

HERE FOR YOU. HERE FOR GOOD.



December 8, 2021 - 4 Tevet 5782

JCA PROGRAMS

*Local programs highlighted in light blue

UNDER JERUSALEM: The Buried History of the World's Most Contested City - A virtual book talk with author Andrew Lawler

Presented by the JCA and Longfellow Books
Thursday, Dec. 16th | 7:00 PM ET



Advanced registration required by Thursday 12/16 at 12 pm to receive the Zoom link.

In this sweeping account, journalist Andrew Lawler explores the complicated history of archaeological digs in Jerusalem. Ranging from imperialistic expeditions in the 19th century, when explorers competed in a “race to stake a claim to Jerusalem’s past” to the present day, Lawler’s colorful narrative includes aristocrats, scientists, charlatans, and clerics who sought to uncover the remnants of the ancient City of David, and tried to find the Ark of the Covenant, among other archaeological treasures.

The book is [available to order from our friends at Longfellow Books](#)

Zoom link will be sent to registered participants on Weds., 12/15 and again on Thursday, 12/16.

[Register](#)

OPEN MAH JONGG CLUB

In-person at the JCA – 1342 Congress St., Portland

Weekly, Wednesdays & Fridays

Starting Dec. 15 & Dec. 17* | 9:30 AM – 12 PM

*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE. Dec. 8 and Dec. 10 sessions have been cancelled



Players of all levels are welcome – participants should have a basic understanding of the principles of the game and be able to play without instruction. See the JCA website and our [calendar](#) for holiday and weather closures. (For beginners who are not familiar with the game, we hope to offer an instructional course this spring.)

Per the JCA's updated COVID policy as of Nov. 2021, **proof of vaccination and masks are required** at our indoor programs. Please review our full policy before you arrive: <https://www.mainejewish.org/jca-covid-policy-update-11-1-21/>

If you are joining our group for the first time, RSVP to our volunteer Judi Slostky.

TORAH CONVERSATIONS: A weekly online study group
facilitated by Ellie Miller
Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM



This is a weekly Zoom gathering, informed by various translations of the Hebrew text and a variety of commentaries, ancient and modern. All are welcome to participate on a drop-in basis – no prior experience is necessary. A text of the Hebrew Bible is required - all translations are appropriate. The sessions will last one hour, with an opportunity to continue the discussion for an additional 15 minutes until 11:15 AM.

To join the study group email list and receive the Zoom link, weekly readings and schedule updates, contact our volunteer Diane Newman.

[Sign up to join the group](#)

AROUND THE JEWISH WORLD

*Local programs highlighted in light blue

ART IN CONTEXT – CREATING, COLLECTING, LOOTING & RECOVERY

From the Jewish Museum, NYC
Tuesday Dec. 14th | 2:00 PM EST



Explore works by artists including Marc Chagall, Henri Matisse, and others in this course focused on art produced or looted during WWII.

December 14: The Hare with Amber Eyes

[Register](#)

Beyond the Pew Report: UNDERSTANDING SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE IN AMERICA - With Rabbi David Freidenreich

A virtual event presented by Congregation Etz Chaim, Biddeford
Thursday, Dec. 16th | 6:30 PM



Over a million American Jews - one out of every eight - live in counties with fewer than 10,000 Jews. In some respects, Jews who live outside of major metropolitan areas reflect broader trends captured in national studies like the 2020 Pew Report, but these studies fail to capture distinctive aspects of small town Jewish life. We'll explore the current state of American Jewishness, with particular attention to dynamics in places like Biddeford.

David Freidenreich, the Pulver Family Professor of Jewish Studies at Colby College, directs the national impact efforts of the Center for Small Town Jewish Life. The Center cultivates vibrant, socially equitable communities rooted in their own sense of place, nourished by transformational learning, and intertwined with the broader Jewish world.

[RSVP to Cantor Beth Strassler](#)

TROPE TRAINING WITH ELIANA WILLIS

A 3-week online community program with the Center for Small Town Jewish Life
Thursdays - January 20 and 27, February 3, 2022
6:30 - 7:30 PM

\$36 suggested donation

Would you like to learn Torah trope? This three-week class with Center rabbinical fellow Eliana Willis will cover the basics of Torah cantillation, focusing on the most common tropes. Eliana will also discuss how to go about learning an *aliyah*, using the Rosh Hodesh Torah reading as a case study, and share online resources to support your Torah reading beyond this class.



Enrollment is limited to 10 students. Registrants are required to commit to attending all three classes. The success of this program depends on class attendance. If you cannot attend all three classes, please do not sign up for the training.

Prerequisites: Participants must be able to read Hebrew text aloud, and should expect to spend time outside of class practicing.

[Register](#)

JCA NEWS & UPDATES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT THE JCA

The JCA is currently hiring for several part time positions. For more information about these exciting opportunities to join our team and how to apply, [CLICK HERE](#).



CENTER DAY CAMP - SUMMER 2022

We have sold over 80% of our camper weeks in just two weeks and are filling up fast! If you are planning to join us this summer (it's going to be incredible!), sign up as soon as you can at [www.centerdaycamp.org!](http://www.centerdaycamp.org/)



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Unsubscribe_gleckman@mindspring.com

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