Columbia Jewish News

Issue 1 | Volume XLI | January & February 2016



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IDEAL FOR AGES 2-6 (ALL AGES ARE INVITED)



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Thank you to all who participated in Cycle for Good & donated to the JFS food pantry and MMRF. A very big thank you goes to Harold, Angie & Mark for donating their time on a beautiful Sunday morning to teach three hours of spin classes! And thank you to Robin Rudman for organizing this great event!



We had a wonderful time celebrating Chanukah this year at the Kahn JCC, Harbison Rec Center & Barnes & Noble! For photos from these great events, visit our Facebook pages: facebook.com/jewishcolumbia facebook.com/PJColumbia facebook.com/jcccolumbia

The Columbia Jewish News is a bi-monthly publication of the Columbia Jewish Federation.



Columbia Jewish Federation

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January/February 2016, Volume 41, Issue 1 **Contributing Writers**

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The views and opinions expressed in the Columbia Jewish News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the Columbia Jewish Federation or the editorial staff of this publication.

We welcome all voices from our community. If you would like to contribute an article, life cycle announcement, photos, or advertising, visit www.jewishcolumbia.org/cjn for submission guidelines and advertising rates.

Dr. Stephen Serbin, DSA Recipient with Barry Abels, CJF and JCC Executive Director

Why be Jewish?

Dr. Stephen Serbin, DSA Rewith Barry Abels, CJF and Journal Dear Friends,

Usually in this space I try to up topics related to our local Fed matters regarding Israel or ot listening to Dr. Serbin's remains Service Award winner, I was so important they were. Often we to practice our Judaism, but he being Jewish. It's a call to action inspired as I am.

Barry Usually in this space I try to update or inform you about topics related to our local Federation or JCC, as well as matters regarding Israel or other relevant issues. After listening to Dr. Serbin's remarks as our Distinguished Service Award winner, I was struck by how timely and important they were. Often we stay concerned about how to practice our Judaism, but he addresses the "Why" for being Jewish. It's a call to action. I hope you will be as

From DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ACCEPTANCE ADDRESS (11/19/2015)

I'm deeply grateful to Barry Abels and the Columbia Jewish Federation for honoring me with the 2015 Distinguished Service Award. I also want to thank everyone who has served on boards and committees for the Jewish and non-Jewish communities at one time or another. To demonstrate how grateful I am, I'm going to take you on a round-the-world voyage with me free of charge.

My Portuguese tour guide (not Jewish) was conducting a visit to the Alfama District of Lisbon, which is where the Jewish Quarter was located in medieval times. She proceeded to opine that this was the site of a great tragedy in Portuguese history because King Manguel of Inquisition fame expelled, executed or forcibly converted all the Jews, thereby decimating Portugal's intelligentsia. Of course, she said, the Jews constituted many of the scholars, doctors, merchants and literati of Portugal, and the country never really recovered from the Jewish "brain drain."

One of my fellow passengers on a recent cruise was a Korean woman (not Jewish). In the course of a dinner conversation, she quoted a passage from Talmud. When I inquired about how she would be familiar with such an ancient Jewish text, she informed me that many serious Korean students study Talmud (even though there have never been Jews in Korea) because they deeply respect the Jews as the most steadfast and learned people in the world.

My Spanish tour guide in Salamanca (not Jewish) proudly proclaimed that Queen Isabella was the only European ruler who would underwrite Christopher Columbus's voyage of discovery. She was convinced to do so by the esteemed University of Salamanca faculty. Of course, she said, Salamanca was the leading academic institution in Europe at the time because there were so many Jewish scholars teaching there, and their world view was much more advanced than all of their contemporaries.

My Indian guide (not Jewish) was conducting a tour of Fatepuhr Seekri, the capitol city built by a Moghul Sultan of India 600 years ago. She identified one grand hall as the site where the Sultan's "Council of Jews" met. When I asked why a fifteenth century Indian ruler would have a cabinet composed of Jewish ministers, she replied that there were virtually no Jews in India, but the Hindus and Muslims recognized that the Jews were the most brilliant and judicious people in the world, so the expression "Council of Jews" was synonymous in India with the king's "wise men."

The percentage of Jews winning a Nobel Prize is nearly 10 times greater than any other ethic or national group. Five million Jews in the tiny State of Israel file for more patents every year than one billion Muslims from Morocco to Indonesia. This is not because the Jews are a genetic super-race. It's because the milieu from which Jews derive is Judaism. The unparalleled success and survival of the Jews is due to their Jewish nurture - not their Jewish nature. If the next generation allows Judaism to slip away, then their progeny will become as ordinary and dispensable as everyone else. Jews have survived millennia of prejudice and peril because of their Jewishness, and they remain relevant to the future march of history only because of their Jewishness. Hence, the critical importance of the Jewish community in general, and Jewish education in particular.



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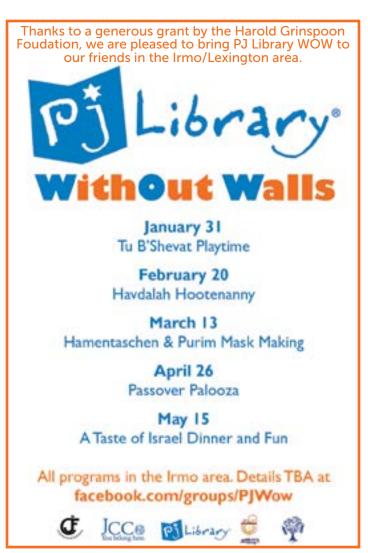
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Doesn't it strike you as strange that all of these non-Jews over the centuries from Korea to Portugal have recognized the wisdom of Judaism, but so few contemporary Jews share that perception? This is the best educated, most privileged, least persecuted generation of Jews ever, but ironically, the least literate Jewishly. It's difficult to embrace what you don't know, and most contemporary Jews are largely ignorant about Yiddishkeit. After all, they have never seriously engaged Judaism at an adult level. Even Jews who studied through Bar/Bat Mitzvah have the equivalent of a weak sixth-grade Jewish education.

So why is Jewish illiteracy so epidemic? There are many reasons, of course, but the most important is that we simply haven't done a good job of teaching Judaism to our children and our fellow Jews. Jewish parents, grandparents and community leaders generally don't teach others why to be Jewish, so how to be Jewish seems irrelevant to the younger generation and unaffiliated Jews. Our children and grandchildren are exposed to a constant barrage of violence and decadence. So how can we immunize them from the toxic environment of our era? The answer has been the same for thousands of years - under the sheltering wings of Judaism. Judaism isn't just some doctrine to believe - it's a way of life, and to live a full Jewish life, we must have a vibrant Jewish community. To have a vibrant Jewish community, we must have dedicated leadership. Everyone can (and should) contribute to the best of their ability - whether that's time, money or talent. To serve and to lead is our duty and our privilege. I've been blessed to do so for many years, and I deeply appreciate the Distinguished Service Award conferred by the Federation in recognition of that service.



Dr. Stephen Serbin (pictured above) urges everyone to Do Good Everywhere From Anywhere







Kreplach & Dim Sum: Yes, There are Jews in China!

Cantor Robyn Helzner, through stories, song and an amazing multi-media presentation, will take us through the extrodinary history of the Jewish communities in Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Kaifeng and trace their emergence as the fastest growing Jewish region in the world today.

Robyn Helzner radiates a passion for Jewish music that captivates listeners. A stunning vocalist and vivid storyteller, she brings a life-long appreciation of the power of folk music to resonate across cultural boundaries. Robyn has appeared in history-making concerts in Amsterdam, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo, and has performed throughout North America. The moving story of her underground concerts in the former Soviet Union, which led to sold-out performances in Moscow and St. Petersburg, was told on the Public Television program, Chanukah-A Celebration of Freedom. Robyn has released five recordings. Hearts Awaken, A Fire Burns, and Signs & Wonders feature the Robyn Helzner Trio. Clap Your Hands and I Live in the City are beloved by children worldwide. Robyn officiated at the first bar mitzvah celebrated in Beijing, China and serves as a cantor for congregations in Washington, DC.



Join us for a wonderful program that will delight the senses as we fill the room with beautiful images, delightful music and the aroma and taste of Chinese foods.

Monday, February 22 6:30 PM Cost: \$18 (JCC Members) | \$30 (Community)

"I first experienced Robyn's music, storytelling and high energy when serving as the director of the Jewish Community Council in Corpus Christi, TX. She was delightful and enjoyed by all!"

- Barry Abels, Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE

for our Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration Service

> Sunday, May 1 | 5:00 PM Beth Shalom Synagogue

A special message from NECHAMA

To all those that fed NECHAMA Jewish Response To Disaster and our volunteers like kings and queens during our flood response deployment in South Carolina:

On behalf of NECHAMA, those we strive to help, and the hundreds of full bellies from the last month in South Carolina, thank you. You all are the unsung heroes of the flood response efforts in Columbia. By going so far beyond the call of duty to make sure all of our teams were constantly fed, you changed the world around you. Keeping the troops fed with delicious food is probably the most important measure in managing my field teams to reach their maximum productivity (i.e., help as many families in need as possible). It was such a pleasure to have you all keeping the fridge stocked with delicious foods and dropping it all off with wonderful smiles. From a financial standpoint, you saved us thousands of dollars, allowing us to leverage even more resources directly to those in need. From a humanitarian standpoint, you were responsible for bringing smiles and compassion to a community in their time of need.

From the bottom of our hearts here at NECHAMA, thank you all so much. You are all beautiful people that we won't soon forget.

Warmest Regards, Mark McGilvery

Mazal Tov to the new Columbia Jewish Federation and Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC Executive Committees

CJF President David Lovit
CJF Vice President Joshua McDuffie
CJF Treasurer Meridith Goldstein
CJF Secretary Fred Seidenberg

JCC President Andrew Safran
JCC Vice Presidents Lyssa Harvey
Joe McGee

JCC Treasurer Barry Laban
JCC Secretary Marc Rapport

Please see the Federation and JCC websites for a full list of 2016 Board Members.

The Community Garden Springs to Life!

Laney Cohen, LMSW, JFS Director

Happy New Year! What a beautiful start to 2016. The next time that you come to the Kaite & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center, be sure to take a walk to the right side of the building. You will see 10 beautiful wooden, soil-filled beds. On our recent "Day of Mitzvot", the Jewish Community Center held many volunteers and their tools as we dug, sawed, tilled and hammered.



January 25th is Tu Bishvat, marking a "new year" for trees. Beginning this Tu Bishvat, Jewish Family Service invites the entire community to enjoy our new Community Garden. There are several goals for our garden. The hope is that the space becomes one filled with life and serenity, a place where people can go to relax, socialize and share in their love of gardening. Another goal of the Community Garden is one of feeding our neighbors. When people call to access the Jewish Food Pantry, they are provided with shelf-sustainable foods - everything from canned veggies and boxed potatoes to powdered milk. For \$40 per calendar year, one can tend a bed in the garden to grow foods not only for their own consumption, but also to give a small percentage back to the Jewish Food Pantry, providing our neighbors and community members with

fresh foods to add to the non-perishables that they receive.

Also, from our Day of Mitzvot, our conference room was filled with members of our community sorting and bagging toiletries to be given to our homeless. These were passed out at Finlay Park when Food Not Bombs provided meals. The volunteers that put these bags together worked so fast and beautifully together that their mission was accomplished very quickly.

The Day of Mitzvot was a beautiful shining example of what our community can accomplish when we come together.



A special thank you to the Community Garden Committee: Paul Westfall, Erica and Brett Altschul, David Potter, and Hillary Martin. Thank you Andy Volin for your help on preparing our timbers! This project would not be possible without the Committee's love and dedication!

Stay tuned for upcoming programming from JFS in 2016, including a Senior Seder, programs about gardening, and many other topics. We look forward to serving our community, and thank YOU for this opportunity!

If you're not interested in gardening but want to help, consider becoming a sponsor. For more information about the Community Garden - how to become a sponsor or gardener, or to ask general questions - call Laney at 787-2023 x220.



"The Day of Mitzvot was a beautiful shining example of what our community can accomplish when we come together."



"The exhibit describes not only the terror and horror at the hands of the Nazis, but also the determination and heroism of so many good people. Columbians will learn the stories of their neighbors."

HOLOCAUST REMEMBERED: An exhibit developed by the CHEC

Dr. Lilly Filler, CHEC Co-Chair

The sound of loud knocking and the heavy steps of gestapo military boots awakened my father's family in the early morning hours in April 1942. The Nazis raided the Sterenzys (Stern) family home and made the selections of who would live and who would die.

This began the nightmare of my father's journey to hell and back during the Holocaust in WWII. He was in a concentration camp and, according to him, he survived by his wit and his good luck. His personal story of survival in the concentration camps, along with the stories of other Columbia Holocaust Survivors and Columbia Liberators, constitute many of the 24 exhibit panels of "Holocaust Remembered." This exhibit explains the story of the Holocaust from the rise of Adolf Hitler to the liberation of concentration camps throughout Poland and Germany. The exhibit describes not only the terror and horror at the hands of the Nazis, but also the determination and heroism of so many good people. Columbians will learn the stories of their neighbors: Survivors Ben Stern, Bluma Goldberg and her sister Cela Miller, and Marie Gross; and Liberators T. Moffatt Burriss and Rev. George Chassey. Most SC middle school children learn about the Holocaust in the eighth grade. This exhibit can be viewed by these children, and a better understanding of the Holocaust can be achieved.

The genesis of the exhibit started with the Columbia Holocaust Memorial, dedicated in Memorial Park on Washington Street on June 6, 2001. The granite memorial is a beautiful, reflective monument which seeks to 1) remember the 6,000,000 Jews murdered in the Holocaust at the hands and orders of Hitler, as well as the other 6,000,000 people killed because of their beliefs or personal identities; honor the Holocaust Survivors for their resiliency and determination; and 3) salute the Military Liberators for their

bravery and compassion. Surrounding the Memorial are four benches with guotes from Survivors and a Liberator. Following this dedication, the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission was born to continue the education and understanding of the Holocaust. Monetary grants are available to all SC K-12 teachers. Hundreds of children come annually to visit the Memorial and the exhibit to learn about the lessons of the Holocaust. This exhibit will be shown at the SC State Museum in the Palmetto Gallery March 16-April 19, 2016 and at the Kahn Jewish Community Center April 20-May 5, 2016. make your plans to visit the "Holocaust Remembered" exhibit.



Additionally, on Sunday, April 24, 2016, check The State paper for a copy of the "Holocaust Remembered" supplement. This is the third edition of the supplement and will focus on The Medical Madness of Hitler-experimentation, genetics and ethics. It is a keepsake for those interested in WWII, the Holocaust and the local South Carolinians that were directly affected or served their country during this period of history.

Get Into Your Genes!

A unique opportunity is coming your way in February for those interested in preconception genetic carrier screening. Professor and Genetic Counselor Janice Edwards, MS, CGC of the USC School of Medicine, Genetic Counseling Program, will bring a team of genetic counselors, physicians, laboratory representatives and phlebotomists to the Kahn Jewish Community Center on February 7, 2016, 9:00am to 2:00 pm. You'll have an opportunity to speak with a genetic counselor; then individuals or couples can decide if they wish to partake in carrier screening at that time. Based on personal and family history, the screening can be tailored to your individual interest and needs.

Through this special collaboration between USC Genetic Counseling, Columbia Jewish Federation and the Kahn JCC, we will strive to make this testing affordable. A representative from the screening laboratory will be present to answer your specific questions about cost. The laboratory charge ranges from \$649-\$1000 depending on the screen chosen. However, whether you are self-pay or submitting the expense to insurance, the average out-ofpocket cost is typically settled around \$100. The laboratory encourages individuals to call their billing department to settle their bill, arrange for financial assistance or set up a payment plan as needed.

Several educational sessions will be held prior to the February 7 screening event to inform those interested and address questions. Should you decide to have genetic carrier screening, you and your physician will be given the screening results. Those that learn they are carriers for a genetic condition can access genetic counseling by referral from your private physician.

This is a wonderful chance for couples to be proactive in childbearing decisions and to find out their risks for Jewish genetic conditions.

Hope to see you at the JCC on Sunday, February 7, 2016, 9:00am to 2:00 pm.

> Please call to reserve your appointment: 803-787-2023

Blood Drive

The Tree of Life Brotherhood is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, January 31, 9:00 am-1:00pm. Request donation time at www.tolsc.org, treeoflifebh@gmail.com or 803-787-2182.



Film about the implications of Cervical Cancer Followed by a panel discussion about HPV February 18, 2016 at 6 pm



We are always eager to learn about ways to prevent or cure cancer. Now we have it!! One of the greatest discoveries has occurred in the past decade for women's fight against Cervical Cancer. The medical profession has been suspicious for some time that the cause of cervical cancer was probably related to an infection, and now research has shown that the infectious agent is the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). This virus is endemic and is passed through sexual contact. It is responsible for greater than 99% of all cervical cancers. With the administration of a vaccine (three doses given over a period of six months) this cancer could be eradicated forever, and our grandchildren would be unfamiliar with this devastating cancer.

Unfortunately, the vaccine is voluntary, and in SC less than 27% of the youngsters are opting to have the vaccine administration. Much of this is due to lack of education and understanding of the causes of cervical cancer, the mode of transmission and the resulting devastation of cervical cancer to both the patient and her family. The vaccine is available from the health department, pediatricians, gynecologists and family practitioners. It is best given to youngsters (both boys and girls) ages 9-12 but can be given up to 26 years of age.

We are pleased to announce that the Columbia Jewish Federation and Kahn Jewish Community Center has agreed to show this film, Someone you Love, as a public service to all interested parents and youngsters. This film follows several women through their battle with cervical cancer and discusses the importance of vaccinating against this potential killer. The film runs about 80 minutes, and there will be a panel discussion following the film. This will be an opportune time to ask any questions that you may have. Several of the panel members include Joan Brady, Chair of the South Carolina Cervical Cancer Awareness Initiative (SCCCAI); Dr. Deborah Greenhouse, pediatrician; and Dr. Lilly Filler, gynecologist.

Please join us on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 6 pm at the Kahn JCC for a small supper, popcorn and viewing of the film. All interested parents and their youngsters are invited to come. The program is free of charge and is sponsored jointly by the CJF, JCC and SCCCAI. Please call 803-787-2023 to make a reservation for the film. Space is limited.

Tree of Life 120th Anniversary Year begins January 22-24 with Musical Artist-in-Residence Dan Nichols

Join us as the Tree of Life celebrates our 120 years in Columbia with a kickoff weekend, January 22-24, 2016 featuring Dan Nichols.



A nationally recognized talent in the world of Jewish music, Dan Nichols is one of the most dynamic, influential and beloved Jewish musicians in North America. Dan's melodies have become an integral part of the spiritual and liturgical experience of Jewish communities and camps. Dan is also a gifted teacher, leading rich workshops on Jewish music.

For more on Dan and his music visit dannicholsmusic.com.

Below is the schedule of events, all of which will take place at the Tree of Life (6719 N. Trenholm Road, Columbia). For more information please contact 120th@tolsc.org.

Friday January 22

7:30 PM Musical Friday Night Worship Experience:

Begin the weekend and welcome the Sabbath at this uplifting service. Festive oneg Shabbat (dessert reception) to follow. No cost.

Saturday January 23

11:00 AM-1:00 PM Musical Workshop Lunch:

Participate in a rousing song session, which will be continued at the Saturday night Anniversary Concert. No cost. RSVP to 120th@tolsc.org with email address to ensure a seat.

7:30 Anniversary Acoustic Concert:

Join us for the highlight of the weekend as Dan takes the stage for a joyous concert of acoustic guitar and song. Suggested donation: \$10/individual; \$36/family (payable at the door or in advance by check to Tree of Life).

Sunday, January 24 11:00 Tu B'Shevat Seder

Celebrate the New Year of the Trees as we sing, eat (lunch will be provided) and learn at this interactive educational program. This event will include participation from Tree of Life Religious School students. Parents and community members, RSVP to 120th@tolsc.org with email address to ensure a seat.

We thank the Sid Kraus Memorial Fund for making this weekend possible, as well as the Columbia Jewish Federation, Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC, and TOL Sisterhood for their support.

We hope you can celebrate with us. -Tree of Life Program Committee

America's Premier Jewish Comedian in Columbia

Save the date for cool Jewish comedy at its BEST!



Joel Chasnoff is fast, funny and HERE in February!

Beth Shalom Synagogue Sunday, February 28, 6:30pm

Sponsored by Beth Shalom Synagogue, Columbia Jewish Federation, and Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center, this is a night not to be missed!

Fore more information about Joel, visit joelchasnoff.com.



Tuesdays With Friends 2016 Season

March 1

Mazen Cotran is back by popular demand singing some your favorites by artists such as Frank Sinatra, Neil Diamond and Elvis

April 5

Kevin Bush, local musical theater celebrity, will delight us with a taste of Broadway

May 3

Rachel Silver at the piano with songs we all love to hear

June 7

Name that Tune returns with Larry Needle & Friends

August 2 (No July program)

Bingo & musical performance by JCC campers

September 6

Enjoy another Symphony Concert Performance with Morihiko Nakahara, Music Director SC Philharmonic

November 1 (No October program)
Ballroom Dancing with Durlach & Breedlove

December 6

Holiday Celebration & Creative Arts with Lyssa Harvey

Creating a New Generation of Givers

Ron Lieber, New York Times "Your Money" columnist, to speak at JCC about raising generous children

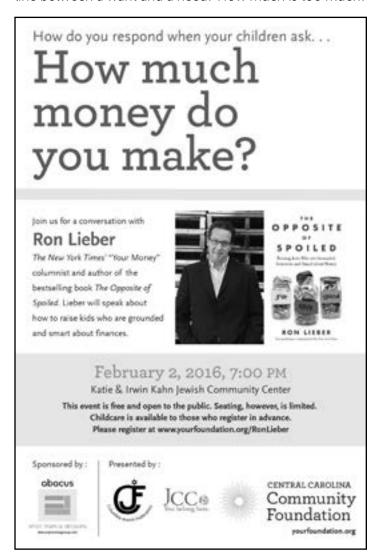
For many parents, conversations with their kids about money can be awkward. The New York Times "Your Money" columnist Ron Lieber- a parent himself- says that if we have our kids' best interests at heart, we need to shatter the taboos around talking with them about money. In his provocative new book, The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money, Lieber offers a persuasive parenting manifesto filled with solid, tested advice on how to help our children make better financial decisions, develop better habits, and acquire the tools they'll need to grow into grounded young adults with good values and habits.

The foundation of the book is a detailed blueprint for the most successful ways to handle the basics: the tooth fairy, allowance, chores, charity, savings, birthdays, holidays, cell phones, checking accounts, clothing, cars, part-time jobs and college. Running throughout each of these discussions are frequent nods to the underlying questions that parents have about money, from the toddler years until their kids go away to college: When should I start what? Where's the line between a want and a need? How much is too much?

A large part of teaching children good money habits is instilling in them the importance of giving. In his book, Lieber recommends Central Carolina Community Foundation's Talk About Giving box as a resource for parents to engage their children.

Central Carolina Community Foundation, the Columbia Jewish Federation and Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center are hosting Ron Lieber to speak to Midlands families on February 2 at 7:00 PM at the Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center. Lieber will engage parents in a conversation about the practicalities of talking with children about money and asks attendees to bring the toughest questions children have ever asked them about money. The event is generously sponsored by Abacus Financial Group and is free for the public. Seating, however, is limited and advance registration is requested at www.yourfoundation.org/RonLieber. Childcare will be available to those who register in advance.

For more information about the Ron Lieber event, visit www.yourfoundation.org/RonLieber or call 803.254.5601.







THANK YOU FOR INVESTING YOUR RESOURCES IN—AND DEMONSTRATING YOUR COMMITMENT TO—OUR LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE WELL-BEING OF JEWS IN ISRAEL, EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD.

DO GOOD EVERYWHERE - FROM ANYWHERE

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WOMEN'S DIVISION

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Sue Kline***

LION OF JUDAH - \$5,000-\$9,999

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> *As of December 21, 2015 ** First-Time Donors *** Increased Pledge from 2015 Campaign

Interfaith Partners of South Carolina announces the launch of S.C. Interfaith Harmony Month

Interfaith Partners of South Carolina (IPSC) is a five-year-old statewide organization with representation from many religions, including Buddhist, Christian, Baha'i, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, Jewish, Pagan, Native American Spirituality, Sikh religious representatives.

For the fourth year in a row, Governor Nikki R. Haley has declared January to be South Carolina Interfaith Harmony Month (IHM). During this time members of Interfaith Partners hold special services, meetings, educational and artistic events to bring together people from different faiths to learn about each other's spiritual practices. Some of the events planned include the following (full schedule and regular updates posted at interfaithpartnersofsc.org and on Facebook):

Introduction to Nichiren Buddhism, Wednesday, January 13
Women of Many Faiths discussion and refreshments, Thursday, January 14
Teen Interfaith Service Weekend, Saturday, January 16
Baha'i' Open Service, Sunday, January 17
I Shall Not Be Silent Film, Monday, January 18
Facing Fear in Our Houses of Worship, Tuesday, January 19
Native American Winter Storytelling, Wednesday, January 20
Stories of the Prophets From the Holy Qu'ran, Friday, January 22
Musical Shabbat Worship, Friday, January 22
Tree of Life Congregation 120th Anniversary Concert, Saturday, January 23
Opening Season of a Season For Non-Violence, Saturday, January 30
2016-The Year For Interfaith, monthly starting Sunday, January 31
USC Methodist Student Network program, Sunday, January 31

Beth Shalom Synagogue's *I Shall Not Be Silent* program and Tree of Life Congregation's Musical Shabbat Worship and 120th Anniversary Concert are proudly presented as part of IHM.

Interfaith Partners will host a special presentation on Tuesday, January 19 called "Facing Fear in Our Houses of Worship." Haris Tarin of the Department of Homeland Security Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and our own Sheriff Leon Lott of Richland County Sheriff's Department, will talk to us about how to constructively face our fears in the wake of tragedies such as the shooting at Emanuel AME in Charleston.

"Interfaith Partners believes in the importance of dialogue between the diverse South Carolina faith communities," said Dr. Will Moreau Goins, IPSC President. "It's vital that we better understand the human family, our interconnectedness, how we rely on each other, and how we can work together for the betterment of South Carolina, our Mother Earth, and the world."

Vice-President Imam Omar Shaheed said, "We Muslims who live, work and worship in our great state of South Carolina—and who are striving to help our state achieve greater and greater excellence for all—we greatly appreciate the warm, firm and inclusive support expressed by Interfaith Partners of SC. I hope that people throughout the state will take away the same feeling that I and many South Carolina Muslims have, being reminded that there are sincere and committed people of faith who are dedicated to working together for common cause, regardless of our different faiths or spiritual paths."

For more information, contact Holli Emore, holli@sc.rr.com or 803-798-8007.

50 FUN, COMPLEX, AND CONTROVERSIAL QUESTIONS ABOUT JEWS AND JUDAISM

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WHEN

Six Wednesdays 7:00-8:30pm Beginning February 10th

MORE INFO/REGISTER

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LOCATION

Chabad of South Carolina 2509 Decker Blvd Columbia, SC 29206



\$85



CJDS to become first SC Breastfeeding **Friendly Child Care Designation Site**

Rabbi Meir Muller, Ph.D., CJDS Principal

Cutler Jewish Day School (CJDS) is embarking to become the first SC Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation Site (BFCCD). The process began with the school's staff taking part in a two-hour training. Next steps will include writing a policy that supports breastfeeding and creating policies and procedures that include issues of health, safety, and education.

Kerrie L. Schnake, Director of the South Carolina Program for Infant and Toddlers (PITC) out of MUSC, wrote, "CJDS reveals itself again and again as a program that is dedicated to being an integral part of the community, supporting families in many meaningful ways. I appreciate the sincere commitment to families and, especially, to children. I wish we could offer every child the enriching and loving community of care that you offer." Michele Martin, Infant and Toddler Specialist, shared similar words: "It's an honor and privilege to work with CJDS. I wish you all could hear the many compliments that I hear about CJDS. You have so much to be proud of! We are so happy that you all were willing to be one of the FIRST programs to apply for the SCPITC Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Designation."

As many know, CJDS was the first school in SC to receive accreditation under the new NAEYC system (2006), the first school named a PITC demonstration site (2014), and the school highly anticipates being named the first BFCCD center. Rabbi Meir shared, "This designation is made possible by the high-quality teachers at CJDS and the building expansion. A room is planned where families can sit and chat. In this room we will designate a private area for nursing moms." The opportunity is available to partner with the school through donating funds to furnish and name this room. CJDS is excited for all the potential that the new building will offer!



"This designation is made possible by the high-quality teachers at CJDS and the building expansion."



Pictured above: CJDS students and families explore the school's wooded area.



"You can't know where you're going unless you know where you're coming from."

Celebrating our "roots"

Risa Strauss, Beth Shalom Synagogue Director of Education

After such a long winter break it's comforting to come back to routine, and that means BSS Religious School and all the activities that are part of our BSS education program. Before we take you out of hibernation mode, however, we must say thank you to everyone who contributed to all of our school's successful December activities and festivities. Yasher Koach to our "Torah Tots" and Shabbat Play and Learn crowd; to all of the people who worked on the Chanukah Happening and Chanukah In Israel programming; to those who joined us at Wildewood Downs to help the residents celebrate Chanukah (pictured below); to the parents and



grandparents who helped educate about Chanukah at Forest Lake Elementary; and to all of our teachers, parents, and Religious School staff for their dedication, love, and help in making everything that we do possible.

A special Mazal Tov goes out to our Grade 2/3 class who received their first siddurim, small Torahs, sweet candy and lots of love when they became consecrants and participated in Friday evening services during the Shabbat of Chanukah: Giana Abrams, Amy Gendil, Michael Grossman, Alex Kraemer, Chloe Matzner, Isabel Sanders, Violet Shenkar, Eitan Haas, Ayden Marsden, Jake Serbin, Devan Sexton, Zoe Shenkar, Ethan Shure, Leia Taylor, Jacob Taylor, and Rachel Woldorf.

The Hebrew word for "before" is kodem, and the Hebrew word for "forward" is kadima. Both come from the same Hebrew root with the letters: kuf, dalet and mem. The connection is clear: You can't know where you are going unless you know where you're coming from. Our celebration of Tu B'Shvat, the "Holiday of the Trees," will be on January 24 this year and will provide us with a special opportunity to examine our "roots."

In Judaism, trees represent the essence of life - both because they are alive and because they sustain life by providing the food, shelter, shade, fuel and oxygen that humans and animals need to survive. By actively celebrating Tu B'Shvat, we become more aware of the wonders of Creation, the need to appreciate these gifts and use them wisely so that we and the generations that follow us can enjoy a healthy world.

Important Religious School Dates in January 2016

1/3, 1/6: No Religious School
1/9: Shabbat Play and Learn with PJ Library,
11:30am with childcare from 10:30am
1/10, 1/24, 1/31: Religious School, 9:30am
1/13, 1/20, 1/27: Religious School, 4:30pm
1/14, 1/21: Adult Ed: Hebrew at 6:15pm and
"Many Lives, Many Masters" Book
Discussion at 7:15pm
1/17: No Religious School, MLK Weekend
1/24: Tu B'Shvat Seder, 10:45am
1/25: Happy Hour of Tu B'Shvat, 6pm
in the Social Hall
1/28: Solomon-Tenenbaum Lecture, 7:30pm

at the Capstone Center: "Salvadore Dali's Aliyah: The Rebirth of Israel" 1/29: Family Shabbat Dinner: 5:45pm Nosh,

6:50pm Dinner

1/30: Junior Congregation, 10am-11am 1/31: Torah Tots "Do Tu B'Shvat" at 11:30am



Join us at Beth Shalom Synagogue for this special MLK Weekend Screening of the award winning documentary

I Shall Not Be Silent

a documentary film about a rabbi who would not be silenced.

*from synagogues in 1930s Berlin to the 1963 March on Washington

*with Andre Braugher reading excerpts of Rabbi Prinz's writings

Monday, January 18, 6:30-8:00 pm Beth Shalom Synagogue 5827 Trenholm Road, Columbia 29229 ~Refreshments will be Served~

RSVP for planning purposes to the BSS office at 782 2500

Planting Seeds (Literally and Spiritually)

Rabbi Linda Joseph, Tree of Life

On Tu BiShevat, the "fifteenth of Shevat," it is Rosh HaShanah L'Ilanot, the New Year of the Trees. One of four Jewish New Years, it marks the time for counting the age of trees so that the ancient Jewish farmers could figure out when it was appropriate to harvest the fruit from a mature tree.

Today the festival is celebrated with various customs. Some see it as an opportunity to plant trees in Israel through the Jewish National Fund (the Blue Box people) who plant seeds and trees, but also work on environmental issues in Israel like the building of dams and the preservation of the environment.

Another custom was begun by the Kabbalists of sixteenth century Safed. They developed a Tu BiShevat Seder along the lines of the Passover Seder. Called Seder Pri Etz Hadar, the "Order of the Beautiful Fruit," they would eat up to thirty fruits from the land of Israel - at least ten with peels that cannot be eaten, ten that may be consumed whole, and ten with pits. The three types parallel three of the worlds in the Kabbalistic tradition. They would also drink four cups of wine, mixed to various shades to represent the seasons of the year. This Seder would be embellished with readings and songs from a variety of Jewish sacred texts.

In Salonika, in addition to the TuBiShevat Seder, they would eat a casserole of wheat and toasted walnuts reserved for this time of year. After the meal the children and adults would stay awake until midnight, when according to legend an angel appears, taps each plant and tells it to "Grow!" Another example of a regional custom comes from Persia. Families would go from house to house, and on the rooftop balcony they spread out a cloth, which the house owner filled with wheat and fruits. (Sort of like going around trick-and-treating for fruit.)

Many folk use Tu BiShevat as an opportune time for planting. Often there will be communal plantings in one's local area or at the synagogue or at home. I have fond memories of digging into frozen ground in the Northern United States in order to plant a hardy tree to demonstrate this custom to children of our Religious School, as well as memories of nurturing saplings to grow in the heat of the summer in the land of my birth. Australia.

A simple and easily accomplished custom is to plant parsley at Tu BiShevat. If you do so, it will be ready to harvest at Pesach to be used as the Karpas, linking one Seder to the other.

Maybe reading this article has planted some seeds for Tu BiShevat doing in your mind! The evening of Tu BiShevat falls on the 24h of January of this year, the day of Tu BiShevat on the 25th of January.

At Tree of Life Congregation we will be holding a very special Tu BiShevat Seder with Dan Nichols on Sunday morning as part of our congregation's 120th Anniversary celebrations. Please feel free to join us.

Or mark the day with a literal planting of a tree, or a metaphoric planting through donations to an organization that will plant for you, or through planting a seed yourself.

Or mark the day with spiritual planting, by eating fruits or even organizing your own Tu BiShevat Seder.



"A simple and easily accomplished custom is to plant parsley at Tu BiShevat. If you do so, it will be ready to harvest at Pesach to be used as the Karpas, linking one Seder to the other."

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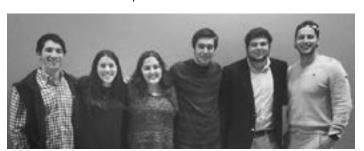
Item	Price	Qty.	Total
Whitefish Salad (pound)	\$13		
Quart of Bubbe's Chicken Soup with Matzah Balls	\$10		
Quart of Rabbi Marcus' Special Cabbage & Beef Soup	\$9		
Stuffed Cabbage (pkg. of 4)	\$10		
Noodle Kugel (9x9 pan)	\$15		
Beef Brisket (pound)	\$15		
Kosher-style Corned Beef (pound)	\$15		
Kosher-style Pastrami (pound)	\$15		
Chopped Liver (pound)	\$12		
Knish (each)	\$4		
Rugelach (dozen)	\$12		
Challah	\$6		
TOTAL			

Return this order form with payment to Tree of Life by Friday, April 8. Express pre-festival pickup orders with 10-min onsite parking available 9:00-10:30am on the day of The Big NoshTM (April 17).

Hillel Welcomes New Executive Board

Jenna Rosen, Hillel President

A sophomore at the University of South Carolina, I am proud to represent Hillel as its new President. I have many exciting goals for this upcoming year. For one, I am looking forward to immersing Hillel within the Columbia Jewish community. We will be reaching out to the clergy around the community to have them be a part of our programs and lectures. My next goal is to improve our interfaith relations around campus. We will be sharing programming with the Cocky Catholics, and we will also be reaching out to the Muslim Student Association to further our friendship with them. Hillel will continue our



Shabbat dinners twice a month, as they have always been a big hit with the Hillel students. We have on average 30 students in attendance, and and we are working to increase that number, as we have had as many as 80 students attend a single dinner. In terms of programming, we would like to grow our events to better include the interests of our students and continue improving them.

I am looking forward to this upcoming year, and I am honored to represent Jewish life at the University of South Carolina. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at hillelatusc@gmail.com.

Hillel's 2016 Executive Board, pictured left to right: Member at Large Chase Daniels, Secretary Molly Buring, President Jenna Rosen, Vice President Ryan Hodge, Treasurer Andrew Eckstein, and VP of Recruitment Tamir Shitrit (not pictured: Immediate Past President Elyse Bodenheimer)

Jewish Fraternity Learns about Israel Conflicts

Danny Caplan, AEPi Scribe

Over the last few years, the conflict between Israel and the Gaza Strip/West Bank territory has been made more evident to those living in the United States. Protests on both sides have erupted across college campuses; however, the Gamma Chi chapter of the Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity at the University of South Carolina decided to take a different approach and become more educated about the tensions in Israel.

This past October and November, the chapter decided to enroll in Jerusalem U to learn about the crisis in Israel. Courses cover a wide variety of topics pertaining to being a Jewish American – from anti-Semitism, to the history of the tensions in the region, to the psychology of being Jewish, to Jewish films. The course we took was Israel Inside/Out to learn how to combat anti-Israel rhetoric.

Former Alpha Epsilon Pi master Aaron Kooris organized the course, working alongside past academic chairs to make sure all the brothers of the fraternity who wanted to participate could. Half of the entire brotherhood completed the Jerusalem U course. Of the 43 course graduates, 15 of them were a part of the newest pledge class to join the Gamma Chi chapter. The pledge class thought it was important to learn about the history of Israel – both the good and bad.





Columbia BBYO is Celebrating New Year's Eve (again!) and we want you to join us as we.....

Celebrate The Re-New Year!

Join us as we ring in 2016 together (again)! We will have food, fun, games, and friends!

When: Saturday, January 9th from 7-9 pm Where: 113 Wildewood Club Ct., Columbia, SC 29223 Who: All Columbia Jewish Teens Cost: FREE!

RSVP to Tamar Sternfeld at 843-619-3613 or tsternfeld@bbyo.org





"The JCC is the Place to Be!"

Youth & Culture Club Activities at the JCC

Barry Abels, Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC Executive Director

The Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC is pleased to launch two new opportunities for our community. For those of you who enjoy the many concerts, lectures, lunch and learns and other cultural activities offered by your JCC, we now have the JCC Culture Club Membership. This membership includes all non-fitness activities that we offer. For those programs that do require a special entry fee, all JCC members have access for a reduced amount.

Culture Club Activities, Programs & Benefits

- Summer Camp discounts for Camp Gesher
- Mom's morning out
- Play at the J for toddlers and parents/ grandparents with Jewish story telling, songs, and activities
- Day at the J school break fun
- Family holiday programs
- General music concerts
- Israeli Jazz artists
- Children's concerts
- The Annual Jewish Book Fair
- Kraft and Kvell on Sundays
- Youth recreation programs
- Member discounts on facility rentals
- Culture Bus trips to theater productions in Charlotte
- Senior Seder
- Lunch and Learn Sessions
 Jewish History with USC professors
 Current events
- Israel Programs
- Movie Screenings
- Drawing and Painting, beginning & intermediate

Membership in the Culture Club is yours for a low annual investment: single members, \$240; couples, \$300; and families, \$420.

Additionally, we have expanded our youth recreation programs for ages 6 to 12. We now offer Running Club, Mondays at 5:30 pm; Tennis Games Tuesdays at 6:00 pm; and Kids Yoga, Thursdays at 5:30 pm. All of these programs are free to children of JCC members, including our Culture Club Members. For those of you who are not

members, your kids can also join in the fun. A four session pass is available for each of these activities for a low \$40.00. Choose one activity or choose them all. The JCC is the Place to Be!

KIDS CLASSES AT YOUR JCC!

RUNNING CLUB MONDAYS @ 5:30 PM

TENNIS GAMES TUESDAYS @ 6 PM

KIDS YOGA THURSDAYS @ 5:30 PM

JCC MEMBERS: FREE
COMMUNITY: \$40 FOR A 4 CLASS PASS!
JOIN US 4 TIMES TO YOUR CHOICE OF
KIDS RUNNING, TENNIS, OR YOGA.

803-787-2023



Register at the JCC Front Desk.

Contact Melanie Pace for more information: (803) 787-2023 ext. 206 / melanier@(cccolumbia.org

JCC's Year of Mitzvot (and other programs)

Laurie Slack. JCC Jewish Programs Director

The days may be short in these winter months, but there is no shortage of things to do at the Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center. In 2016 we're kicking off the JCC's Year of Mitzvot: we'll focus on a different mitzvah each month and provide workshops, take-home packs, or lectures to help you fill your year with meaningful Jewish experiences. We're starting off big with a January focused on Shabbat. Specifically, we'll be providing anyone who wants a Shabbat candle pack complete with two candles and a copy of the Shabbat blessings. Stop by the JCC Welcome Desk anytime during January to pick up a pack for your family.

In February we'll focus on the Mezuzah. Join us at 6:30 on Thursday, February 4th (right after Kid's Yoga!) to make a mezuzah. We'll be taking orders for kosher scrolls for those who would like to purchase one. If you can't make the Mezuzah making workshop, we'll have mini-kits available starting February 5th, so pick one up before we run out. Of course, we hope you'll join us in person. We'll have a wide range of paints, paint pens, sharpie markers, glitters and adornments for your crafting pleasure.

The JCC has more in store than just mitzvot. Play at the J, our monthly morning playgroup for kids and their grown-ups will continue the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am. Join us on Wendesday January 6th to learn about mitzvot; Wednesday, February 3rd to explore Tu B'Shevat and learn all about trees; and Wednesday March 2nd for Torah stories. We're also happy to co-sponsor the Dan Nichols weekend January 22nd to 24th. We'll be hosting a gardening workshop on Sunday, January 24th where you can learn all about the new community garden plots next to the JCC and the latest square foot gardening techniques. Mark your calendars for Monday, January 25th and stop by the JCC lobby to sample a new fruit or two as we celebrate Tu B'Shevat together. The JCC is hosting a screening for Jewish genetic diseases on February 7th, 9-2 pm (details on page 6), presenting an amazing program with Cantor Robyn Helzner on Monday, February 22nd at 6:30 pm entitled "Kreplach & Dim Sum -Yes, There are Jews in China!" and will be showing "Mah-Jongg: The Tiles That Bind" on Tuesday, March 8th at 11 am. And, as always, we're busy adding to the JCC's calendar of events, so be sure to like us on Facebook and check out our website at www.icccolumbia.org for the latest schedule!



"The days may be short in these winter months. but there is no shortage of things to do at the Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center."



Life in the 21st century often means that we need to think ahead, meet deadlines and make plans. Though it can be a stretch to think about the summer when the autumn leaves are still on the ground, having your child attend a JEWISH SUMMER SLEEP-AWAY CAMP or DAY CAMP is often the greatest single variable leading to lifelong Jewish commitment!

Extensive research has shown that summers at Jewish overnight camp turn Jewish youth into spirited and engaged Jewish adults, laying the groundwork for the strong Jewish communities that we will need in the future to continue our traditions and ideals. As adults many of us recall summer camp experiences as the most significant of our Jewish life. And, as adults, we know how much the informal educational experience of camp can help us in providing all of our children with knowledge and connection to our people and culture. Any terumot – donations – that you can make to the Steve Terner Camp Scholarship Fund are so appreciated and will greatly help to offset the price of summer camp for many of our families.

If a sleep-away camp experience is not possible, a Jewish day camp is the next best thing. Camp Gesher (meaning bridge in Hebrew), in its third summer, provides a wonderful opportunity for all the children in our community to engage with and learn about Jewish ideas, culture and practices. Look for more information soon about Camp Gesher 2016!



"While I am mesmerized by the stories being told over the course of this first year of the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative (CJHI), it is the sharing of tangible items that gives me pause."

For the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative, A Picture is Worth...

Robin Waites, Historic Columbia

While I am mesmerized by the stories being told over the course of this first year of the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative (CJHI), it is the sharing of tangible items that gives me pause. Whether walking through the photo-laden halls of Harold Kline's home, combing through decades of scrapbooks with Anne Solomon and daughter Bonnie, or sitting quietly in the den with Henry and Minda Miller as they turn over a pile of hand-selected images, the stories of this rich and diverse community comes to life. As families allow, these materials will be utilized in print and digital venues over the coming months and years to help illustrate the past. Here is a very small sampling of what has been shared.

A Double Wedding

Sisters Cela and Bluma Tyszgarten and close friends David Miller and Felix Goldberg were liberated from Kaufering and Buchenwald concentration camps (respectively) in April 1945. The four met at the displaced person camp in Landsberg, Germany. This photograph documents their double wedding in January 1947. At the center, adorned in wedding attire are sisters Cela and Bluma with their husbands David (to Cela's right) and Felix (to Bluma's left). Two years after their wedding the Millers arrived in Columbia, SC. The Goldbergs followed nine months later.



(Image courtesy of Henry Miller)

Family Celebration

At home in the Hollywood/Rose Hill neighborhood at 1721 Pinewood Drive, Myer and Ella Kline and their extended family, celebrate the bar mitzvah of oldest son Morris Kline. Back row left to right: Sam Lyon, Sol Weinstein, Sam Weinstein, Maurice Weinstein, Louis Legum, Charles Kline, Sam Rosenberg, Gerald Rosenberg, Harry Kline, Myer Kline. Middle row left to right: Blanche Lyon; Evelyn Kline, Rose Legum, Morris Kline, Ella Kline, Ann Rosenberg, Sarah Kline, Florence Kline. Front row left to right: Shirley Lyon, Bobby Lyon, Harold Kline, Sol Kline, Ernest Rosenberg.



(Image courtesy of Harold Kline)

If it's new, it is at Berry's on Main!

Here Joe E. Berry recognizes Evelyn Rucker, the top shoe salesperson at Berry's on Main. According to Berry's son Barnett, "Evelyn modeled for others how you treat customers with care and concern." This photo was taken on the second floor of downtown store. The Cabaniss Shop (up the small stair case) was where one could find "if it's new it is at Berry's on Main."



(Image courtesy of Barnett Berry)

Share Your Stories!

If you are interested in participating in the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative by sharing your story and/or photos, please contact Robin Waites at 803.252.7742 ext 14 or rwaites@historiccolumbia.org.

The collection of oral histories and images for CJHI has been made possible by the generous support of the Central Carolina Community Foundation, Mr. Ray Lifchez, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kline, the Columbia Jewish Federation and the Southern Jewish Historical Society.



Colla Voce Larry Wyatt, Director Ann Wilson, accompanist

Tewish Sacred Choral Music

Thursday, January 28, 2016 | 7:30 p.m. Trinity Cathedral 1100 Sumter St., Columbia, SC

Serena Hill, soprano; Aaron Cates, tenor; Jacob Will, bass; with organ, percussion, and piano

Featuring the US Premiere of David and Goliath, an oratorio for chorus, soloists, and piano, by Israeli composer Aharon Harlap and two works by Columbia composer Meira Warshauer:

Shecharit (Sabbath Morning Service) in a new arrangement for organ and percussion, with chorus, soloists, and narrator

Akhat Sha'ahi (One thing I ask) from Psalm 27, for chorus and percussion

SINCE 194

Tickets S20 adults (S15 in advance) and S5 students, available from the Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC, 803-787-2023, and USC Choral Office 803-777-5369.

Sponsor tickets with VIP seating and listing in the program (by Jan. 15), \$50.



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111 Sparkleberry Crossing Road #8 - Columbia

2265 Sunset Blvd. - West Columbia

4717 Forest Drive - Forest Acres

117 1/2 E. Main Street - Lexington

730 University Village Drive - Blythewood

800 Lake Murray Blvd. - Irmo

138-B Amicks Ferry Road - Chapin



