

community calendar

Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary?
Check out the Community Calendar at jewishcalgary.org

Have an event?
Click on "Suggest an Event" to add it to the calendar



jewishcalgary.org



A MESSAGE FROM SANDRA MORTON WEIZMAN

Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month (JDAIM) was established in 2009 by the Jewish Special Education International Consortium and is observed every year in February. JDAIM is a unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide to raise awareness and foster acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities and those who love them. It is a call to action for all of us to act in accordance with our Jewish values, honouring the gifts and strengths that we each possess.

Calgary Jewish Federation has been holding annual events to celebrate JDAIM since 2011, when we launched our Inclusion Task Force and committee. Some of our past events have focussed on building awareness while others have centred on training lay and professional leaders in the concepts of inclusion.

There exists a misconception among some in the Jewish community that JDAIM events, whether

concerts, films or lectures, are meant only for individuals in our community with disabilities and their families. In fact, this is simply not the case; JDAIM events are meant for the entire community. While they are often entertaining, they are also meant to raise awareness, to educate and often provoke us to question what more we can do to be welcoming and accepting of all. The truth is, while JDAIM brings the issues of disability inclusion to the forefront every February, inclusion is something that we must mindfully embed in our community activities all year round.

Please join us for this year's JDAIM event: *Chair or Not Chair – That is the Question: Celebrating JDAIM 2026*, an inspiring afternoon exploring the power of inclusion. This free program on Sunday, February 22 from 2:30 to 5:00PM at the Paperny Family JCC, includes a screening of *Itzhak*, a powerful

documentary film directed by Alison Chernick about the life, artistry, and accessibility journey of world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman. This inspiring event asks an important question: "What would have happened if Itzhak Perlman had been denied the opportunity to perform seated?" The film will be followed by a discussion and live performance by violinist Mariya Usachev Bukhta and pianist Rachel Kreyner. Childcare is also available. Register online at jewishcalgary.org, crowdchange.co or scan QR code.

B'Shalom,

Sandra Morton Weizman
Inclusion Committee Chair
and Board Member
Calgary Jewish Federation



Building an inclusive community is a priority. Contact us and we will make every effort to meet your needs.

EITAN CHITAYAT JEWISH IDENTITY IN A COMPLEX WORLD

TUESDAY
MARCH 10
7PM
PAPERNY FAMILY JCC

TICKETS: \$18
STUDENTS: FREE



Join us for an inspiring evening with **Eitan Chitayat**, international brand-builder and founder of Natie Branding Agency in Tel Aviv.

Through his creative work and global advocacy, Eitan empowers Jewish voices, elevates authentic narratives, and brings pride and strength to Jewish identity. With antisemitism on the rise, *I'm That Jew* has become more than a viral video—it's a movement.



PURCHASE TICKETS
AT QR CODE OR GO TO
JEWISHCALGARY.ORG

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026



IBP opens doors

Calgary Jewish Federation's Integrated Bursary Program

can help you, if you find it's a financial struggle to participate fully in Jewish life in our community.

With a single application followed by a discreet, personalized session with a Federation volunteer, you can access subsidies for day schools, and summer camp – depending on your need.

More information and application form available online at: jewishcalgary.org/financial-aid or email: ibp@jewishcalgary.org



Calgary Jewish Federation is a participating charity in Rogers Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink.

All donations made through *Birdies for Kids* will be matched up to 50% making your donation go even further!



All events on this page are made possible by your gifts to Calgary Jewish Federation's annual UJA Campaign.

CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are thrilled to announce that **SYDNEY TRUAX** is stepping into the role of Associate Director of Development with Calgary Jewish Federation.

Over the past four years, Sydney has served as PJ Library® Program and Development Manager, strengthening family engagement and deepening connections with families across our community. Under her leadership, PJ Library has continued to grow as a vibrant entry point into Jewish life in Calgary.

In her new role, Sydney will work alongside Director of Development Diana Kalef to further strengthen and expand CJF's philanthropic impact. Together, they will focus on deepening donor engagement, expanding pathways into giving, and supporting the continued growth of CJF's Annual UJA Campaign and broader development strategy.



Calgary Jewish Federation is pleased to welcome **BRENNA PERERA** to the team as our new Marketing and Communications Coordinator!

Along with her education, Brenna brings a strong background in communications, sales, administration, training, and public and education programming, with experience at well-known Calgary institutions such as the Calgary Stampede Foundation, Heritage Park Historical Village, and Shaw Communications.

A lifelong member of the Calgary Jewish community, Brenna is especially excited to give back and contribute in this new role.

PLEASE JOIN US IN CONGRATULATING SYDNEY AND BRENNA ON THIS EXCITING NEXT CHAPTER FOR CJF!



GIVE TODAY. STRENGTHEN TOMORROW. TOGETHER WE CAN



Together we **lead**, **secure**, **celebrate**, and **connect** – shaping a vibrant Jewish future for Calgary and beyond.

We lead with vision, investing in the next generation of Jewish leaders. We secure our community – protecting what matters, standing against antisemitism, and safeguarding our values. We celebrate with pride, embracing our heritage through acts of Jewish joy and resilience. And we connect – to each other, to Israel, and to Jewish communities around the world.

Every gift you give is a promise: to care for the vulnerable, to nurture identity, and to ensure our people not only endure, but thrive.

Thank you for standing with Jewish Calgary—your commitment matters now more than ever.

What we build today becomes the Jewish Calgary of tomorrow.

WAYS TO GIVE



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Building Jewish Tomorrows—Starting Today

Through the power of legacy giving, Life & Legacy endowment funds at the Jewish Community Foundation of Calgary generated more than \$120,000 this past year – providing vital support to organizations across Jewish Calgary and sustaining the programs and traditions we cherish.

You can help secure Jewish tomorrows in Calgary by creating a meaningful legacy gift. Regardless of age, affiliation, or means, a gift of any size can be tailored to reflect your values, family, and financial goals – ensuring a vibrant Jewish future for generations to come.

Why Create a Jewish Legacy?

- To pass on your values to your family and community.
- To help ensure a strong future for Jewish Calgary.
- To sustain the programs and traditions you care about.
- To be part of something larger than yourself.
- To make a lasting impact, even if the gift comes later.

Learn More

Explore how a legacy gift can reflect what matters most to you.

Contact **Diana Kalef** at dkalef@jewishcalgary.org or **Joseph Tappenden** at josephappenden@jcfc.ca.