

HERE FOR YOU. HERE FOR GOOD.



June 16, 2021 - 6 Tamuz 5781

With Summer in the wings, we are enjoying another moment of transition here at the JCA.

Last week our "J All Day" program celebrated a successful end to a year unlike any other. The collaboration with Portland Public Schools was a wonderful way for us to serve the GFP and broader community. Thanks to the steady leadership of Director Chris Thurston, the program was a consistent and enriching presence in the lives of its participants, even as it continually shifted to reflect changing schedules and structure. We look forward to developing an afterschool program in the fall that will build on the energy and lessons of this unprecedented year!

This past weekend the Goldman Family Preschool held its second annual "[Drive-Through Graduation](#)" ceremony for the Pre-K class of 2021. This year's class has exemplified kindness, community, and love of learning throughout and we could not be more proud of them. An extra big Mazel Tov also goes out to their parents & families, and of course to the GFP teachers who showed up every day, in every way, and gave 100% for the students all year long.

Center Day Camp starts up again next Monday! After a summer away we're eagerly [counting down the days](#) until we can welcome campers new and old back to our beautiful 28 acre campus on Sebago Lake. We've made some amazing physical improvements in the meantime that we're thrilled to share: the tennis courts just got a serious makeover, the Sleepy Hollow project has a lawn now, and there is a new deck being built off the Art building!

Our 2020-21 [Arts and Culture series](#) (which included some wonderful new partnerships) is wrapping up, but we're already busy planning a wide array of programs and events for the fall and beyond. We're so excited at the prospect of having in-person programming again, while continuing some of the virtual programming that has allowed us to reach people all over the state, in good weather and bad, while safely at home.

JCA PROGRAMS

EXPLORING BROADWAY: Tuneful Italia!

*In partnership with the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance,
hosted by the Osher Marin JCC*

Thursday, June 17th | 4:00-5:30 PM EST



Shows set in and characters from Italy have peppered Broadway throughout its history. Join popular instructor James Sokol on Zoom to learn about and experience (with audio and video clips) some of the musicals that transport us, even if only momentarily, to Italy. **Tickets:** \$12.50 – \$15

[Register](#)

SONGS OF SUMMER: A Multi-Genre Musical Celebration of the Season

*In partnership with the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance,
hosted by the Osher Marin JCC*

Monday, June 21st | 5:00-6:15 PM EST



Celebrate the official arrival of summer and the longest day of the year with instructor James Sokol who leads a journey through diverse genres of music – Broadway, pop, classical and more! – exploring the theme of the season along the way. Come for the music; stay for the fun! **Tickets:** \$5 with advanced registration

[Register](#)

STILL TRAVELING: Neglected Napoli

*In partnership with the National JCC Adult & Senior Alliance,
hosted by the Osher Marin JCC*

Mondays, June 21, 28 | 2:00-3:15 PM EST



Capital of the province of Campania and third largest city in Italy, Napoli (Naples) has been overlooked by many visitors for years. Some thought it was dangerous, others heard it was uninteresting. Today, it is neither. Naples is a vibrant city, steeped in history and traditions. Let trip leader James Sokol Zoom you to meet our fantastic professional local guide to go on four "trips" to uncover and discover the treasures of this neglected southern Italian gem! **Tickets:** \$15-\$50

[Register](#)

TORAH CONVERSATIONS

**An online weekly study group facilitated by Ellie Miller
Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM**



Our last session will be on Thursday, July 1st and then we will take a break for the summer. Weekly Torah study sessions will resume in the fall.

We continue our journey through the book of Genesis, engaged in a careful reading of every word of the text. We focus on language and structure along with the tales the text imparts.

This is a weekly 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.

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

[Email Diane for the Zoom link](#)

AROUND THE JEWISH WORLD

*Local programs highlighted in light blue

Artist Talk with Photographer Tonee Harbert

Presented by the Maine Jewish Museum

Wednesday, June 16th | 7PM

The Maine Jewish Museum, in collaboration with the Bakery Photo Collective, invites you to a zoom-meeting artist talk. Photographer

Tonee Harbert will be discussing his exhibition “Through the Static and Distance” currently on view at the Maine Jewish Museum through June 24th.



Register

CULTURE PASSPORT: MEXICO - How Dance is a Cultural Bridge

Presented by the Meyerson JCC, Manhattan and JCC Global

Thursday, June 17 at 11 AM Eastern

For nearly 50 years, Festival Aviv in Mexico City has brought together members of the Mexican Jewish community through dance. Participants of the dance festival and the CDI (Jewish Sports Center) join us to discuss the uniqueness of Mexican Jewish culture and the importance of dance as an integrator of all Mexican Jewish sectors.



Register

Schmooze with Jews: PRIDE!

Presented by Queer Jewish Maine

Friday, June 18th | 6PM

Pride is here! While we won't be able to march in the Parade or gather in Deering Oaks Park, we can still get together and celebrate Pride as LGBTQ Jews. Come to Root Wild Kombucha on Friday, June 18 from 6-8pm to enjoy good company, delicious kombucha, and the beginning of a wonderful Maine summer.



Whether you're Jewish or Jew-ish, Jew-adjacent, part of the LGBTQ community, or an ally, let's have a l'chaim for love and equality! [Click here for the Facebook Event.](#)

COOKING IN YIDDISH: Highlights from the Yiddish Book Center's Collection, with Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Presented by the Yiddish Book Center

Thursday, June 24th | 7 PM ET

Yiddish cookbooks tell fascinating stories about their authors, publishers, and intended readers. Drawing on gems in the Yiddish Book Center's collection, this talk by scholar and Jewish cookbook collector Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett will explore what this unique literary genre can reveal about Jewish life.



Register

KIDS' SUMMER FUNTENSIVE

With the Center for Small Town Jewish Life at Temple Beth El, Augusta

July 19 - 23, 2021

We are thrilled to welcome our friends back for a week of games, learning, art, songs, and more—in person! We will be strictly adhering to national, state, and Colby College COVID-19 guidelines, and will be meeting outside only, requiring masks, and maintaining safe distance. A full list of our guidelines will be available in June.

We will update this program with hours soon. For more info, please contact Rabbi Erica Asch (rabbiasch@gmail.com) or Mel Weiss (maweiss@colby.edu).



Register

YOGA & FITNESS

OUTDOOR YOGA IN PAYSON PARK

With Ashley Flowers Yoga

Wednesdays | 5:30 – 6:30 PM



There is no better place to practice yoga than outdoors with the grass beneath your toes, and the wind in your hair! Practicing outside also allows us ample space for social distancing and lots of fresh air. Find a deeper sense of connection to yourself, to mother earth, and to your community with in-person, outdoor yoga! Pre-registration required through Ashley's website. Class location will be emailed to registered attendees.

Register

ONLINE YOGA CLASSES

With JCA instructor Ashley Flowers

- **Monday - 5:30 PM Evening Yoga**
- **Tuesday - 11:30 AM Midday Yoga**
- **Wednesday - 9:00 AM Rise & Flow Yoga**
- **Thursday - 10:15 AM Midday Yoga**
- **Friday - 9:00 AM Rise & Flow Yoga**



Classes are \$5/session. Plus enjoy several free yoga/meditation videos [here!](#)

Register

JCA NEWS & UPDATES

Employment Opportunity at the JCA

The JCA is hiring a full-time **Outreach, Membership, and PJ Library Coordinator** to help us strengthen the connections and relationships between our programs and community, and to oversee and implement the JCA's Membership and PJ Library programs and initiatives. For more information about this exciting opportunity to join our team, and to apply [CLICK HERE](#).



Hannaford Bag Program benefitting KJFS

For the month of June, Michael Klahr Jewish Family Services will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable **FIGHT HUNGER** Bag at the **Hannaford store located at 787 Riverside St, Portland ME**. Please join us in helping to reduce waste, while also supporting KJFS this June!



1342 Congress St. Portland, ME 04102 | 207-772-1959
Website: www.mainejewish.org | email: jca@mainejewish.org



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