

10th Annual
**JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL**
OF GRAND RAPIDS

General Information

All films are presented at Celebration! Cinema North located at the corner of Knapp St. & East Beltline, Grand Rapids, MI

All Individual Tickets are \$6.00.

For tickets and information contact the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids:
(616) 942-5553

4127 Embassy Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Despite our best intentions and efforts, sometimes arrangements go awry. If necessary, we reserve the right to change or cancel movies or locations.

For information call:
Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids
(616) 942-5553
or visit us at
www.jewishgrandrapids.org

10th Annual
**JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL**
OF GRAND RAPIDS

Sunday, May 4 through Thursday, May 8, 2008

At  **Cinema North**

PRAYING WITH LIOR

ARRANGED

STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME

LITTLE HEROES

CHAMPAGNE SPY

ORTHODOX STANCE

**10th
Anniversary**



Welcome to the 2008 Jewish Film Festival

Welcome to the 10th Annual Jewish Film Festival of Grand Rapids, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids. We are thrilled to be back at the beautiful Celebration! Cinema North. Jack Loeks Theaters and Celebration! Cinema have been very avid supporters of the Jewish Film Festival. Please be sure to help us in expressing our gratitude to our generous hosts.

Listed elsewhere in the program are Film Festival committee members, many of whom spent a considerable amount of time screening films, attending committee meetings, making arrangements for special events and volunteering to usher and sell tickets.

The committee has selected a variety of movies: documentaries, dramas, and comedies in English or subtitled. The material is generally family oriented although parental guidance is always a good idea.

Also listed in the program is a roster of our private and corporate sponsors. Their generous donations allow us to keep individual ticket prices affordable for film lovers.

On behalf of the Film Festival committee and the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids, thank you for your interest and patronage.

Enjoy!

The Tenth Annual Film Festival Steering Committee.

Jewish Film Festival Mission Statement

The mission of the Jewish Film Festival of Grand Rapids is to entertain and to educate. The festival uses the power of film to challenge conventional perspectives on complex and dynamic issues facing the Jewish people and the community as a whole. It also provides a forum for the Grand Rapids community to dialogue with filmmakers, producers, writers and expert panelists. Please join us as the festival brings our community together for five days of cultural enlightenment and entertainment.

Jewish Film Festival Committee

Donna Boorstein • Sari Cohen
Sheila Frank • Rick Hay • Bev Knopp
Myrna Kirschner • Lori Jacobs
Julian Joseph • Michelle Kanig
David Reifler • Sue Remes
Judy Subar • Mort Zukerman

Our Sponsors

The Jewish Film Festival Committee would like to thank the following people and corporations for their generous contributions

The Oscar

The Rosenzweig-Coopersmith Foundation

Underwriters (\$500.00)

Sheldon & Lois Kahn • Dr. Darrel & Carrie Rosen
Jerry & Judy Subar • TDS Metrocom

Producer (\$250.00)

Bill & Donna Boorstein • Dr. Jeffrey & Sheila Frank
Leon & Myrna Kirschner • Sam Kravitz
Eileen Newman • Dr. David & Karen Reifler
Sherman-Hay Family • Lanny Thodey

Actor (\$100.00)

Dr. Jim & Patti Flood • Don & Bluma Herman
Lori Jacobs • Michael & Roberta Jacobson
Dr. Julian & Judy Joseph • Sheldon & Susan Kopperl
Abe & Sylvia Krissoff • Chuck & Maxine Shapiro
Claude & Sharyl Titche • Gib, Barbara & Micah Wynn

Fan

Mort Zukerman

dangerous secret. His father reveals to him that he is an agent for the Israeli Mossad; this occupation leads his father to a double life – one with his family in Paris and another, undercover in Cairo under the alias Wolfgang Lotz.

This striking documentary is an intense journey into the world of espionage, including rare interviews with former Mossad agents, told through the sad eyes of the son who was left behind.

Guest speaker: Oded Gur Arie, son of the Champagne Spy

ORTHODOX STANCE

Thursday, May 8th

7:30 p.m.

82 min

English and Russian with English subtitles

Dmitriy Salita is a Russian immigrant, professional boxer and a religious Jew. *Orthodox Stance* portrays Dmitriy's maturation in each of these disparate communities, and the seemingly incompatible cultures and characters working together to support his rare and remarkable devotion to both Orthodox Judaism and the pursuit of a professional boxing title. In the end, the film is about more than just boxing and religion, but about a young man's search for meaning in life.

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Israel Liberow, Dmitriy Salita's Manager



PRAYING WITH LIOR

Sunday, May 4th

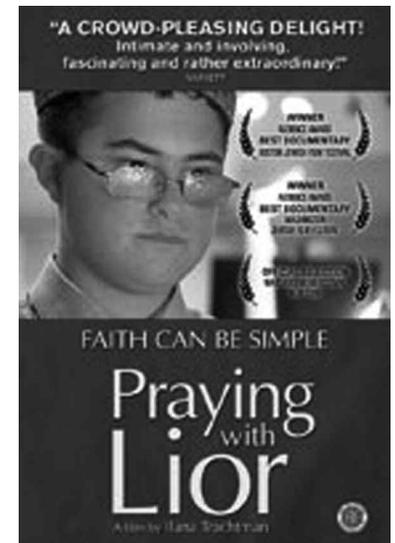
6:30 p.m.

87 min

English

The winner of numerous Audience Awards for Best Documentary, *Praying with Lior* asks whether someone with Down Syndrome can be a "spiritual genius." Many believe Lior is close to God – at least that's what his family and community believe – though he's also a burden, a best friend, an inspiration and an embarrassment, depending on who is asked and when. As this moving and entertaining documentary moves to its climax, Lior must pass through the gateway to manhood – his Bar Mitzvah.

Panel Presentation and Reception: Becca Hornstein, consultant for film; Elizabeth Crouch from Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan



ARRANGED

Monday, May 5th

7:30 p.m.

90 min

English, Hebrew and Arabic



Friendship has no religion

Two young women – one an Orthodox Jew, the other Muslim – meet and become friends as first-year teachers at a public school in Brooklyn, NY. Over the course of the year they learn they share much in common, not the least of which is that they are both going through arranged marriages.

Guest Speaker: Yuta Silverman, Executive Producer and Writer

STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME

Tuesday, May 6th

7:30 p.m.

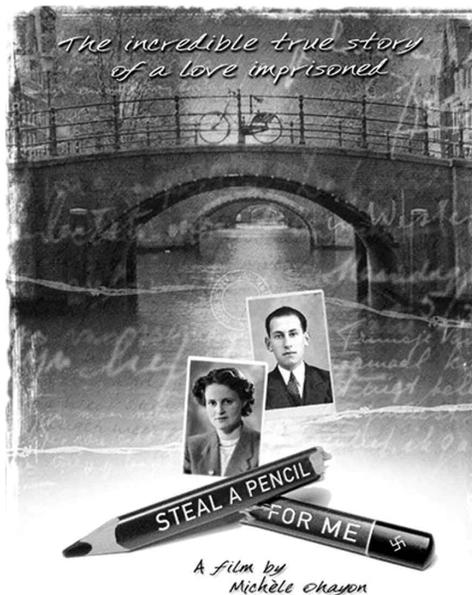
94 min

English & Dutch

This is a compelling documentary feature film about the power of love and the ability of humankind to rise above unimaginable suffering.

1943: Holland is under total Nazi occupation. In Amsterdam, Jack, an unassuming accountant, first meets Ina at a birthday party. Ina is a 20-year-old beauty from a wealthy diamond manufacturing family who instantly steals Jack's heart. But Jack's pursuit of love will be complicated; he is poor and married to Manja, a flirtatious and mercurial spouse.

When the Jews are being deported, the husband, the wife and the lover find themselves at the same concentration camp; actually living in the same barracks. When Jack's wife objects to the relationship in spite of their unhappy marriage, Jack and Ina resort to writing secret love letters, which sustain them throughout the horrible circumstances of the war.



LITTLE HEROES

Wednesday, May 7th

4:30 p.m.

76 minutes

Hebrew and Russian, w/subtitles

They are called "Little Heroes," but these Israeli children display adult fortitude, sensitivity and determination as they attempt to rescue two older teens who have had an accident. This film explores themes faced by children worldwide - bullying, exclusion, worthiness and trust. "Little Heroes" appeals to the whole family and will keep you on the edge of your seat.



ISRAEL@60 INDEPENDENCE DAY DINNER

6:00 p.m. in the Wave Room

R.S.V.P. by May 5th to the Jewish Federation
at 942-5553

CHAMPAGNE SPY

7:30 p.m.

91 min

Hebrew, French and German with English subtitles

At the age of 12, while living in Paris with his parents, Oded learns a very large and

