

WESTCHESTER JEWISH CENTER

# PROGRAM GUIDE

2016-2017

The Center of Our Jewish Lives



**Westchester Jewish Center**

Palmer & Rockland Avenues

Mamaroneck, NY 10543



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# BODY, MIND & SOUL

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## **WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!**

Westchester Jewish Center feeds your body, mind, and soul. With something for everyone -- from the youngest to the oldest of our members-- you'll discover the center of your Jewish life right here on Palmer and Rockland Avenues.

Follow your heart and fill your soul with spiritual moments from daily minyan, and weekly traditional Kabbalat Shabbat and morning Services, to complementary services including Simple and Soulful (formerly known as the Contemporary Service) to a bit of Rhythm and Ruach.

To stimulate your thinking and broaden your Jewish education, we present an array of programs and learning opportunities. Come in person to weekly Torah study classes or join "The Call" where you can listen in on or participate via telephone in a discussion of the weekly Torah portion. Whet your intellectual appetite at our renowned author nights and book clubs, panel discussions on contemporary issues from Israel to New York, and the annual Scholar-in-Residence weekend featuring thought leaders on timeless topics.

Trying to strike that perfect balance between work and play? Find time to stretch your mind and body, too! We have what you yearn for from Israeli dancing and film, to art workshops inspired by local artists, to curated exhibits of Judaica and related artwork displayed in WJC's Koslowe gallery. And don't forget to make time to get physical with men's basketball and softball, a women's softball fun-raiser, and mixed teams in youth basketball for grades 5-12.

Dates and times listed in this guide are based on information available in late summer. The most up-to-date schedules, details for registration and information about any associated fees, may be found in our weekly electronic email, our monthly printed *Review* newsletter or on our website, [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org), as the program dates approach.

As always, if you have any questions, please call the office at (914) 698-2960.

We look forward to seeing you during the 2016-17 Program year at WJC!

*Jeffrey Lavine,*  
*President and WJC Officers and Trustees*

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

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## FOR GROWING MINDS & SOULS

### GOT KIDS?

WJC has programs and activities for the entire family starting with Family Shabbat Services.

While Torah for Tots brings families with the littlest members together on Shabbat throughout the year, WJC also offers a service on select Shabbat mornings geared to those with children primarily in Grades 1 – 6.

The service, featuring songs and movement, is led by one of our clergy members.

### FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES SATURDAYS, 10:30AM

SEPTEMBER 17, 2016

MARCH 18, 2017

DECEMBER 3, 2016

MAY 13, 2017

### GOT PRE-SCHOOLERS?

Check out WJC Kids at our Early Childhood Center!

WJC houses a Reggio inspired Early Childhood Center (ECC) for your pre-school children ages 2-5. Our school supports children's physical, social-emotional and cognitive growth—all in the context of a caring Jewish environment.

Parents of younger children and babies can take advantage of our **Mommy & Me and Baby Group** programs.

**Mommy & Me** introduces toddlers ages 1-2 and a parent or caregiver to a fun interactive class with play, socialization, music and movement on Friday mornings.

Led by an early childhood consultant and licensed psychotherapist, **Baby Group** meets monthly and allows parents to engage in lively discussion on child rearing in a supportive environment.

School starts September 12, 2016 and follows as closely as possible the Mamaroneck Public School calendar. For information on how to register or make an appointment to tour WJC's Early Childhood Center, call Sabrina Landau, Early Childhood Center Director at (914) 698-2767 or email her at [ecdir@wjccenter.org](mailto:ecdir@wjccenter.org).

The **ECC Parents Auxiliary** collaborates with the ECC Director to provide a strong parental support network. Throughout the school year, the ECC PA sponsors special programs to enrich student and family experiences.

### MEET & TREAT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 FOR 3S, 4S, & Pre-K;

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 for 2S

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

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## **NEW PARENT COCKTAIL PARTY**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 8:00 PM in WJC SUKKAH

## **FAMILY SHABBAT FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES & DINNER**

OCTOBER 21, JANUARY 20 & MARCH 17, 2017, 6:00PM

*(Sign up at [adminasst@wjcenter.org](mailto:adminasst@wjcenter.org) or call Rosie at (914) 698-2960)*

## **END OF YEAR PICNIC**

TUESDAY, JUNE 6 for 2s;

WEDNESDAY JUNE 7 for 3s & 4s & Pre-K

*(Check with ECC office, (914) 698-2767 for updates and latest schedules)*



**Need books to nurture your young children's or grandchildren's Yiddishkeit?**

## **WELCOME TO PJ LIBRARY!**

WJC is a national PJ Library partner. The PJ Library Committee is a collaboration of professional and lay leaders devoted to sustaining and promoting PJ Library at WJC through professional leadership, volunteers, grants and programming. PJ Library provides Jewish books and music for families with children ages six months through 8 years old. For more information about PJ Library visit [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org)

WJC offers a variety of PJ Library programs throughout the year including Sunday Morning Story Time and Sing -Along, holiday programs, special events and after school programs. Extra copies of all PJ Library books are available for loan from the WJC Hendel Family Library.

**Story Time and Sing-Along** programs take place in the WJC Library on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am on the following dates:

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

MARCH 26, 2017

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

APRIL 30, 2017

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

Also, join us for PJ Library Story Time on Sunday, December 11, 2016 for our Hanukkah Celebration and on Sunday, May 21, 2017 for our Israel Celebration. Both programs begin at 4:00 pm and conclude at 6:00 pm with family dinner.



## **PJ LIBRARY PRESENTS SAMMY SPIDER'S FIRST MITZVAH SHOW**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016 @ 12:30 PM

Families are invited to join us as Sammy Spider learns what it means to care for others –and how we all have something to contribute—in this original show. Sing along and clap your hands as Sammy makes the audience part of the story! Meet Sammy and the rest of the cast after the show.



Please check our website at [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org) and weekly E-newsletter for the most up-to-date information including times, schedules and any fees or reservations associated with events. You may also call the WJC office at (914)698-2960.

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

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## **Got Elementary Schoolers?**

**(K-6) They're smack in the middle of all that we do!**

Our Religious School meets weekly and offers educational family programs. WJC also sponsors informal activities outside the classroom for all members' children in Kindergarten through 6th grade, including but not limited to the following events:

### **GRADES K-2**

#### **Shofar Factory**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

#### **Sukkah Party**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

#### **Latkes and Lego**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016

#### **TEVALAND**

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2017



### **GRADES 3-6**

#### **Sukkah Party**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2016

#### **Basketball Clinic**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016

#### **Boker Tov Bagels**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2017

#### **New Roc Bowling**

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017

*(Please check our website for latest times & schedules: [www.wjccenter.org](http://www.wjccenter.org))*



## **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

### **GRADES K-7**

The Beverly and Dan Cannold Religious School at WJC innovatively combines formal classroom instruction with enrichment programs that engage students and their families in a personal Jewish experience.

Built on a customized environment, the Religious School fosters a desire to learn and understand, as well as to practice the rituals of Judaism. Our approach follows the tenets and principles of Judaism such as Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World), Torah L'shma (The study of Torah for its own sake) and Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh La'ze (We are responsible for one another.)

Save the Date for Sunday, November 13th for Religious School Open House. Meet your child's teachers, see their classroom and learn about our engaging curriculum.

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

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## **Grade Level Programs Held on the Following Dates:**

### **Kindergarten Family Program**

DECEMBER 18, 2016

### **First Grade Family Programs**

OCTOBER 23, 2016 AND MARCH 26, 2017

### **Second Grade Family Program**

NOVEMBER 20, 2016 AND JANUARY 29, 2017

### **Third Grade Family Program**

DECEMBER 11, 2016

### **Fourth Grade Family Program**

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

### **Model Seders**

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017 AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2017

### **7th Grade trip to Museum of Jewish Heritage**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016

*(Please check our website for latest times & schedules: [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org))*

## **CELEBRATIONS FOR ALL GRADES:**

### **Hanukkah Hoopla**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016, 4:00-6:00PM

Family fun for children and adults of all ages! See the amazing magic of Mario the Magician and enjoy WonderSpark Hannukah Puppet Theater.

Our older kids are invited to get their groove on with Musical IQ! Enjoy a festive Hannukah dinner with your family following our programs.



### **PurimPalooza**

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2017, 3:00PM -5:00PM

Carnival time with costumes, obstacle courses, contests, balloon characters and lots of games and food. Fun for all!

### **Yom Yisrael – Celebrate Israel Independence Day!**

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017, 4:00-6:00PM

Dance with Shmulik Gov-Ari! Bring family and friends as we create our own community Israeli line dance! Join us for dinner following our celebration!

# GROWING MINDS & SOULS

## THE PATH TO B'NEI MITZVAH

From the spiritual to the practical, our B'nei Mitzvah Committee works with the clergy and B'nei Mitzvot families to enhance their experiences on the way to achieving this important milestone.

Along with clergy-led parent education meetings and discussions in the years leading to B'nei Mitzvot, the committee sponsors social activities\* for each grade to build community connections.

**Sandwich Making with the 5th Grade** - WEDNESDAY, 5:00PM TBA

**Challah Fairy Visits the 6th Grade** - SUNDAY, 11:00AM TBA

**Sheldrake Environmental Center Clean-up** - SUNDAY TBA

\*Check the weekly newsletter and [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org) for latest details on activities, times and confirmed dates. Or call the office at (914) 698-2960.

## GOT TEENS?

**Follow their leader, Cantor Shoshi Rosenbaum, Teen Engagement Director, at “Shoshi WJC” on Facebook and “wjc\_teens” on Instagram to find out what’s new, nu?**

**Note:** Dates are subject to change, and times will be determined by our Teen Leadership Board. Unless otherwise specified, all of these programs will include varying opportunities for teens from grades 8 to 12. Please contact Shoshi@wjcenter.org for the latest and greatest scheduling information.

## WJC'S TEEN COMMUNITY

2016-2017 PROGRAMMING

BUILDING KEHILLAH -

COMMUNITY

*Guiding teens on their Jewish  
paths with engaging  
& meaningful programming.  
(for teens in grades 7-12)*



## 7 PILLARS OF OUR TEEN COMMUNITY

The Teen Community at WJC seeks to provide teens in grades 7-12 with engaging and meaningful programming that guides teens on their Jewish paths. The theme of our programming this year will be Kehillah, Community.

# TIME FOR TEENS

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The seven pillars of our Teen Community are:

**1) HEBREW HIGH (GRADES 8-12)** – meets weekly on Tuesday evenings, beginning on September 13

- Experiential sessions rooted in Jewish values
- Informal Education helps teens take ownership of their Jewish identities
- Includes dinner and time for socializing
- Builds deeper relationships with our Rabbis, Cantor, and Shoshi, Director of Teen Engagement
- Open Gym during dinner and non-mandatory classes

**2) SOCIAL ACTION (GRADES 7-12)** – Sunday afternoons, TBA

- Participate in Tikkun Olam, Repairing the World, through direct service
- Help those who are less fortunate in our community and in surrounding communities
- Partner with WJC's Social Action Committee and with other synagogues and Jewish organizations

**3) SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING (GRADES 7-12)**

- High Holiday Services for Teens led by Cantor Shoshi Rosenbaum, Shira Kogen, and Lee Epstein
- New Tashlich Experience geared toward teens and their families!
- Teen Schmooze: hang out, eat, and schmooze about Jewish topics on Shabbat mornings  
Dates: September 24, November 12, December 10, March 4, June 17
- New holiday programming for teens
- Two Simple & Soulful Services this year will be geared toward teens and their families  
Dates: January 28 and May 20

**4) SERVICE LEARNING TRIPS TO MEMPHIS TN. AND NEW ORLEANS LA. (GRADES 8-12)\***

- Experience bonding and community-building that can only happen outside the walls of WJC
- Experience a taste of summer camp during the year
- Make a tangible difference for the communities we visit
- Explore a new city from a Jewish perspective
- Spend a relaxing Shabbat together

\*This coming year, 10th-12th graders are invited to join us in New Orleans (dates TBD), and 8th and 9th graders are invited to join us in Memphis, Tennessee over Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend. 9th graders who visited Memphis last year are invited to join the trip to New Orleans.

# TIME FOR TEENS

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## **5) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM (GRADES 7, 10, AND 11)\***

- All interested 7th graders are paired with an older teen mentor
- Teens and their mentors will meet every other month for a tasty treat and an opportunity to discuss important challenges facing teens today from a Jewish perspective
- This program serves as a great introduction to the Teen Community at WJC!  
\*This program will be open to all interested 7th graders. 10th and 11th grade mentors must apply to participate.

## **6) TEEN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (GRADES 8-12)**

- Great opportunity to take on a leadership role in our Teen Community
- Help plan social events for our Teen Community
- Applications will be available in September

## **7) SOCIAL GATHERINGS (GRADES 8-12)**

- Participate in fun activities planned by the Teen Leadership Council!
- Mark your calendars for our Kick-Off End of Summer Barbeque and Information Session at WJC on September 11 from 5-7PM! The Kick-Off and Info Session is open to all teens, grades 7-12, as well as their parents.

The Teen Engagement Committee, chaired by Stephen Kutno and Cheryl Brause will also be planning initiatives for teens and their families this year. Please contact Stephen, Cheryl, or Shoshi to join our growing committee!

And stay involved! Add Shoshi Wjc on Facebook and follow wjc\_teens on Instagram. There are groups on Facebook for parents of teens, alumni of WJC, and the teens themselves. Check your inboxes and the WJC website for a full calendar of Teen Events in 2016-2017.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11**

Kick-Off BBQ and Info Session, 5-7PM at WJC—all teens and parents invited!

## **SEPTEMBER 13**

First Night of Hebrew High—teens in grades 8-12 are invited to try Hebrew High twice before registering!

## **TEEN SCHMOOZE**

September 24, November 12, December 10, March 4, June 17—open to all teens in grades 7-12 from 10:30AM-12PM

## **TEENS JOIN THE SIMPLE & SOULFUL SERVICES**

January 28 and May 20

# GOT SPIRIT?

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WJC proudly offers an array of contemporary services to inspire you with the beauty, meaning and relevance of Jewish spiritual traditions. These services feature contemporary instrumental music and forms of prayer, are user-friendly and are especially focused on personal meaning and spirituality. We invite you to experience your life's journey as it intertwines with ancient and modern Jewish ideas, to the tune of moving music and inspiring community.



• **Rhythm and Ruach:** Make WJC your home on Friday night. Join us for an hour-long service to welcome Shabbat, reflect on the week, and connect with God and with

each other. Learn new melodies and sing your old favorites. Stick around for dessert and time to connect with friends and make new ones. Make a whole evening of it with Rhythm and Ruach, community Shabbat dinners and an author talk or other special event.

*Fridays as follows: September 16th, 2016 Instrumental Kabbalat Shabbat, voices-only Ma'ariv 6:00 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm, Koslowe Gallery opening of "Family Gatherings" an exhibit by photographer Richard Margolis, 8pm*

*October 21st, 2016 Family Service 6:00pm-6:30 pm, Dinner 6:30-7:30 pm, Rhythm and Ruach 7:30-8:30.*

*November 11th, 2016 Rhythm and Ruach 7:30-8:30, Joseph Skibell discusses his book Six Memos from the Last Millennium with dessert at 8:30*

*December 9th, 2016, Rhythm and Ruach 6:30-7:30, Dinner at 7:30*

*January 20th 2017 Family Service 6:00pm-6:30 pm, Dinner 6:30-7:30 pm, Rhythm and Ruach 7:30-8:30.*

*February 3rd 2017 Rhythm and Ruach 7:30-8:30, Rabbi Benjamin Shalva discusses his book Spiritual Cross-Training with dessert at 8:30*

*March 17th, 2017 Family Service 6:00pm-6:30 pm, Dinner 6:30-7:30 pm, Rhythm and Ruach 7:30-8:30.*

*April 21st, 2017 Traditional Service 7:00-8:00pm Rhythm and Ruach 8:00-9:00pm*

*May 12th, 2017 Rhythm and Ruach "Under the Stars" Instrumental Kabbalat Shabbat, voices-only Ma'ariv at 7:00, Dinner at 8:00*

*June 16th, 2017 Dinner 6:30-7:30 pm, Rhythm and Ruach "Under the Stars" Instrumental Kabbalat Shabbat, voices-only Ma'ariv at 7:30-8:30, Volunteer Recognition Program at 8:30.*



# GOT SPIRIT?

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• **Simple and Soulful** (formerly known as the Contemporary Service):

Let your spirit soar as we journey through an abbreviated Shabbat morning service. This 90 minute service includes group prayer and singing accompanied by instruments, silence for personal reflection and an interactive exploration and interpretation of the week's Torah portion. Frequent comments and questions encourage us to reflect on ourselves and find personal meaning in age-old prayers. We especially welcome those with children in the 3rd grade and older to attend as a family. Join the rest of the WJC community for a concluding activity together, Kiddush and time to schmooze.

Saturdays, 10:15-11:45am

- September 10, 2016
- October 29th 2016\*
- November 19th, 2016
- December 17th, 2016\*
- January 7th, 2017\*
- January 28th, 2017\*+
- April 8th, 2017
- May 20th, 2017+
- June 10, 2017

\*with Youth Shabbat Learning Program  
+with Teen Community



*A vibrant, meaningful, musical  
Shabbat service*

• **Renewal Service** Enjoy and experience the power of great music, communal singing and soulful praying as Ellen Kazis-Walker, Seth Schafler and Randy Heller lead us in a music-filled hour. Special guests join in the music and reflect on their own spiritual journeys. Stay afterwards for dessert and a chance to visit with friends.

Sundays, 7 pm.

- September 25th, 2016
- November 6th, 2016
- December 18th, 2016
- February 12, 2017
- May 7th, 2017
- June 4th, 2017



• **Before the Water: A Pre-Tashlich Experience:** This new gathering before Tashlich on the first day of Rosh Hashanah will explore the themes of the High Holidays and help us prepare for and find more meaning in the ritual casting away of our sins. We will end by walking together to Harbor Island Park for Tashlich.

Monday, October 3rd, 4 pm in the Activity Center

# GOT SPIRIT?

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## **Triple T: Torah, Talmud, Tuesdays**

9:45am-10:30am

Come see how the greatest hits of the Talmud are connected to the weekly Torah portion. Ever wonder how certain parts of the Torah are understood by the Rabbis of the Talmud? This class will explore that connection and more as we navigate some of the highlights of our tradition!

## **“The Call”**

Tuesdays, at 12:30pm-1:15pm

In the office? At home? On the train? Even in the car (with hands-free capability)? Call us! Rabbi Segelman, together with members of the WJC staff and faculty will be learning and discussing the weekly Torah portion. We invite you to eavesdrop - and of course participate - in the conversation/discussion. The entire hour (or any part thereof) is available by conference call. This is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill the mitzvah of Torah learning, to deepen your awareness of the parsha and to bring topics of conversation to your Shabbat table.

(For dial-in information, email [adminasst@wjcenter.org](mailto:adminasst@wjcenter.org) or call Rosie at (914) 698-2960.)

## **The Shabbat Morning Shiur**

8:45am-9:30am

Each Shabbat morning, Rabbi Segelman takes an in-depth look at some aspect of the Torah portion. This year, the shiur will attempt to focus on the relationship of the parsha to one or two of the major news events of the week. This is a wonderful way to grow your Jewish knowledge and also to spiritually and intellectually prepare for the Shabbat morning service.

We meet in the library of WJC. Coffee, tea and cake served.



# MIND OVER MATTERS

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## **Mind over Matters – Learning with a Jewish Lens**

Through rich and varied programming, WJC's Adult Education Committee engages members of the synagogue community in religious and ritualistic elements of Judaism. Often partnering with others, such as the Hendel Family Library, Brotherhood, and the Holocaust Learning Center, the Adult Ed Committee produces programs with inter-generational learning, discussion groups, special presentations and the annual Scholar-in-Residence program.

Here's a look at two of the upcoming events from the Adult Education Committee:

## **How To Be The Jewish Parents We Mean To Be**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, BRUNCH & LEARN

Nora Anderson, educator and Head of School at Carmel Academy in Greenwich, CT, will lead a discussion focused on children's and parents' moral and emotional development in a Jewish context. Gear up for the New Year with inspiring ideas about you and your children's development. Brunch is included, so please join us for what promises to be an engaging and important conversation.

## **Scholar-in-Residence Weekend**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2017



With Rabbi Shai Held

Theologian, scholar, and educator, Rabbi Shai Held is Co-Founder, Dean and Chair in Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar, where he also directs the Center for Jewish Leadership and Ideas. Previously, he served for six years as Scholar-in-Residence at Kehilat Hadar in New York City, and taught both theology and Halakha at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He also served as Director of Education at Harvard Hillel. A 2011 recipient of the prestigious Covenant Award for excellence in Jewish education, Rabbi Held has been named multiple times to *Newsweek's* list of the 50 most influential rabbis in America. He holds a doctorate in religion from Harvard; his main academic interests are in modern Jewish and Christian thought, in biblical theology, and in the history of Zionism.

For more information, SIR sponsorship opportunities and how to get involved with the weekend, email Myra Glajchen ([mglajchen@gmail.com](mailto:mglajchen@gmail.com)) and Heather Taffet Gold ([heathertgold@hotmail.com](mailto:heathertgold@hotmail.com)) Adult Education Committee Co-chairs.

# LEARNING WITH A JEWISH LENS

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## **Marking the Passage of Time:**

### **A Practical and Thoughtful Study of the Modern Jewish Life Cycle**

In these six sessions, Rabbi Segelman will explore the life of the modern Jew. Beginning with ideas about what “life” was like before we are born, to what happens after we die, our focus will be on the way in which Jewish tradition marks – or ignores – the different stages of life.

Participants will gain a greater practical understanding of the rituals of the life cycle and will be invited to discuss how we might adapt and create new ones to address the realities of our times. Each session will take place at the Westchester Jewish Center on Thursday evenings in November and December.

## **THURSDAY EVENINGS, 8:00PM-9:30 PM**

### **SESSION ONE – NOV. 3**

#### BRINGING NEW LIVES INTO OUR WORLD

We will study Jewish ideas and rituals associated with pregnancy from (both the mother’s and the baby’s perspective) and birth. What do we do at a bris, a naming, a pidyon haben? How do we celebrate an adoption? Why is age three so special? What does Jewish law say about parenting young children?

### **SESSION TWO – NOV. 10**

#### THE RITUALS (OR LACK THEREOF) OF CHILDHOOD

In this session, we will look at the years leading up to Bar/Bat Mitzvah and then focus carefully on what it means to come of age at the beginning of adolescence. What are the rituals of this period and how do we understand the meaning and the ceremonies of b’nei mitzvah? We will also look at the how we might create new rituals and meditations to mark such events as earning a driver’s license, dealing with the stress of High School, graduations, and the issues of parenting teenagers.

### **SESSION THREE – NOV. 17**

#### FROM EGYPT TO SINAI – THE YEARS OF EMERGING ADULTHOOD

There are no traditional Jewish rituals to address the specific concerns of that state of life which is now called “Emerging Adulthood.” In this session, we will discuss the years of college and those which follow. These years are often a time of spiritual and cultural confusion. Inasmuch as traditional Jewish practice has no experience with this stage of modern life, we will seek to create rituals and meditations which might become a proactive resource for our young adults. We will also use this session to speak about Jewish rituals that directly address the realities of the LGBT community including rituals for coming out and transitioning.

# MIND OVER MATTERS

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## **SESSION FOUR – DECEMBER I**

MAZEL TOV – YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED

In this session we will learn about the laws, symbols and traditions associated with engagement and marriage. Also, we will discuss these same rituals for same sex marriages and inter-faith marriages. On a deeper level, we will compare the underlying values of Jewish rituals and seek to adapt them, or create new rituals, to address the changing meaning of marriage in modern life.

## **SESSION FIVE – DEC. 8**

MID-LIFE CRISIS – MID-LIFE JOY

Once again, there is a significant lack of rituals and traditions to mark the serious changes that one experiences during the middle-aged years. At the same time, it is during these years that most people begin to think more spiritually about their lives and the lives of their children and grandchildren. In this session, we will take a look at how Judaism relates to aging, empty-nesting, and retirement. Very importantly, we will explore the Jewish values regarding the care of elderly and dying parents. This has been, and continues to be, one of the most serious and difficult commandments in all of the Torah.

## **SESSION SIX – DEC. 15**

AS LIFE ENDS AND BEGINS AGAIN

What is death? What does Judaism teach about the soul after death? This will focus our discussion of the rituals that mark death and mourning and the way in which they speak to the needs of the modern Jew. We will learn many of the details of preparing for death, the funeral and burial, kaddish, Shiva and the periods of mourning.

# LEARNING WITH A JEWISH LENS

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## **Our Second Busiest Holiday Season: The Theological and Practical Rollercoaster from Passover through Jerusalem Day**

The Spring season presents the most active and powerful combination of holidays and observances in all the Jewish calendar. Passover, followed by the period of the Omer, Holocaust Memorial Day, Israel Independence Day, and Jerusalem Day take us from the first moment of our national history right up to 1967 – a period of 3200 years.

In this course, we will study the practical observances of these days with an eye to their deeper meaning and the the role that God plays – or doesn't play – in the unfolding of Jewish history.

There will be four classes meeting on consecutive Wednesday evenings at the Westchester Jewish Center from 8:00pm – 9:30pm

### **SESSION ONE – MARCH 15**

#### TURNING OUR HOMES AND OUR HEARTS UPSIDE-DOWN

In this class, we will discuss the ways in which we prepare for Passover – physically and spiritually. We will focus on practical issues such as what is hametz, what are litniyot, how do we deal with utensils. We will also discuss why we do these things and how the same principles can be applied to the way in which we are supposed to prepare our souls and minds for the holiday.

### **SESSION TWO – MARCH 22** TELLING THE STORY – WHAT STORY?

We will take a careful look at the Seder – the symbols and the structure. We will explore the Haggadah to understand not only what it says, but also what it doesn't say. We will speak about how we deliver the messages of the holiday as Jews do so well – at the dining table during a meal.

### **SESSION THREE – MARCH 29**

#### BUT IT'S MAY! WHAT DO YOU MEAN I CAN'T GET MARRIED?!

Though the period of the Omer is a time of sadness, it did not start out that way in the Torah. How did it become a time of mourning? One week into it, we commemorate the tragedy of the Holocaust. Why that day? Nothing memorable happened on that day. And what is Lag B'Omer? I heard that one can get married after that day, and that in Israel, it is a big celebration with bonfires. What is that all about?

In this class, we will look at the meanings, the history, meanings and connections between these days. We will try to understand how our rabbis and sages saw the hand of God in the unfolding of history.

### **SESSION FOUR – APRIL 5** THE END OF EXILE – NEW PROBLEMS

In the final class, we will look at the celebrations of Israel's Independence Day and Jerusalem Day. We will learn about the discussions and debates regarding the founding of the State. We will also see how their observance has evolved over the decades. Most importantly, we will take a look at the meaning of Israel to the Jewish world (and the world at large) as it is reflected through these most powerful commemorations.

# MIND OVER MATTERS

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## **The Rebecca and William Ross Memorial Lecture Series Presents: Annie Polland, Ph.D. Vice President, Programs & Education Lower East Side Tenement Museum**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 7:30 PM

**The Holocaust Learning Center, (HLC)** provides meaningful programs and engaging speakers to educate synagogue members and the community about the Holocaust. This committee often works in conjunction with other WJC groups to produce high caliber learning experiences and commemorations of important days such as Kristallnacht and Yom HaShoah.

### **Kristallnacht Commemoration**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10 AT 7:30 PM

To mark the anniversary of Kristallnacht on November 10th, the Israel Committee and HLC will co-sponsor the Israeli film: "The Debt."

HLC is excited to welcome back Eric Goldman, a pioneer in Jewish Cinema Studies. He was one of the first academics to connect the dots between Judaic studies and film. He will lead a three part series of film programs for our congregation, including a special presentation to the youth in the Hebrew High School.

Part One November 15, 6:00 p.m.  
Film Program for Hebrew High

Part Two 7:45 p.m.  
Adult Film Program

Part Three November 29, 7:45 p.m.

### **Yom HaShoah Commemoration**

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017

Details available at a later date; check your weekly newsletter and WJC website for updates: [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org)

# LEARNING WITH A JEWISH LENS

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## **THE THREE RS -**

### **READING, REELS & RITUAL WITH THE HENDEL FAMILY LIBRARY**

A treasure trove of historical, cultural and religious tomes and reels, the Hendel Library provides literary aficionados a chance to immerse themselves in rich Judaica content. The Library Committee collaborates with Arlene Ratzabi, our staff librarian, and other WJC groups to bring activities tied into books, research, Judaica and Israel to the WJC family.

Programs in the works include:

### **AUTHOR NIGHTS WITH RHYTHM & RUACH**

- November 11, 2016 – Guest Speaker – Joseph Skibell, Winship Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at Emory University and author of *Six Memos from the Millennium, A Novelist Reads from the Talmud*. Taking an original approach to the wisdom of the Talmud, Skibell seeks to uncover what the rabbis can still impart to our modern age by unifying strands of stories that can increase our sense of wonder and holiness.
- February 3, 2017 – Guest Speaker – Rabbi Benjamin Shalva – author of *Spiritual Cross-Training: Searching Through Silence, Stretch, and Song*, an intimate memoir that reflects his unique background in Talmud and rabbinic texts with certification as a Hatha Yoga Instructor. Rabbi Shalva uses the lessons and techniques he gained through years of religious exploration and inward reflection to guide us in strengthening our “spiritual” muscles and deepen our search for meaning.

## **FILM NIGHT**

“Carvalho’s Journey,” a real-life 19th century American western adventure story about Solomon Nunes Carvalho, an observant Sephardic Jew who became one of the first photographers to document the sweeping vistas and treacherous terrain of the far American West. Carvalho overcame enormous odds to produce beautiful art: daguerreotypes that became the lens through which the world experienced the West.

\*Details available at a later date; check your weekly newsletter and WJC website for updates: [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org)

# LEARNING WITH A JEWISH LENS

## **Jewish Artists and All that Jazz at WJC!**

Throughout the centuries and through the great diaspora, Jews have found numerous ways to express themselves through prayer, music and art. This fall, WJC features special events dedicated to these artistic expressions.

### **Koslowe Judaica Gallery**

The Koslowe Gallery under the direction of its curator, Amy Levine-Kennedy, ushers in a new year featuring programming to engage our greater community, both internally and externally to WJC. Working with the Council of American Jewish Museums, the Gallery's fall show brings an exhibition of some of the simplest but most critical concepts in religious tradition and practice, the holiday table. With **"Family Gatherings: The Photographs of Richard Margolis,"** the Rochester-based photographer features tables integral to the heritage, and future, of ritual and memory in Judaism, as well as in Christianity, Islam and more. Margolis has been at work photographing Seder tables, Shabbats and holiday feasts, including Kwanzaa, Christmas and Ramadan.



*Amy Levine-Kennedy at opening of last year's Crohn exhibit at WJC's Koslowe Gallery*

## **KOSLOWE GALLERY'S FALL EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION**

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2016



**Rhythm and Ruach  
& Shabbat in the Gallery**  
**A first time collaboration!**  
**"Family Gatherings: the  
Photographs of  
Richard Margolis"**

**This exhibit will be on display through December.**

For future exhibits, check our website at [wjcenter.org](http://wjcenter.org).

# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

## FOR THE MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

**Brotherhood** - As the men's organization of WJC, Brotherhood develops a variety of programming to foster greater community spirit and connections. Scheduled events include educational and spiritual sessions, community service initiatives, annual blood drive, the World Wide (Tefillin) Wrap, Sunday brunches, evening dinners, talks and sporting events. Want to join the camaraderie? Leave a message at the office, (914)698-2960, for the chairs and be sure to check the weekly newsletter and our website [www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org) for updated times and schedules.

### Scotch with the Rabbi

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

### Poker Night in the Sukkah

WEDNESDAY,

OCTOBER 19, 2016 8:00PM

### Mitzvah Day Blood Drive

SUNDAY,

NOVEMBER 20, 2016 TIME TBA



### Super Bowl Sunday & It's A Wrap: Annual World Wide Tefillin Wrap

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2017, 8:30AM - Sports talk with WJC member and *NY Times* best selling author, Kostya Kennedy

### NCAA March Madness Event

MARCH 2017 TBA

**Sisterhood** - The Sisterhood of WJC is a community of women committed to the enrichment of Jewish life by providing spiritual, educational and social programs and by offering financial support to vital synagogue activities. The Sisterhood supports itself through annual membership dues, sales from our beautiful Sisterhood gift shop and other fundraising events.

We begin our year with a special opening event and finish with a special closing event, plus many in between such as:

**Sukkah Decorating** will take place on Sunday, October 16th from 11am – 1pm.

**Book Club** - Come hear author, Lynda Loigman author of *The Two-Family House*, “a moving family saga filled with heart, longing, love and mystery.” Grab a copy of the book and join us for an interesting evening shared with Larchmont Temple and our WJC library on **Wednesday, September 28th at 7pm at WJC.**

Debbie Katz has offered to continue running our successful **Mah Jongg Nights** - in November and April. If you can help organize additional times, please contact us, as people seem to enjoy these nights out.



# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

**Hanukkah Boutique** - Sunday, November 20th, 10am – 2pm. We need additional gift shop volunteers. Please contact Carol Fasman at ccfasman@gmail.com, if you can help. It's a fun way to spend a couple of hours and is much appreciated. **Sisterhood Shabbat**, tentative date January 21st.

## Israeli Dancing, Cinema & Celebrations

The Israel Affairs Committee brings you the best in Israeli culture from group folk dance classes to the finest films produced by Israeli talent, in Hebrew with English subtitles.



To get in shape and improve your mind and body, join us for Israeli Dancing with Shmulik Gov-Air, noted choreographer and instructor, for Israeli dancing on the following nights (most are Monday nights except during holiday periods and where noted with asterisk):

**Israeli Dancing Dates:** Sept. 26; Oct. 27\*; Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28; Dec. 5, 12, 19, 29\*, 2016; Jan. 9, Jan. 19\*, Jan. 23, Jan. 30; Feb. 6, 13, 23\*, 27; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22; June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2017

**Israeli Monthly Movie Nights** - are planned for the following evenings, starting at 7:45 pm (titles to be announced at a later date):

Thu Sep 15, 2016 (12 Elul)	Wed Feb 15, 2017 (19 Shevat)
Wed Oct 26, 2016 (24 Tishri)	Wed Mar 15, 2017 (17 Adar)
Thurs Nov 10, 2016 (9 Heshvan)	Wed Apr 19, 2017 (23 Nisan)
Wed Dec 14, 2016 (14 Kislev)	Wed May 17, 2017 (21 Iyar)
Wed Jan 11, 2017 (13 Tevet)	Wed Jun 14, 2017 (20 Sivan)

## FOR THE BODY

**Let's get physical! Time to finesse your moves from basketball, to softball to dance. Take a chance and come out and play!**

**WJC Brotherhood Men's Softball Team** – Three Time Champions of the Westchester Hebrew Softball League! WJC's winning team participates in the Westchester Hebrew Softball League, competing against 17 teams representing synagogues and Jewish Men's organizations across the County. Defend the championship: If you are a player who is both competitive and committed (16+ years of age), and available on most Sunday mornings from late March 2017 through early October, please call Art Kaplan (914) 948-1178 or Dan Kaplan (914) 522-7870.



# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

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## **Men's Basketball**

TUESDAYS, 8:00PM-10:00PM STARTING OCTOBER 13, 2016

Weekly pick-up game for adult men of all ages in a friendly environment. No prior playing experience necessary. Contact Marc Karell for more information (914) 584-6720.

## **Westchester Jewish (Youth) Basketball League**

WJC fields multiple teams in the Westchester Jewish Basketball League for boys and girls in grades 5-12. Teams are co-ed but mostly boys participate. Season runs from late November through early March with practices beginning in early October. Games are an average of once a week. No games on Fridays and Saturdays. Sign-up sheets are available outside the school office. For further information, contact Mrs. (Jill) Caslin, (914) 698-6614.

## **Women's Softball Team Fun-Raiser**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Mamaroneck Avenue School Field, 1:00pm-4:00pm. Come out and root for the home team! Sponsor a base, buy a t-shirt to help support Project EZRA care for the elderly on the Lower East Side. Contact Jennifer Winters, jwbonbini@aol.com or Jodi L. Stern, jlstern1@verizon.net.

## **Israeli Dancing with Shmulik Gov-Ari**

(SEE PAGE 22 FOR SCHEDULE.)

## **ALL TOGETHER NOW!**

Synagogue-wide events that everyone enjoys!

## **Hanukkah Hoopla**

DECEMBER 11, 2016, 4:00PM-6:00PM

Light the candles, spin the dreidel. Flip the latkes and more. For children of all ages from 1-9! See the amazing magic of Mario the Magician and enjoy WonderSpark Hannukah Puppet Theater. Our older kids are invited to get their groove on with Musical IQ! Enjoy a festive Hannukah dinner with your family following our programs.

## **PurimPalooza**

SUNDAY,  
MARCH 12, 2017  
3:00-5:00PM

Carnival time with costumes, obstacle courses, contests, balloon characters and lots of games and food. Fun for all! Who could ask for more?



# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

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## **Purimshpiel 2017 - SEGELMAN!**

SATURDAY NIGHT, MARCH 11, 2017

Following the Megillah Reading, “You’ll wanna be in the room where it happens!”



## **Spring Gala Dinner Dance**

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2017 6:00PM-10PM

Aside from WJC’s annual Kol Nidre Appeal, the Dinner Dance is the single most important fundraising event on the calendar.

## **Celebrate Israel Independence Day – Yom Ha’Atzmaut**

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017, 4:00PM-6:00PM

Dance with Shmulik Gov-Ari! Bring family and friends as we create our own community Israeli line dance! Join us for dinner following our celebration! More details to come. Check your weekly newsletter or website: [www: wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org).

## **Making the World a Better Place – through Social Action**

The **WJC Social Action Committee** hosts specific programs throughout the year to benefit the broader community and also ties into other Center activities. SAC works together with many arms of the synagogue, including the Early Childhood Center and Religious School, Teens, the Interfaith Initiative, the Library, the World Jewry Committee, and others. Annually, the committee members organize mitzvah days (to encourage a variety of ‘giving’ projects – sandwich making, food drives, clothing donations, etc.), a holiday event to support the Community Resource Center and Project Ezra at Passover. They also coordinate Bikur Cholim year-round and host days for knitting (baby caps), crafts and baking to benefit others. We are broadening our programming by organizing and hosting, with the Library, meetings of the Interfaith Social Justice Book Discussion Group and assisting in re-settling Syrian refugees.

# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

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**Bikur Cholim – Ongoing** - provides meals for those sitting Shiva, ill or just having a baby, members come together to help our neighbors and one another. Let us know if a visit or a meal would be helpful. The Rabbis and your fellow congregants are happy to bring cheer and warmth. Email: [Bikurcholim@wjcenter.org](mailto:Bikurcholim@wjcenter.org) or contact Cindy, 914 833-0347 or Mindy, 914 725-8825, WJC Office: 698-2960.

**Rosh Hashanah Food and Food Voucher Drive for the Bronx JCC Kosher Food Pantry** - SEPTEMBER 10-26

**Yom Kippur Bring Your Breakfast Food Drive for the Larchmont/Mamaroneck Food Pantry** - OCTOBER 12-14

**Luncheon with Elders from Project EZRA**  
DATE TBA

**Mitzvah Day** - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016 TIME TBA

Activities for all ages at a day-long event at WJC dedicated to helping our less fortunate neighbors. Donate new and gently used clothing and over-the-counter medications, diapers, and make sandwiches to feed the hungry all to benefit the Westchester community.

**Interfaith/Social Justice Book Group:**

FALL 2016 AND ON-GOING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2016, LOCATION TBA

Book: *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome* - by Joy DeGruy

**COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER GIFT DRIVE**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER DATE TBA 9:00AM-2:00PM

Help collect gifts and gift cards, wrap and deliver; donate new clothes and toys for the holidays.

**Community Day**

Sunday, February 12, 2017 12:00pm-3:00pm

Participate in family event to prepare food and crafts for our neighbors in need.

**Project Ezra/Bronx Kosher Food Pantry**

**Passover Food Drive** – COLLECTION MARCH 4-26

**Bronx Sunday Project Ezra**

PESACH FOOD COLLECTION – MARCH 4-26

Sunday Date TBA to hand deliver Pesach food packages in the Bronx.

# MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

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## **SOCIAL ACTION SUBCOMMITTEES – HELPING IMPROVE THE WORLD, ONE MITZVAH AT A TIME**

### **The Green Committee - The Path to Social Responsibility: Looking at Nature from the Outside In**

Because respect for nature is a core value in Judaism, WJC's Green Committee works collaboratively with other WJC groups to educate the community on how to sustain and respect the environment through open discussions, monthly articles in The Review, library literature and participation in shul-wide holiday events such as Tu B-Shevat, Hanukkah, Purim & Yom Ha'Atzmaut. Meetings occur monthly.

### **The Green Committee invites you to the following events to begin the year:**

- Apple picking at Fishkill Farms Sustainable Farm- Sunday, September 25th \*  
\*Times to be announced. Please check the WJC website and weekly email for updates.

**World Jewry Subcommittee** As a subcommittee of Social Action, the newly formed World Jewry Committee is exploring the status of Jews around the world and ways in which our local community can be of assistance through a series of educational forums and calls to action.

**Jews in the Ukraine - Fall 2016** Alex Weisler from Joint Distribution Committee will speak on the current state of affairs as well as Ukraine's fascinating history. The situation on the ground has worsened due to political and economic turmoil and regression, definitely making Ukraine a hot spot in the world today.

**Jews in the Dominican Republic - Spring 2017** In 1943 when the country offered Jewish refugees a haven, the number of known Jews in the Dominican Republic peaked at 1000. The Sosúas Jewish community experienced a deep decline in the 1980s due to emigration during the touristic boom and most Jews sold their land to developers at exorbitant prices. A speaker from the American Jewish World Service will provide an update on Jews in the region.

**HIAS Syrian Refugee Crisis – Ongoing** For the last many years, the U.S. State Department has declined to resettle refugees in the Westchester area. HIAS has proposed to resettle approximately 50 Syrians in the late fall and early winter of this year. WJC is exploring local efforts to help refugees and our plans will expand throughout the year.



## Westchester Jewish Center

Palmer & Rockland Avenues  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543  
[www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org)

### WJC Committees

Adult Education Committee  
Bikur Cholim  
B'nei Mitzvah Committee  
Brotherhood  
Dinner Dance Committee  
Early Childhood Center Policies & Procedures  
Early Childhood Center Parents Auxiliary  
Family Youth Education Council  
Green Committee  
Holocaust Learning Center  
House Committee  
Israel Committee  
Kiddush Committee  
Koslowe Judaica Gallery Committee  
Library Committee  
Music Enrichment Committee  
Parents Association  
PJ Library  
Religious School Committee  
Sisterhood  
Social Action Committee  
Spiritual Life Committee  
Teen Engagement Committee  
Welcoming Committee  
World Jewry Committee

*WJC Committees listed above are always looking for new members and active participants.  
For more detailed information consult the website at:  
[www.wjcenter.org](http://www.wjcenter.org)*

# Westchester Jewish Center

Palmer & Rockland Avenues  
Mamaroneck, NY 10543  
www.wjcenter.org



Administrative Office .....	914-698-2960
Religious School .....	914-698-2966
Early Childhood Center .....	914-698-2767
WJC President, Jeffrey Lavine .....	president@wjcenter.org
General Information .....	info@wjcenter.org

*All phone extensions listed below are for the Administrative Office: 914-698-2960*

<b>Rabbi</b> .....	Jeffrey Segelman .....	ravjeff@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 103
<b>Assistant Rabbi</b> .....	Adir Yolkut .....	rabbidir@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 104
<b>Cantor</b> .....	Ethan Goldberg .....	cantorecg@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 105
<b>Executive Director</b> .....	Susan Lurie .....	executive@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 102
<b>Communications Director</b> .....	Pat Tinto .....	communicationdir@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 161
<b>Education Director and Congregation Program Coordinator</b> .....	Aleza Kulp .....	educdir@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 112
<b>Assistant Religious School Principal:</b> .....	Ziva Wagner .....	asstedudir@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 113
<b>Educational Director</b>			
<b>Early Childhood Director</b> .....	Sabrina Landau .....	ecdir@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 110
<b>Early Childhood Teachers</b> .....		teacher@wjcenter.org	
<b>Teen Engagement Director</b> .....	Shoshi Rosenbaum .....	Shoshi@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 155
<b>Librarian</b> .....	Arlene Ratzabi .....	librarian@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 114
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<b>Main Office Secretary</b> .....	Kim Lewis .....	officesecy@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 106
<b>Religious School Secretary &amp; Camp Director</b> .....	Eileen Fortuna .....	schoolsecy@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 111
<b>Early Childhood Secretary</b> .....	Sandy Fenton .....	ecsecy@wjcenter.org .....	Ext. 109



