at the Visitors Center.**

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 “*HaYedid* - 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 Theater in WWII. A truly original, unconventional military thinker and leader, General Wingate is memorialized on several continents. **Free and open to all**, this event is organized by the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America/ DC Department. For information: (571) 236-1189.

**About the Jewish Study Center**

The Jewish Study Center was founded in 1978 as an independent nonprofit institute of adult Jewish education. Our mission is to provide classes and programs on a broad range of topics in an atmosphere where anybody, regardless of background or level of current Jewish involvement, can feel comfortable learning.

**[www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)**

Email: [info@jewishstudycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter.org)

Phone: (202) 332-1221

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

**OUR CFC # IS: 29158**



**Class Cancellation Policies**

Classes may be canceled 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.
- There is insufficient enrollment to hold the class.

To see if a class is canceled due to weather, call the building where it is scheduled to be held. Adas Israel: (202) 362-4433, [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org); Hill Center: (202) 682-2245, [www.hillcenter.org](http://www.hillcenter.org); LGBT Center (202) 549-4172, [www.thedccenter.org](http://www.thedccenter.org).

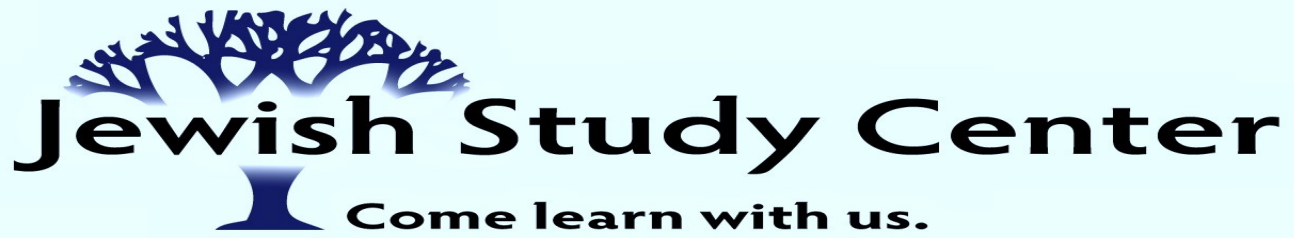
If a class is canceled due to teacher illness we will notify you as soon as possible. Class sessions canceled due to weather will be rescheduled as soon as possible and when possible at the same place, time and day of the week as the original session. For information about rescheduled class sessions,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

If there are no pre-registrations 24 hours before a class, that class may be canceled. If fewer than five students show up for the first session of a class, the instructor has the option of canceling it after waiting 15 minutes. (However, many instructors choose to proceed.) If your class is canceled 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 noon the day of a scheduled program.

**We suggest you check our website in the afternoon of the day of your program to confirm your course status.**



Help the Study Center continue to grow . . .



Please consider joining and supporting the Study Center with a membership or voluntary donation.

Send us this form or make a contribution through our website: [WWW.JEWISHSTUDYCENTER.ORG](http://WWW.JEWISHSTUDYCENTER.ORG)

Questions: (202) 332-1221 or [info@jewishstudycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no. \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I want to support the JSC!** Your donation amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(We are a 501(c) 3 organization; your contribution is tax deductible.)

**I want to become a member (or renew my membership)!**

**JSC Single Annual Membership**  **\$36** \_\_\_\_\_

**JSC Student Annual Membership**  **\$18** \_\_\_\_\_

**JSC Family Annual Membership:**  **\$72** \_\_\_\_\_

**Give the gift of membership!** Bring someone else into the Jewish Study Center community!

**Gift membership for:** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Single  \$36 Family  \$72

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to: The Jewish Study Center**

**Payment by Credit Card for Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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\* Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR ALL THE FIELDS ABOVE.

**Jewish Study Center, 5614 Connecticut Ave. N.W. #180, Washington, D.C. 20015**

# Registration Form—Spring 2014

Hill Center (Eastern Market)				Wednesdays at Adas Israel (Cleveland Park)			
<u>American Jewish Comedy</u>	March 30 6:30 PM	___ x \$15 JSC, Hill Havurah members ___ x \$20 non-members		<u>Challah Baking</u>	April 23 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$20 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$25 non-members	
Tuesdays at DC Center for LGBT (U Street)				<u>Economic Choices</u>	April 23, 30 May 7 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$40 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$55 non-members	
Session	Date	# Attend/Fee	Cost	Session	Date	# Attend/Fee	Cost
<u>Passover Menus</u>	April 1 7 PM	___ x \$15 JSC members ___ x \$20 non-members		<u>Zohar</u>	April 30 May 7, 14 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$40 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$55 non-members	
<u>Make Your Own Haggadah</u>	April 1 8:15 PM	___ x \$15 JSC, members ___ x \$20 non-members		<u>Psalms</u>	April 30, May 7 8:15-9:25 PM	2 sessions: ___ x \$25 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$35 non-members	
<u>Intro to Kabbalah</u>	April 29 7 PM	___ x \$15 SC, members ___ x \$20 non-members		<u>Eurasia and Silk Road</u>	May 7 14, 28 7-8:15 PM	3 sessions: ___ x \$40 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$55 non-members  Single session: ___ x \$15 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$20 non-members	
<u>Judaism in the Courts</u>	May 6 7 PM	___ x \$15 JSC, members ___ x \$20 non-members		<u>Texts on Israel</u>	May 7, 14 21, 28 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$70 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$90 non-members	
Wednesdays at Adas Israel (Cleveland Park)				<u>The Sephardic Tradition</u>	May 14 21, 28 8:15-9:25PM	3 sessions: ___ x \$40 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$55 non-members  Single session: ___ x \$15 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$20 non-members	
<u>Mapping</u>	March 26 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$15 JSC, Adas mem- bers ___ x \$20 non-members					
<u>Making Haroset</u>	April 2 7-8:15 PM	___ x \$15 JSC, Adas members ___ x \$20 non-members					

## Registration Form—Spring 2014—Page 2

Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Add voluntary donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

1) Check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to: The Jewish Study Center

Mail to: Jewish Study Center, 5514 Connecticut Ave. N.W. #180, Washington, D.C. 20015

### Registration payment by credit card

2) Payment by Credit Card for Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Email address \_\_\_\_\_ \* Phone no. \_\_\_\_\_

\* Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\* PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR ALL THE FIELDS ABOVE.

**Are You Under 30?  
Pay \$30 for a Package of 6 Class Sessions!**

**Learn with us for less.** We offer ways to reduce your tuition:

- 1) **Register early.** For a \$5 discount, pre-register online or by email at least 48 hours before the class session.
- 2) **Bring a friend for free.** Bring along a new student who takes out a Jewish Study Center membership, and you can take that evening's class for free.
- 3) **For those under 30:** Pay \$30 for a Package of 6 class sessions! (Choose them as you go.)

### **Take advantage of our volunteer program.**

If you would like to take classes but tuition is a barrier contact us about receiving free tuition in return for volunteering your time. We are a learning community and want no one turned away for financial reasons.

Contact us at: [info@jewishstudycenter](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter) or (202) 332-1221.

### **Become a member of the Jewish Study Center.**

Member benefits include discounts and special events.



Jewish Study Center  
Come learn with us.

5614 Connecticut Ave. N.W. #180  
Washington, D.C. 20015

[www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)  
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**Jewish Study Center**  
**[www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)**

**JSC Class Locations**

**Adas Israel Congregation (Wednesdays)** — 2850 Quebec St. N.W., D.C .  
(1 block from Cleveland Park Metro — Red Line)

**The D.C. Center for the LGBT Community**—2000 14th St. N.W., D.C.  
(1 block from U Street Metro)

**The Hill Center**—921 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E., D.C.  
(2 blocks from Eastern Market Metro—Blue and Orange Lines)

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