



# Institute for Adult Jewish Studies

## Sponsoring Congregations

*Congregation L'Dor V'Dor  
Congregation Simchat HaLev  
Jericho Jewish Center  
Manetto Hill Jewish Center*

*Midway Jewish Center  
North Shore Synagogue  
Plainview Jewish Center  
Temple Beth Torah*

*Temple Chaverim  
Temple Or Elohim  
Woodbury Jewish Center*

## PROGRAM 2018–2019 • ACADEMIC YEAR 5779

**Fall Session: Midway Jewish Center, 330 South Oyster Bay Road, Syosset, NY 11791  
516-938-8390**

Opening Lecture: Monday, October 15, 2018 at 9 PM. *No classes scheduled that day.*  
Classes run October 22 through December 10, 7:45 PM to 8:45 PM, preceding each lecture.

***Refreshments following lectures donated by ShopRite of Plainview***

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Speaker</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
October 15	Rabbi David Kalb	The Many Voices of Israel
October 22	Nitsana Darshan-Leitner	Following the Terrorist's Money Trail — The Prosecutor for Victims of Terrorism
October 29	Jordana Lebowitz	To Look a Nazi in the Eye
November 5	Dr. Rafael Medoff	FDR and the Holocaust: New Research, New Controversies
November 12	Mary Glickman	Southern Jewish Experience: Growing Up in the South as a Jew
November 19	Manashe Khaimov	Everything We Want to Know About Bukharian Jews
November 26	Dr. David E. Kaufman	Jews of New York City: The Greatest Jewish Community in the History of the Diaspora
December 3	Rabbi Marvin Tokayer	Unknown Jewish Heroes of China, Japan and India
December 10	Dr. David Podles	A Poignant Journey Through Jewish Musical History

## Winter Session

**Jewish Music and the World by Robert Cohen**

**Temple Or Elohim, 18 Tobie Lane, Jericho, NY 11753, 516-433-9888**

**Programs at 8 PM, Mondays, January 7, 14, 21 and 28**

No additional charge for those registered for the Fall Session.  
If not registered for the Fall Session: Each lecture \$5, or \$15 for all four.

January 7	Jewish Music in the Mainstream: Jewish Themes in American Popular, Classical and Folk Music
January 14	Ecology in Song: Jewish Music for the Earth
January 21	American-Jewish Music and African-American Music: Bridges of Song
January 28	Israel and the World: A Musical Conversation

# Fall Session Lectures

## October 15 — Rabbi David Kalb

### *The Many Voices of Israel*

**Rabbi David Kalb** is the rabbi of Beit Ohr Torah, a new organization that reaches out to Jews who are disconnected from Judaism and the Jewish community. Beit Ohr Torah is particularly focused on reaching out to inter-dating and intermarried couples. Rabbi Kalb is an associate faculty member at CLAL, the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, and is also a Senior Rabbinic Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute. He has taught at the Academy for Jewish Religion, Touro College and Norwalk Community College and has lectured at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School. His articles have appeared in the *Huffington Post*, *Jerusalem Post*, *New York Jewish Week*, *JTA*, *Jerusalem Report*, *Long Island Jewish World* and *Jewcy.com*. Rabbi Kalb approaches scholarship as a vibrant reflection of Jewish life, believing that Judaism is a holistic experience that operates in the real world, not just in the synagogue.

## October 22 — Nitsana Darshan-Leitner

### *Following the Terrorist's Money Trail — The Prosecutor for Victims of Terrorism*

Israeli activist attorney **Nitsana Darshan-Leitner** has been leading the legal fight against terror, its financing and the anti-Israel boycott campaign (BDS). As the president of the Israel-based civil rights organization, Shurat HaDin-Israel Law Center, whose motto is "Bankrupting Terrorism—One Lawsuit at a Time," she has represented hundreds of terror victims in legal actions against terror organizations and their supporters. Ms. Darshan-Leitner has successfully recovered more than 200 million dollars in compensation on their behalf. In recent years, she initiated a legal campaign to deprive terrorists of social media resources, such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, which they use to incite violence against Jews and promote terror attacks. In her efforts to combat anti-Semitism and anti-Israeli activities, Ms. Darshan-Leitner assisted in blocking the Gaza Flotilla, terminated efforts to indict IDF soldiers for war crimes and filed legal actions against those who boycott Israeli academics and companies in violation of the law. In 2016, Ms. Darshan-Leitner was chosen as one of the "50 Most Influential Jews in the World" by the *Jerusalem Post*. Ms. Darshan-Leitner is a graduate of the Bar-Ilan University Law Faculty, holds an MBA from Manchester University and is a mother of six, including triplets.

## October 29 — Jordana Lebowitz

### *To Look a Nazi in the Eye*

**Jordana Lebowitz** was inspired to become an advocate for Holocaust remembrance and human rights after participating in the March of the Living when she was 16. She later attended the trial of convicted former Nazi officer Oskar Groening in 2015 and coauthored a novel about her experiences there, *To Look a Nazi in the Eye*. For Canadian Holocaust Education Week in 2015, Ms. Lebowitz brought a replica of a Holocaust cattle car to the University of Guelph, Ontario, and set up an interactive exhibit inside. It was visited by more than 2,000 people and subsequently she turned this idea into a nonprofit educational program that could inspire more students. Ms. Lebowitz is a recent Psychology graduate of the University of Guelph. She is currently working as an educator in the Holocaust Outreach program at the UN headquarters in NY and takes time to pursue her passions, including speaking about her experiences.

## November 5 — Dr. Rafael Medoff

### *FDR and the Holocaust: New Research, New Controversies*

Dr. Rafael Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, based in Washington, D.C., which focuses on America's response to Nazism and the Holocaust. He is the author or editor of 19 books about the Holocaust, Zionism, and American Jewish history, and has contributed to the *Encyclopedia Judaica* and many other reference volumes. Dr. Medoff has also taught Jewish history at Ohio State University, Purchase College of the State University of New York, and elsewhere, and served as associate editor of the scholarly journal *American Jewish History*. Dr. Medoff's most recent projects have included collaborating with Disney's educational division on a series of animated shorts about Americans who spoke out against the Holocaust and producing a series of Holocaust-related comic books for high schools.

## November 12 — Mary Glickman

### *Southern Jewish Experience: Growing Up in the South as a Jew*

**Mary Glickman** is a writer, public relations professional and fund-raiser. Born on the South Shore of Boston, she studied at the Université de Lyon and Boston University. She was raised in a strict Irish-Polish family; however, from an early age, Mrs. Glickman felt an affinity toward Judaism and converted when she married a Jewish man. After living in Boston for 20 years, she and her husband traveled to South Carolina and discovered a love for

all things Southern. She now lives in Seabrook Island, South Carolina, with her husband, cat and beloved horse, King of Harts. Mrs. Glickman's first novel, *Home in the Morning*, has been optioned for film and her second, *One More River*, was a 2011 National Jewish Book Award finalist in fiction.

## November 19 — Manashe Khaimov

### *Everything We Want to Know About Bukharian Jews*

**Manashe Khaimov** is director of Community Engagement and Development at Queens College Hillel, where he also serves as adjunct professor of Jewish Studies, with a specialty in the History and Culture of the Bukharian Jews. He is a founding director of the Bukharian Jewish Union, an organization for young professionals, where he serves as vice president of Community Relations. Khaimov was born in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, a city along the Silk Road, where his ancestors lived for over 2000 years, making his Jewish identity simultaneously Bukharian, Sephardic, Mizrahi, and Russian-speaking. Khaimov is a recipient of the *New York Jewish Week 36 Under 36 Visionary Jewish Leader Award* and is an alumnus of the Nahum Goldmann Fellowship for International Jewish Leaders. Khaimov received his BA from Baruch College, where he served as Hillel president and graduated from Hunter College Silverman School of Social Work, with a master's degree in Community Organizing, Planning and Development.

## November 26 — Dr. David E. Kaufman

### *Jews of New York City: The Greatest Jewish Community in the History of the Diaspora*

**Dr. David E. Kaufman** is a scholar and teacher of American Jewish history. Having studied at Columbia College, the Jewish Theological Seminary, and Brandeis University, he spent 10 years on the faculty of the Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, and five years as chairman of Jewish studies at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY. He is the author of numerous articles on the history of American Judaism and Jewish education, as well as two books: *Shul with a Pool: The Synagogue-Center in American Jewish History* and *Jewhooing the Sixties: American Celebrity and Jewish Identity*. Dr. Kaufman has recently founded a new organization, "NEW YORK JEW: Center for New York Jewish History, Culture, and Community."

## December 3 — Rabbi Marvin Tokayer

### *Unknown Jewish Heroes of China, Japan and India*

**Rabbi Marvin Tokayer** is one of the world's foremost authorities on the Jewish experience in the Far East and is a noted author and lecturer. Rabbi Tokayer received his bachelor's and master's degrees as well as his rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University. After joining the Air Force, he was assigned to the Far East as a chaplain, and then served for many years as the rabbi of the Jewish community of Japan. His congregation also included the Jewish communities of India, China, Burma, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Philippines. He has authored more than 20 books on Judaica in Japanese, and has contributed to the *Encyclopedia Judaica* on rabbinics. He is the author of *The Fugu Plan: The Untold Story of the Japanese and the Jews During World War II*, which tells of the heroic escape of European refugees to China and Japan during the Holocaust, and which became an award-winning PBS documentary. Rabbi Tokayer currently resides in Great Neck.

## December 10 — Dr. David Podles

### *A Poignant Journey Through Jewish Musical History*

An acclaimed international concert violinist from Riga, Latvia, Dr. Podles received a Ph.D. in Music from the Conservatory in Riga and is laureate of three prestigious international competitions. He has performed as a soloist and in symphony and chamber orchestras, in opera and ballet theaters and on tour throughout Europe and across Russia, including at the Bolshoi and Kirov. In the U.S., he has performed at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, 92 Street Y and Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Center.

## Winter Session

### *Jewish Music and the World*

#### January 7, 14, 21 and 28 — Robert Cohen

Robert Cohen is a music historian who has taught and lectured on Jewish music and American folk and popular music at the New York Public Library (Jewish Division Lectures), the New England Conservatory of Music, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Hebrew College in Boston, the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College and the New School. He has produced and hosted over 100 radio programs on Jewish culture and identity, and he wrote the NPR documentary, *One People, Many Voices: American-Jewish Music Comes of Age*, and produced the compilation CD, *Open the Gates! New American Jewish Music for Prayer*, copies of which will be for sale after each lecture.

## Fall Session Classes:

Each course listed below (with the exception of Course #3) meets for 8 weeks from 7:45 PM to 8:45 PM on consecutive Monday evenings from October 22 through December 10 at Midway Jewish Center, Syosset. Register for one course only. You are encouraged to use the form on the attached flap to register by mail, or you can register in person on October 15 or October 22 between 7:30 PM and 8:45 PM.

### Course #1 • The Israeli Short Story

*Instructor:* Rabbi Steven Conn, Plainview Jewish Center

The Israeli short story is one of the best tools for understanding the culture, history and people of Israel. Although Israel is only 70 years old, it has a rich literary tradition. Authors like Amos Oz, Aharon Appelfeld, A.B. Yehoshua, S.Y. Agnon and others established Israeli literature as a worldwide cultural phenomenon. Contemporary writers like David Grossman, Etgar Keret, Nir Baram and Sayed Kashua have expanded the scope of Israeli fiction to include different styles and more diverse points of view. In this course, we will trace the development of the Israeli short story by reading some of the most outstanding pieces written over the past 70 plus years. Each week, participants will be assigned to read the next week's story at home. We will discuss the story in class the following week. All materials will be provided to students in translation. **Reading before class is a must.** Join us for what is sure to be an enlightening discussion of great works of literature and the land and people they represent.

### Course #2 • Judaism: A Walk Between Two Poles

*Instructor:* Rabbi Jason Fruithandler, Woodbury Jewish Center

We often start questions with something like, "What does Judaism say about...?", or we make statements that begin, "Traditionally Judaism believes..." In this class we will push the notions of what Judaism "is." We will challenge ourselves to see the poles/extremes of Judaism and imagine how Jewish practice has developed between these extremes. At the end of the class, participants will be able to name core conflicting values inside Jewish culture/history/tradition and express some concrete ways our people have sought to live with the conflict rather than choose a side.

### Course #3 • Hasidic Masters and Their Teachings

*(No class on October 29)*

*Instructor:* Rabbi Ben Herman, Jericho Jewish Center

Who were the earliest Hasidic rabbis? In what society did they live? How have their teachings affected world Jewry? We will learn about the life and teachings of the Besht (Baal Shem Tov), the Alter Rebbe (Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, founder of Chabad), Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav, Rabbi Menachem Nachum Twersky of Chernobyl (whose family founded eight Hasidic dynasties) and others.

### Course #4 • Jewish Leadership During the Holocaust

*Instructor:* Rabbi Michael Katz, Temple Beth Torah, Westbury

We'll examine the ethical dilemmas faced by a variety of Jewish leaders from 1939 to 1945: rabbis, politically-minded American Jews, those in the Yishuv (pre-state of Palestine), the Judenrat (Nazi-appointed Jewish "Elders" in the ghettos) and leaders of the Resistance. What choices did they have? What decisions did they make? How does history judge them today? What might we have done had we been in their place?

### Course #5 • Israel at 70 – Seven Decades of Israel Through Israeli Poetry

*Instructor:* Rabbi Joel Levenson, Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

As we celebrate Israel's 70th birthday and consider Israel's achievements and challenges, this class offers an opportunity for an in-depth conversation about Israel through the study of iconic Israeli texts. We will do a close reading of poems and song lyrics as a vehicle to explore the questions of modern Jewish identity and contemporary Israel. Join us as we study songs such as "Jerusalem of Gold," and writers like Yehuda Amichai.

### Course #6 • Creating Modern Midrash

*Instructor:* Rabbi Rachel Maimin, North Shore Synagogue, Syosset

Have you ever wondered about those moments and stories that seem to be missing from our biblical texts? Historically, our rabbis wrote midrash to explain parts of our texts that weren't clear; modern writers and artists alike have taken up where they left off. Explore with Rabbi Maimin the art of midrash, both classical and contemporary, and let's create our own midrash together.

### Course #7 • The Political Conservatism of the Passover Haggadah

*Instructor:* Rabbi Rafi Rank, Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Jewish culture and religious observance have always been text-based traditions. Jewish sacred texts have been the source of moral, legal and cultural inspiration throughout the history of the Jewish people. The Haggadah, the liturgical basis of the annual and ever-popular Seder, is one such text. As with all such texts, each generation has sought to understand the sacred work, sometimes exposing the author's true intentions and sometimes imposing on the text a spirit and sentiment that would reflect the prevailing politics of the day, irrespective of the author's intentions. So many Haggadot today are interpreted in line with a politically liberal spirit, reflecting the liberal proclivities of American Jewry. But suppose the midrashim and rituals of the Haggadah were mined for politically conservative sentiments. Could the Haggadah support such sentiments consistent with politically conservative ideals? This course will explore such ideas and over the eight weeks of this unusual journey, grant participants a fuller and deeper examination of a sacred text than a one-hour Seder allows, and without that gnawing, anxious anticipation of Shulhan Orekh (the festive meal). Knowledge of Hebrew would be helpful but not necessary to participate in this course.

### Course #8 • Kabbalah and the Journey of the Soul

*Instructor:* Rabbi Neil Schuman, Manetto Hill Jewish Center, Plainview

Jewish tradition believes in the afterlife. Kaddish, the *El Malei Rachamim* prayer and the Yizkor service all attest to this. The Jewish mystical tradition, the Kabbalah, describes the journey of the soul — including the belief in reincarnation — in detail. Join us as we follow the path and development of the soul by studying the words of the Kabbalists over more than a 2000-year period. In addition, we'll compare our beliefs to those of others, seeing where we agree and where we diverge. Classes will start with a small meditation to open our hearts and minds.

### Course #9 • Israeli Folk and International Dancing

*Instructor:* Devorah Cohen-Keynan

# INSTITUTE FOR ADULT JEWISH STUDIES

Arlene Kleinstein, JJC, Director

## Steering Committee

Irene Abrahams, TBT  
Cathy Baumgarten, JJC  
Rhonnie Diener, PJC  
Marty Evans  
Tess Garber, MJC

Robert Gottfried, NSS  
John Klimaszewski, MJC  
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Dr. Elliot T. Udell  
Carole Wolfner, NSS  
Elliot Zolin, TBT

[www.iajs.org](http://www.iajs.org)

## SPONSORING CONGREGATIONS

### Congregation L'Dor V'Dor (CLDVD)

11 Temple Lane  
Oyster Bay, NY 11771  
516-470-1700  
Rabbi Steven Moskowitz  
Cantorial Soloist Talya Smilowitz  
President: Lisa Weiner

### Congregation Simchat HaLev (CSHL)

421 Split Rock Road  
Syosset, NY 11791  
516-921-4224  
Rabbi Jay Weinstein  
Rabbi Jenn Weinstein

### Jericho Jewish Center (JJC)

430 North Broadway  
Jericho, NY 11753  
516-938-2540  
Rabbi Benjamin Herman  
Cantor Kenneth Cohen  
President: Richard Cepler

### Manetto Hill Jewish Center (MHJC)

244 Manetto Hill Road  
Plainview, NY 11803  
516-935-5454  
Rabbi Neil Schuman  
President: Michael Dashow

### Midway Jewish Center (MJC)

330 South Oyster Bay Road  
Syosset, NY 11791  
516-938-8390  
Rabbi Perry Raphael Rank  
Associate Rabbi Joel Levenson  
Cantor Adam Frei  
President: Michael Kohler

### North Shore Synagogue (NSS)

83 Muttontown Road  
Syosset, NY 11791  
516-921-2282  
Rabbi Jaimee Shalhevet  
Associate Rabbi Rachel Maimin  
Cantor Kyle Cotler  
President: Scott Fisher

### Plainview Jewish Center (PJC)

95 Floral Drive  
Plainview, NY 11803  
516-938-8610  
Rabbi Steven Conn  
President: Charles Wasserman

### Temple Beth Torah (TBT)

243 Cantiague Rock Road  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516-334-7979  
Rabbi Michael Katz  
Cantor Carol Chesler  
Co-Presidents:  
Randi Lesnick  
Rich Rothstein

### Temple Chaverim (TC)

1050 Washington Avenue  
Plainview, NY 11803  
516-367-6100  
Rabbi James L. Simon  
Assistant Rabbi Debra Bennet  
Cantor Bradley Hyman  
President: Russell Willens

### Temple Or Elohim (TOE)

18 Tobie Lane  
Jericho, NY 11753  
516-433-9888  
Cantor David Katz  
President: Michael Wilner

### Woodbury Jewish Center (WJC)

200 South Woods Road  
Woodbury, NY 11797  
516-496-9100  
Rabbi Jason Fruithandler  
Cantor Aaron Cohen  
President: Laury Weber