

MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY



BULLETIN



JHSM SPECIAL 60TH-ANNIVERSARY EDITION



VOLUME 5 9/30/19

In 2019, JHSM retooled its signature Traveling Trunk youth bus tour to provide a more hands-on and interactive experience, rooted in living history. Here, 1910s Eastern Market peddler Sylvia Rivkin (played by JHSM educator Tova Schreiber) sells apples to students after telling them about her experiences escaping from a shtetl in Russia and coming to America to live with extended family on Hastings Street.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RISHA B. RING



THIS past year has been an enriching and exciting year for JHSM and...for me! Change was in the air in the early days of summer 2018 as doors closed while new opportunities were at our doorstep. On August 15, 2018, we welcomed Dr. Catherine Cangany as our first full-time executive director of JHSM.

Charged with taking JHSM to the next level in its sixtieth year, Catherine (Katie) quickly began working with

her team. We welcomed the return of Tracy Weissman as our education director and *Michigan Jewish History* journal editor, and Judy Sofferin joined as our office manager.

The team dove right in, addressing the challenges facing JHSM while developing plans for our sixtieth-anniversary celebration and for reaching the lofty goals established in our 2015 Strategic Plan.

Our **sixtieth-anniversary celebration** began in January 2019 with a special exhibit entitled "Origins" at the Janice Charach Gallery. Manny and Natalie Charach played an important role in JHSM's early years, so it was fitting to launch our year-long celebration at the gallery.

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Together, with the officers and board, we have made some important progress toward reaching our goals stated in the strategic plan:

EXPANDING OUR VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY

JHSM is now visible at more activities than ever throughout the community. Through intentional programming and planning, we have expanded existing—and developed new—opportunities to share our history. Highlights include:

- A larger and more streamlined *J-Cycle 9* on August 18 at Eastern Market, in collaboration with Hazon
- Community-wide activities like co-sponsoring the film, *Call Me Bill – The William Davidson Story*, at The Lenore Marwil Detroit Jewish Film Festival
- *Purple Gang program* at Congregation Beth Ahm, in partnership with IRP, which brought about 100 people together to learn more about a very interesting period in our history
- Katie's presentation of a new Speakers' Bureau "virtual tour" of Northwest Detroit's Jewish history at this year's *Limmud* program in West Bloomfield
- Continued growth of the *Speakers' Bureau*, which has more than doubled this past year, reaching hundreds of people, including going on the road to Boynton Beach, Florida, for a standing-room-only program (see related article on page 15)
- The quadrupling in size of our yearbook collection this year, thanks to the donation of a private collector, and the opening up of our yearbook collection, which is housed at Meer Apartments, so residents can spend time viewing yearbooks from around Michigan
- Co-sponsor of three classes for the fall schedule of JLearn:
 1. "Suddenly Sexy Detroit: Architecture and Urbanism in a Rebounding City" presented by Michael H. Hodges

2. "Existence is our Resistance: A Crucial Discussion of Antisemitism Yesterday and Today" presented by Dr. Ian Greenspan
3. "Mayhem in the Motor City: The Purple Gang" presented by Paul Kavieff

- A new, sold-out tour of Jewish art at the DIA, "*Let There Be Art*," which was so well-received that we will be offering the tour on an ongoing basis to private groups of ten or more (see related article on page 18)
- Our phenomenal November 2018 program, "*The Henry Ford...THROUGH A JEWISH LENS*," at The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation,™ where a sold-out crowd of over 600 heard a frank address about Henry Ford's anti-Semitism, toured nearly a dozen pop-up displays featuring Jewish content, and were treated to a performance by Detroit Symphony Orchestra Associate Concertmaster Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy, who played one of the Stradivari violins from Henry Ford's personal collection (see related article on page 12) Our partnership with The Henry Ford has greatly expanded since our November program to include the Anti-Defamation League, the Dearborn Historical Museum, and the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives at Temple Beth El. We are working with our partners on programming to benefit the entire Detroit-area community. Stay tuned!

We need your help, too! Please assist us in continuing to increase our visibility by sharing your JHSM experiences with others.

EXPANDING OUR TARGET AUDIENCE

Progress has been made in attracting different groups to become involved:

Younger Members

- The addition of three teen board members to JHSM's Advisory Board in order to hear the voices of our young people
- The planning of programming for those under 40



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JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

JHSM's *Bulletin* offers a colorful and engaging retrospective of the last year's programs, presentations, and achievements. It is one of the many perks of a JHSM membership.

Michigan Jewish History Bulletin

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Catherine Cangany, PhD, *Executive Director*
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- The presentation of the Leonard N. Simons History-Maker Award to the youngest-ever recipient, Ben Falik (see page 6 for details)
Outstate Members
- The recognition, for the first time, of an outstate member, Peg Finkelstein of Grand Rapids, for the Judith Levin Cantor Lifetime Achievement Award (see page 7)
- The appointment of two outstate members to our Advisory Board
- The presentation of the youth Traveling Trunk program to students at religious schools in Ann Arbor
Non-Members
- The participation by 180 non-members in J-Cycle 8 last summer, many of whom are now members, and a change in this year's J-Cycle pricing to encourage non-member participants to join JHSM and experience the benefits of membership



A celebration of Detroit Symphony Orchestra conductor Ossip Gabrilowitsch was held at the Detroit Public Library in May 2019. Guests learned about the famous conductor and viewed photographs, along with a cast of his hand. Photo courtesy of JHSM.

RAISING MORE FUNDS AND STRETCHING OUR DOLLARS

Our plans include:

- The launch of a fund-raising campaign to increase our endowment as well as to generate revenue to operate throughout the year
- The development of a new dues structure to better meet the needs of our membership as well as our budget—dues in 1959 were \$5.00 per member (in today's economy that is approximately \$44 per person); today they are \$36.00 per family and have been since the 1990s

- The identification of new ways to spend our dollars most effectively, like using social media to communicate with many of our members
Stay tuned for more information on each of these initiatives!

INCREASING THE QUALITY OF PROGRAMMING AND RAISING THE SCHOLARLY CONTENT WHILE TELLING NEW AND DIFFERENT STORIES

In addition to our very successful new tour at the DIA, "Let There Be Art," which was conceived by a DIA docent, a number of our other programs this year have included more scholarly content:

- The **Henry Meyers Collection of U.S. Presidential Autographs** and a **program celebrating conductor Ossip Gabrilowitsch**, both held at the Detroit Public Library
- Our recent Nosh & Know event, "**Music in the Motor City**," at which many musicians from the Detroit area participated in a panel discussion with Mark Slobin, the Winslow-Kaplan Professor of Music, Emeritus at Wesleyan University, and then jammed for an hour to an oversold crowd (see related article on page 16)
Our journal editor, Tracy Weissman, is also working to increase the quality of the scholarship in *Michigan Jewish History* by instituting a peer-review process, the gold standard in academic publishing.

ESTABLISHING NEW AND DIFFERENT COLLABORATIONS

We are partnering with Reboot to pair young people and seniors together to have conversations about history. Reboot plans to film the discussions and turn them into short documentaries that will be made available to our members to watch. We are excited to see *l'dor v'dor* ("from generation to generation") in action!

As well, our members who attended JHSM's annual meeting on June 11, 2019, had a chance to learn about a number of Detroit-area agencies thanks to Leonard N. Simons History-Maker Award recipient Ben Falik, who chose to showcase organizations making a difference in Detroit. Among the agencies at the annual meeting were Arts and Scraps, Detroit Food Academy, Detroit Jews for Justice, Hazon, The Jewish Fund, and Repair the World.



Pictured are 2019 Leonard N. Simons History-Maker Award recipient Ben Falik (center, with his daughter, Phoebe) and representatives of Detroit-area agencies who participated in the community fair held during JHSM's 60th Annual Meeting. Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography.

ENGAGING NEW VOLUNTEERS—NONE OF THESE LOFTY GOALS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT THE HUNDREDS OF ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS IN OUR ORGANIZATION

Many of JHSM's volunteers are seen; others are unsung heroes—our 2019 honoree for Outstanding Volunteer is definitely one of the unsung. Ann Conrad (see page 8) provided financial advice and support to JHSM for nearly twenty years. She represents the many people who provide their expertise and help in order for JHSM to function.

Ongoing goals in this area include:

- Developing a way to engage new and more people in our programming
- Increasing volunteer support while we obtain, maintain, and retain members of JHSM

OVERHAULING THE TRAVELING TRUNK CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE AND FIELD STUDY FOR CHILDREN

This already wonderful program has undergone a major change to the bus tour, and the classroom experience will be enhanced and improved in the coming months. This past spring, JHSM launched a retooled Traveling Trunk bus tour that is more experiential and active for students while maintaining the historical content. Among the exciting additions to the tour are

a fur-trade reenactment in Milliken State Park, a Shabbat-candle-making activity, a “meet and greet” in Eastern Market with a peddler from the early 1900s, and an opportunity to “meet” and run the bases with Hank Greenberg at The Corner Ballpark, located on the site of the former Tiger Stadium where Greenberg played. (See page 11 for photos of the tour.)

JHSM strives to make accurate history matter, so that we can pass this on to those who follow. Our growth and the enhancements planned over the next few years are essential for our lasting success. I am honored to serve as your president again this year. We must continue our trajectory for improvement as we engage in intentional, focused, quality growth and positive change. We have been successful in documenting, preserving, and promoting the past for sixty years and, with your support, we will continue to do the same (and better) in the future!
- Risha B. Ring, JHSM President

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CATHERINE CANGANY, PHD

EVERY ten years, JHSM celebrates a milestone anniversary with a new logo. 2019, our sixtieth anniversary, seemed particularly propitious for this planned refresh. In the last year, we have had new leadership; a new staff; a renewed commitment to our original mission of promoting and celebrating the stories of Michigan's Jewish communities, organizations, and citizens; and a new vitality infusing our every undertaking, from programming and community action, to membership and development. Without becoming busy or generic, how could a simple logo possibly convey both that breadth of change *and* JHSM's rich continuities?

Like other historically minded organizations, we felt strongly that our new logo should gesture to our long existence and particular mission, but with modern sensibilities. We chose an object from our collections that captures those essences: a stained-glass window once part of Port Huron's Congregation Mt. Sinai, dedicated in 1924. We asked a local Jewish graphic artist, Meghan Steingold, to craft a logo drawn from the window's roundel, a Magen David inscribed in a sunburst. She has created a breathtakingly beautiful evocation in blue and gold,



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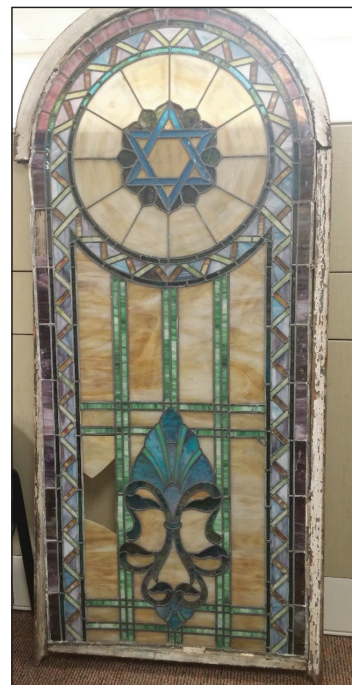


accompanied by period-appropriate art-deco lettering. We hope you will love JHSM's new look as much as we do. And we hope you discern in it both our vibrant past and our ambitious plans for an even brighter future.

In the coming months, look for an ever wider stance: JHSM now has one foot solidly in the ivory tower, producing knowledge for the ages, and the other foot rooted in the community, striving on the front lines of history. Look for groundbreaking collaborations that put JHSM on the forefront of history

as social activism. Look for engaging events and more scholarly publications, both new and improved, that instill and inspire. Look for a redoubled emphasis on immersive and experiential living-history for young learners. Look for more inclusive programming, dedicated to telling all the stories of Michigan's Jewish history.

If this all sounds familiar, it should. And if it all sounds new, it should. We are embracing the contrasts of our mission. In turn, our visibility is increasing. And, as our new logo intimates, our star is on the rise. We are so glad you are with us.



JHSM's logo is drawn from this stained-glass window that was once part of Congregation Mt. Sinai in Port Huron, Michigan. Photo courtesy of JHSM.

LEONARD N. SIMONS HISTORY-MAKER AWARD 2019

BEN FALIK

FOR NEARLY twenty years, Ben Falik has done much to positively impact not only the Detroit-area's Jewish community but all of metropolitan Detroit. While still a teen, Ben co-founded Summer in the City, now in its eighteenth year. This summer service program offers "fun, flexible and fulfilling" opportunities for volunteers to "paint, plant and play" in Detroit. To date, Summer in the City has engaged over 20,000 volunteers, providing 300,000 hours of service. The program allows young people the opportunity to give back to their own community, make friends, and engage in meaningful experiences during the summer months.



Ben received his bachelor's degree in urban studies from Columbia University, where he played the position of hooker on the men's rugby team. He then earned a master's degree in public policy from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan and a juris doctor from the University of Michigan Law School.

Ben served as the first director in Detroit of Repair the World, a national Jewish service organization. During his tenure, Ben founded and launched PeerCorps, a program within Repair the World that provides Jewish teens and b'nai mitzvah students an opportunity to engage in community-based volunteering. Through Repair the World and PeerCorps, Ben mobilized 7,000 volunteers from Jewish and general communities to perform high-impact service in the areas of food and education justice.

Ben is known for being a "connector." In his career, he has built partnerships with Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit, Yad Ezra, Tamarack Camps, Jewish Family Service of Metro Detroit, The Well, Moishe House,

Detroit Jews for Justice, Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue, Friends of B'nai David Cemetery, Hazon, Limmud, Bethel Community Transformation Center, Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit, Jewish Community Relations Council, campus Hillels, Frankel Jewish Academy, Hillel Day School, local congregations, visiting groups, and, of course, Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. In addition, he managed the Motor Citizens employee volunteer program at Fiat Chrysler. Over 8,000 employees contributed 70,000 service hours to 480 different organizations under his watchful eye.

Ben also has pursued his passion for writing. While a student at Columbia University, he was food editor of the student newspaper, *Columbia Spectator*. Since 2010 Ben has been a columnist for the *Detroit Jewish News*, and he recently began writing for *My Jewish Detroit* under the pseudonym Dexter Davison.

Ben currently is the principal of Do-ocracy, LLC, a resource for effecting positive social change through creative collaboration. He also serves as the board treasurer for Bethel Community Transformation Center, a partnership between Breakers Covenant Church International and members of the Jewish community to restore the historic Temple Beth El building on Woodward at Gladstone in Detroit and to add a community center, performing-arts theater, and a fitness center.

Ben lives in Huntington Woods with his wife, A.J., and their children, Judah (10) and Phoebe (8). He serves on the Huntington Woods Environmental Advisory Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals.

LEONARD N. SIMONS HISTORY-MAKER AWARD PAST HONOREES

1991	PHILIP SLOMOVITZ*	2001	SIDNEY M. BOLKOSKY*	2011	CHARLOTTE M. DUBIN
1992	HON. AVERN L. COHN	2002	ADELE W. STALLER*	2012	MICHAEL O. SMITH
1993	GEORGE M. STUTZ*	2003	MATILDA BRANDWINE*	2013	IRWIN J. COHEN
1994	IRWIN SHAW*	2004	SUSIE CITRIN	2014	A. ALFRED TAUBMAN*
1995	EMMA LAZAROFF SCHAVER*	2005	EDITH L. RESNICK	2015	CARL LEVIN
1996	LESLIE S. HOUGH, PHILIP P. MASON	2006	GERALD S. COOK	2016	JAN DURECKI
1997	MARY LOU SIMONS ZIEVE	2007	SHARON L. ALTERMAN	2017	AIMEE ERGAS
1998	JUDITH LEVIN CANTOR	2008	GEORGE M. ZELTZER*	2018	ARNOLD COLLENS
1999	MICHAEL W. MADDIN	2009	MANDELL L. BERMAN		
2000	ALAN D. KANDEL*	2010	JAMES D. GREY		

*of Blessed Memory

JUDITH LEVIN CANTOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

MARGARET “PEG” TRACY-FINKELSTEIN



IF someone had asked Peg Finkelstein as a child what she wanted to be when she grew up, it is very unlikely she would have said archivist of Grand Rapids' Jewish history. Peg was born in Manistee, Michigan, in 1945 and was raised Catholic. She moved

to Grand Rapids as a young adult and spent twenty-three years working in retail, much of it as a single parent. She worked her way up to store manager at a time when few women worked in management. During her retail career, Peg developed a good management style, which has served her well throughout her life.

After leaving retail, Peg began focusing on her passion: collecting, preserving, and researching history, starting with her own family. Her interest and commitment to Judaism also took hold. Admiring the involvement in the Jewish community by her future husband, Mort Finkelstein, Peg decided to convert to Judaism as a gift for Mort's birthday. She desired to give back to the Jewish community in the same way that he had.

Peg grew to "love working on historical things" and, in 2002, she and Mort established the Peg and Mort Finkelstein Archives at Temple Emanuel in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with the goal of preserving the Jewish history of Grand Rapids and surrounding communities. Peg has served as the director of the archives since its founding. In 2012 the archives received a State of Michigan Historical Award for excellence of achievement in collecting and preserving local history, the highest honor presented by the state's official historical society.

That same year Peg and Mort, along with Mort's brother Raleigh, started the Gen and Jack Finkelstein Archives at Congregation Ahavas Israel in Grand Rapids, which Peg continues to oversee. Peg also works with the archives at B'nai Israel in Muskegon, Michigan.

In 2015 JHSM's then-Executive Director, Wendy Rose Bice, discovered the archives at Temple Emanuel. She asked for Peg's help with JHSM's Michigan Women Who Made a Difference (MWWMD) project. Begun in 2013, the project seeks to document, preserve, and share the stories and achievements of Michigan's Jewish women who have helped to build and shape communities, institutions, and organizations. Peg not only offered her time researching and writing biographies of Jewish women from Grand Rapids but also arranged for Temple Emanuel and its archives to host a state-wide conference celebrating the achievements of Michigan's Jewish women. Over 100 people attended the June 2016 conference. To date, the Grand Rapids community, spearheaded by Peg, has submitted ten biographies to the MWWMD project and has over thirty more in the works.

In 2017 Grand Valley State University's Kutsche Office of Local History honored Peg. She was presented the Gordon Olson Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to local history.

Peg and Mort have five children between their combined families: Deb, David, Pam, Chad, and Megan. Peg enjoys sharing her passion for history with her daughter Megan, who works alongside Peg at the archives, and with her nine-year-old granddaughter Lily.

JUDITH LEVIN CANTOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PAST HONOREES

2004 **Max M. Fisher**

2007 **Sylvia Babcock**

2009 **Richard Leland**

2015 **Eugene Applebaum**

2017 **Stanley N. Meretsky**

2018 **Rob Kaplow**

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD

ANN J. CONRAD

ANN J. Conrad was the second child born in Detroit to Lois and Theodore Jacobowitz. Ann has the distinction of being born on February 29 in a leap year. She quips that when she applied for a driver's license, the policeman on duty commented that "four-year-olds are not allowed to drive." Ann was raised in Northwest Detroit, attended Hampton Elementary School and Mumford High School, and then obtained her bachelor's degree in economics from Connecticut College for Women in 1965. She took all of the business courses in the master of business administration program at the University of Michigan and went on to earn the Chartered Financial Analyst designation in 1974.

Ann started her career as an equity research analyst at Comerica (formerly Detroit Bank & Trust). During her forty-plus years in investment management at three different organizations—Comerica, Munder Capital Management, and Sigma Investment Counselors—she served in several capacities, including portfolio manager, Director of Equity Research and Strategy, and Chief Investment Officer. Ann was a member of the Association for Investment Management and Research. She also was a member and served as president of Investment Analysts Society of Detroit.

Retired since late 2003, Ann has pursued many volunteer activities. She has chaired the investment committees at the Birmingham Community House and Jewish Historical Society of Michigan Heritage Foundation and has sat on both of their boards. She has been a member



of the Fisher Group and Temple Beth El investment committees, a trustee of the Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust, and a member of the Ruth Einstein Scholarship Committee at Temple Beth El.

Ann was invited in the early 2000s by past president Judith Levin Cantor to join JHSM's Investment Committee. Ann joined past president James Grey and Benno Levi as JHSM's investment policy decision makers and asset managers. In this role, Ann regularly wrote memos on the economic and market outlook for the benefit and interest of JHSM's board members.

Ann and husband David have been married for almost forty-five years and, since 1979, have lived in a house they designed, built, and subsequently remodeled in West Bloomfield. Ann and David are members of the Lake Huron Yacht Club in Sarnia, Ontario. They have sailed in Ontario's North Channel numerous times and in different spots arounds the world, including the Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, the Sea of Cortez, the Greek Isles, Tahiti, and Croatia.

Ann and David's only child, Elisabeth, died one day after birth. In 1993-94, Ann and David hosted a seventeen-year-old exchange student from Sweden and entered into a relationship with his whole family that has lasted to this day. Ann and David are now considered "bonus" grandparents to the five children of Carl and his wife, Katya, and of Carl's sister and brother-in-law, Cecilia and Carl Fredrik af Sandeberg.

JHSM Year In Review

HUNDREDS LEARN MICHIGAN'S JEWISH HISTORY BY ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING IN JHSM'S PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

In August 2018, more than 200 cyclists were all smiles during the twenty-mile, seven-stop JCycle 8. The route focused on Detroit's business culture and labor legacy. Stops included Eastern Market, Simmons & Clark Jewelers, and UAW Solidarity House.



On November 18, 2018, more than 600 ticketholders attended the sold-out program "The Henry Ford...THROUGH A JEWISH LENS" at The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation.™ See related article on page 12.



1. Speaker Steven Watts, PhD, started the afternoon with a powerful lecture on the origins and impact of Henry Ford's anti-Semitism.
2. Co-chairs Anne Weiner (front left), Barbara Cohn (second from right), and Jacqui Elkus (right) were joined by JHSM Executive Director Catherine Cangany (back left), speaker Steven Watts (center), and JHSM President Risha B. Ring (back right).
3. Presenter Ruth Adler Schnee (left) described her mid-century textiles at one of the event's pop-up exhibits of rarely seen artifacts highlighting Jewish contributions to American life.
4. (l to r) Michael Serling, Anti-Defamation League Regional Director Carolyn Normandin, event speaker Steven Watts, PhD, Elaine Serling, Rabbi Mark Miller.
5. Jeanine Head Miller (far right), curator of domestic life at The Henry Ford, gave a talk at the pop-up exhibit displaying an array of Marx and Mattel toys.



JHSM Year On Review

JHSM kicked off its sixtieth-anniversary celebration in January 2019 at the Janice Charach Gallery's art exhibit, "Origins."

1. JHSM Vice President Barbara Cohn looked on as JHSM Executive Director Catherine Cangany welcomed guests to the event.
2. Sheldon Simon and Stan Meretsky enjoyed the night.
3. Art historian Wendy Evans gave a talk at the celebration.
4. (l to r) Annette Friedman, Richard Leland, and Lillian Glovinsky Fox represented JHSM's founders at "Origins."



On February 19, 2019, a sold-out crowd of more than 100 music fans attended JHSM's Nosh & Know event, "Music in the Motor City," at Otus Supply in Fernadale. See related article on page 16.



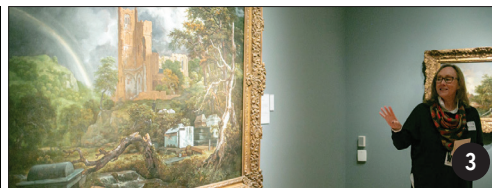
1. Band members jammed during "Music in the Motor City."
2. Entertainment attorney Howard Hertz co-hosted the evening.
3. Panelists discussed Jewish musical influences in Detroit during the twentieth century.
4. (l to r) Sharon Havis, Liz Kannon, and Ron Sollish enjoyed the evening.



1. Docent Linda Markman talked to guests about Jewish-themed art during the tour.
2. (l to r) Sheri Schiff, B.J. Berkowitz, and Stevie Dorfman had fun learning about Jewish art.
3. Docent Jackie Bean discussed Jacob van Ruisdael's Jewish Cemetery (1654 or 1655).
4. Docent Stacey Simmons (left) enjoyed a laugh with one of the tour participants.



On March 24, 2019, a sold-out group of eighty-five guests had the privilege of attending "Let There Be Art: A Jewish Tour of the Collections of the DIA." See article about the tour on page 18.



JHSM Year On Review



On April 28, 2019, JHSM unveiled its retooled Traveling Trunk youth bus tour. Among the exciting additions were:



1. A fur-trade encampment at Milliken State Park featuring Detroit's first Jewish settler, Chapman Abraham.
2. A Shabbat-candle-making activity.
3. and 4. An opportunity to "meet" and run the bases with Hank Greenberg at The Corner Ballpark, located on the site of the former Tiger Stadium where Greenberg played.



JHSM's 60th Annual Meeting was held at Bethel Community Transformation Center on June 11, 2019.

1. (l to r) Michael Feldman, Rob Kaplow, Jackie DeYoung, Mike Kasky.
2. (l to r) Ron Sollish, Larry Gunsberg, David Otis.
3. Guests learned about a number of agencies making a difference in Detroit at a community fair following the presentation of the 2019 Leonard N. Simons History-Maker Award to Ben Falik.
4. (l to r) Marcy Feldman, Donna Maddin, Rhonda Brown.
5. Dennis Frank looked on as Miles Auster used his foot power to make a smoothie at Hazon's exhibit at the community fair. The bike represented just one of Hazon's efforts to create an environmentally sustainable world.



Even rain could not spoil the fun at JHSM's Rockin' & Rollin' Down the River Cruise on July 16, 2019.

1. Guests cruised down the Detroit River on the Diamond Belle.
2. Guests, including (l to r) Ron Barron, Elaine Serling, Diane Barron, and Michael Goldenberg, enjoyed the view from the top deck.
3. Julie Blair and Elaine Sturman were all smiles.
4. A 1957 Hornet greeted Larry Gunsberg and other guests arriving for the river cruise.
5. Joyce Weiss and Barbara Eskin enjoyed dinner at the Rattlesnake Club before the cruise.
6. Many guests, including Pamela Sofferin and Michael Maddin, dressed in 1950s-themed attire.



* Traveling Trunk photos courtesy of JHSM.
All other Year-In-Review photos courtesy of
Elayne Gross Photography.



THE HENRY FORD... THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

BY CATHERINE CANGANY, PHD,
JHSM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JHSM collaborated with The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation™ to bring a major one-day event, "The Henry Ford...THROUGH A JEWISH LENS." During the November 18, 2018 program, over 600 ticketholders heard a frank account of Henry Ford's anti-Semitism by Steven Watts, PhD, professor of history at the University of Missouri and author of *The People's Tycoon: Henry Ford and the American Century* (New York: Vintage, 2005). Following the presentation, guests enjoyed refreshments in the museum, which was closed to the public for the event. They toured the traveling exhibit, "Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms," featuring Norman Rockwell's depictions of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's four ideals: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from fear, and freedom from want. Guests roamed the museum at their own pace, viewing nearly a dozen pop-up exhibits displaying rarely seen artifacts that highlighted Jewish contributions to American life. The event concluded with a special violin performance by Detroit Symphony Orchestra Associate Concertmaster Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy.

This event was made possible by JHSM's wonderful collaborators at The Henry Ford (including Patricia Mooradian, Marc Greuther, Donna Braden, Christina Posler, Samantha Saylor, Katy Giordano, and Christian Cullen), JHSM's organizational sponsors (including the Anti-Defamation League), and JHSM's organizational partners (including the *Detroit Jewish News*, the Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit, and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit). Very special thank-yous to honorary co-chairs Gwen and S. Evan Weiner and JHSM co-chairs Barbara Cohn (Vice President), Jacqui Elkus (Board member), and Anne Weiner (member). JHSM also wishes to thank its more than forty volunteers who gave of their time and talents to make this program a success.

ONE HUNDRED years ago this year, automotive pioneer Henry Ford (1863-1947) purchased his hometown newspaper, the *Dearborn Independent*, also known by a new name: *The Ford International Weekly*. Acquired on the heels of World War I and amidst heavy migration of Jews to the United States, the mundanely named publication belied a sinister purpose. It became the mouthpiece for Ford's virulent anti-Semitism. In ninety-one issues spanning 1919 to 1927, the *Independent* trucked in tired, but resonant stereotypes, blaming the world's ills, from capitalism to warfare, on Jewish people.

For its time, the content was commonplace. But the scope was unprecedented. The *Independent* thrived **because** of Henry Ford—both his business acumen and his celebrity. Its printing press operated out of Ford's River Rouge complex. The splashing of Ford's name across the masthead ensured that newspapers far outside southeastern Michigan, and the United States, reported on and reprinted the articles. Stacks of issues—along with 500,000 bound volumes of the paper's most inflammatory articles (collectively called *The International Jew*)—were shipped to Ford dealerships across the country. They were even slipped inside the newly purchased vehicles driven off the dealers' lots.

The power and reach of Ford's rhetoric—enabled by his commercial practices and cult of personality—did not die with the three lawsuits filed against the paper, the libel trial that followed, Ford's public *mea culpa*, the abolishment of the paper in 1927, or his death twenty years later in 1947. Even in 2019, the four-volume *International Jew* remains in print. It receives five-star reviews on Amazon.com.

Ford's anti-Semitism is indisputable. So too is his complexity, his ability to reconcile diametrically opposed ideas. He was a "capitalist who hated capital," a Progressive who longed to return to a simpler time, a populist who tried to prevent unionism among his employees, and a technocrat with passivist tendencies.

He had an equally complicated relationship with the Jewish community. Despite his intensely bitter anti-Semitism, Henry Ford worked with Jewish leaders, including architect Albert Kahn (who designed buildings for the Highland Park and Rouge plants and the Ford Engineering Library). He counted Leo M. Franklin, rabbi of Detroit's Temple Beth El from 1899 to 1920 and one of the founders of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL),

as a friend and neighbor. (Franklin's own characterization of the relationship was more tempered.)

JHSM acknowledged this contradiction in its November 18, 2018 program, "The Henry Ford...THROUGH A JEWISH LENS." More than two years in the making, this one-day collaboration with The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation™ both examined Ford's bigotry and celebrated Jews as American innovators, designers, and entrepreneurs.

The sold-out program, enjoyed by more than 600 ticketholders, began at 4:00 p.m. with a presentation by Steven Watts, PhD, award-winning professor of history at the University of Missouri and author of *The People's Tycoon: Henry Ford and the American Century* (New York: Vintage, 2005). His lecture, "Henry Ford and the Jewish Question," addressed the origins, manifestations, and impact of Henry Ford's anti-Semitism.

"Henry Ford, the man who put America on wheels, was among a handful of individuals who most shaped the nature of modern life in the United States," Watts noted. "But like all great individuals, he had an Achilles heel. Sadly, both for him and for American society, it was anti-Semitism. Ford's prejudices against the Jewish people led him into a campaign that forever tarnished his historical reputation." Attendees called Watts "informative," "interesting, personable, and a wealth of information."

Following Watts' talk, guests adjourned to the museum-closed for the special event—to enjoy Mediterranean refreshments and "Rockwell, Roosevelt & the Four Freedoms," a powerful traveling exhibit showcasing Norman Rockwell's 1943 iconic depictions of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's four ideals ("Freedom of Speech," "Freedom of Worship," "Freedom from Fear," and "Freedom from Want"). Guests also were invited to tour nearly a dozen pop-up exhibits that showcased rarely seen artifacts highlighting Jewish contributions to American life. Objects ranged from colonial to modern:

- a 1906 Rapid bus created by brothers Max and Morris Grabowsky (with a talk by Donna Braden, senior curator)
- tool displays from Chicago's L. Miller & Son Hardware (with a talk by Marc Greuther, vice president of historical resources and chief curator)



This 1906 Rapid bus, on display at The Henry Ford, was created by Jewish brothers Max and Morris Grabowsky. It was used to transport travelers between hotels and railroad stations and for sightseeing. Photo courtesy of The Henry Ford.

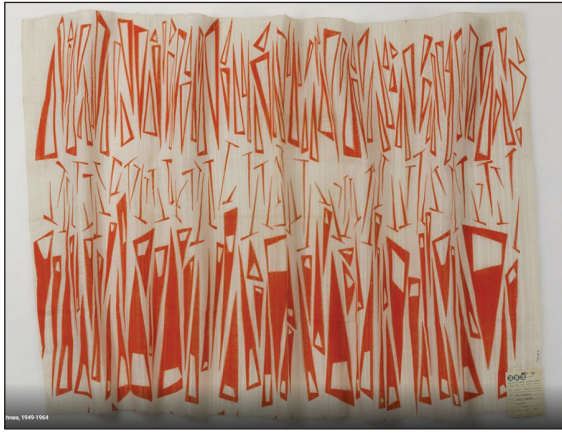


Tourists boarding a Rapid bus, circa 1907, for a sightseeing tour. Photo courtesy of The Henry Ford.

- a mid-eighteenth-century secretary desk that survived Kristallnacht (with a talk by Katherine White, associate curator of digital content)
- an array of Marx and Mattel toys (with a talk by Jeanine Head Miller, curator of domestic life)
- selections of studio glass (with a talk by Charles Sable, curator of decorative arts)



Secretary desk that survived Kristallnacht. Photo courtesy of The Henry Ford.



Ruth Adler Schnee presented her mid-century textiles at one of the program's pop-up exhibits. Photo of textile (above) courtesy of The Henry Ford. Photo of Ruth Adler Schnee courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography.

- a 1941 John Deere Model B tractor designed by Henry Dreyfuss (with a talk by Deb Reid, curator of agriculture and the environment)
- Ruth Adler Schnee's striking mid-century textiles (presented by Schnee herself)
- a 1786 letter from Alexander Hamilton to Aaron Burr on behalf of a Jewish merchant, Solomon Simson (with a talk by Ryan Jelso, associate curator of digital content)
- archival material related to architect Albert Kahn's rotunda for the 1934 Chicago World's Fair (with a talk by Matt Anderson, curator of transportation)
- Joshua Cohen's collection of colonial currency (with a talk by Andy Stupperich, associate curator of digital content)
- a selection of food- and holiday-related items, including cookbooks, Matzo ball mix, an early twentieth-century brass hanukiah, and greeting cards (with a talk by Saige Jedele, associate curator of digital content)

Items from the pop-up exhibits can be viewed on The Henry Ford's website under the "Jewish Innovators and Traditions" expert set: <https://www.thehenryford.org/collections-and-research/digital-collections/expert-sets/101799/>.

The program concluded with a very special performance by Detroit Symphony Orchestra Associate Concertmaster Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy. Kennedy played an array of pieces by Jewish-American composers, including selections from George Gershwin's *Porgy & Bess* (1935), Joseph Yulyevich Achron's *Hebrew Melody* (1911), and Aaron Copeland's "Simple Gifts," an excerpt from *Appalachian Spring* (1944).



Detroit Symphony Orchestra Associate Concertmaster Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy played one of the Stradivari violins from Henry Ford's personal collection during her performance at The Henry Ford. Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography.

UPDATE:

The collaboration that produced "Through a Jewish Lens" continues to bear fruit. JHSM, The Henry Ford, and the Anti-Defamation League, in partnership with the Dearborn Historical Museum (DHM) and the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives at Temple Beth El, invite the public to learn about the *Dearborn Independent*, its continued impact on American society, and the continuities and parallels with current struggles against hate through two interactive museum exhibits and a community conversation. More information is forthcoming.

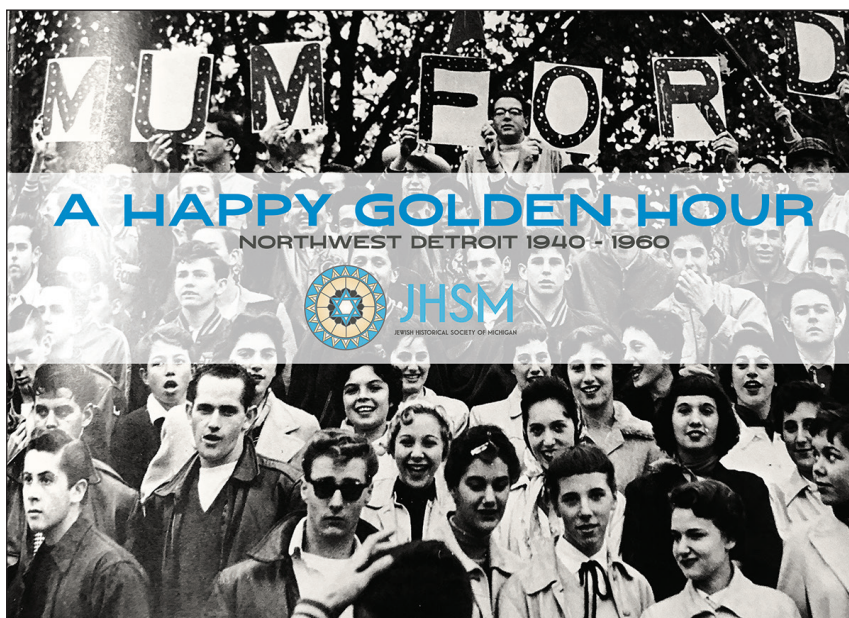
JHSM SPEAKERS' BUREAU

BY MARGERY JABLIN, JHSM BOARD MEMBER AND SPEAKERS' BUREAU COORDINATOR

OUR Speakers' Bureau offers participants throughout the state of Michigan the opportunity to take "virtual tours" of historic Jewish sites they otherwise might never see. The program started small, with two historians meeting once a week at the Oak Park JCC to write about the origins of the Jewish people in the state of Michigan, and, specifically, the city of Detroit. From this beginning, the Speakers' Bureau has evolved to include five PowerPoint presentations and more in the works:

- **From Hastings to Home:** The first Speakers'-Bureau presentation takes viewers on a trip back in time, tracing the history of early Jewish Detroit from its origins in the 1760s to the birth of the baby-boom generation. It includes the seven-minute mini documentary, "Life on Hastings Street."
- **The Synagogues of Michigan:** This presentation provides a visual history of Michigan's synagogues through the eyes of the men and women who helped found them. It begins in 1850 with the establishment of the state's first congregation and traces the founding of synagogues throughout Michigan. The presentation gives viewers a rare opportunity to see images of synagogues that have been torn down or repurposed.

- **Stories from the Stones:** Fulfilling the commandment that Jews care for the sick and bury their dead, many Jewish communities purchased land for a cemetery before building a house of worship. This presentation traces the history of Michigan's Jewish cemeteries and explores the stories of who lies beneath them.
- **Michigan Women Who Made a Difference:** This presentation provides an overview of JHSM's MWWMD project, which seeks to document, preserve, and share the stories and achievements of a number of Michigan's remarkable Jewish women. Some are well known, like renowned soprano Emma Lazaroff Schaver, while others have previously gone unsung, known only by their husbands' names.
- **Northwest Detroit:** JHSM's most recent presentation immerses viewers in the neighborhoods of Northwest Detroit where Jews moved after World War II. The presentation focuses on the transformative changes in labor, housing, gender norms, and religious practices that accompanied the Jewish community's relocation. Mumford High School, the Avenue of Fashion, Darby's, the Varsity Theater, and Palmer Park are just a few of the memorable places mentioned.



In 2019 alone, our trained docents reached hundreds of people, including going on the road to Boynton Beach, Florida, where JHSM's current president, Risha B. Ring, and past president, Gerald Cook, presented to a standing-room-only crowd. An encore performance, featuring Irwin Cohen, is already scheduled in Boynton Beach for February 25, 2020. Stay tuned for further details. We hope to see you soon at a Speakers' Bureau presentation!

Title page from JHSM's new Speakers' Bureau presentation on Northwest Detroit.

MUSIC IN THE MOTOR CITY: THE JEWISH CONNECTION

INTRODUCTION BY CATHERINE CANGANY, PHD, JHSM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHAT do you get when you add six musicians, eight panelists, and a sold-out crowd of more than 100 music fans together? One rockin' evening. JHSM's "Music in the Motor City" event on February 19, 2019, at Otus Supply in Ferndale was nearly a year in the making. Co-hosted by prominent entertainment attorney Howard Hertz (who has represented Eminem, George Clinton, The Romantics, the Bass Brothers, Marilyn Manson, Jack White, Elmore Leonard, and Insane Clown Posse) and Gary Graff (longtime *Detroit Free Press* music critic and author of the *Musichound: The Essential Album Guide* series), this event highlighted Jewish music-makers' influences on rock and blues in Detroit.

As guests noshed on vegetarian delights, Graff kicked off the evening by moderating a lively panel discussion, featuring:

- **Ethan Daniel Davidson**, a musician, folk-singer, songwriter, and filmmaker known for his storytelling
- **Tino Gross**, owner of Pleasant Ridge Recording Studio, producer of Funky D Records, and front man of the Howling Diablos, which has opened for George Clinton's Parliament-Funkadelic collective, Alice Cooper, Albert Collins, Ben Harper, and the James Gang
- **Sheldon Kay**, the Rock & Roll Lawyer,[™] host of the radio show of the same name, and legal counsel of many local and national artists, including the late Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin
- **David Nefesh**, a singer-songwriter who has written more than 100 songs, released three albums, and been nominated for more than ten Detroit Music Awards
- **Mark Pasman**, host of "The Motor City Blues Project," which ran every Sunday night for twenty-two years on WCSX-FM and featured legendary performers such as B.B. King, Koko Taylor, Willie Dixon, Bo Diddley, Lonnie Brooks, Robert Cray, Double Trouble, Levon Helm, Robert Randolph, Johnny Bassett, and Thornetta Davis

- **Mark Slobin**, Winslow-Kaplan Professor of Music, Emeritus at Wesleyan University and author of *Motor City Music: A Detroiter Looks Back* (Oxford University Press, 2018)

The conversation ranged from Jewish musical influences and favorite albums to the unique relationship between Jewish people and music. Many of the panelists noted Jewish musicians' strategic borrowings from other cultures' musical tastes and practices, especially Paul Simon and Bob Dylan.

Mark Slobin added musicological commentary, describing Detroit's role in the evolution of American music during the twentieth century and the Jewish community's musical contributions to Detroit. Slobin's remarks are reprinted below.

At the conversation's conclusion, panelists brought out an eclectic combination of acoustic, electric, and bass guitars, drums, and harmonica, and the jam session began. The audience enjoyed listening and dancing to rock-and-roll and blues classics by Simon, Dylan, Jimmy Hendrix, and others. The band closed out the delightful evening with a low-key rendition of Dylan's familiar "Knockin' on Heaven's Door."

Special thank-yous to JHSM Secretary Larry Gunsberg, former JHSM Board member Dan Buckfire, and JHSM member Debbie Bragman for chairing this event (part of our Nosh & Know series). We look forward to the next one!



Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography

PROFESSOR MARK SLOBIN'S REMARKS
"MUSIC IN THE MOTOR CITY"
FEBRUARY 19, 2019



Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography

JEWS & MUSIC IN THE MOTOR CITY

In its heyday, 1920s-1970s, Detroit's substantial and vibrant Jewish community contributed to the city's status as a highly musical city in the following ways:

Education. Some of the important Jewish music teachers in the public-school system were Jewish, such as the legendary Mischa Bistrizky, who trained future classical music stars in Cass Tech's renowned program, or Bernard Silverstein, at Central High, whose son became the concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The community created its own intensive training programs through the Jewish Community Center's initiatives. The revered community leader Fred Butzel, himself a musician, hired the eminent Viennese-trained composer-pianist-conductor Julius Chajes to build substantial arts programs at the JCC. The Music Study Club, a society of patrons founded in the 1920s to emulate the older non-Jewish Tuesday Musicale of Detroit society, patronized the budding talents of the city's kids, many of whom went on to become professional musicians.

Technology and production. People like Jack and Devora Brown, with their pioneering Fortune Records company, offered African-American and other musicians a convenient one-stop, go-to platform. There have also been many producers, lawyers, and agents who supported Detroit's commercial music industry, including Motown.

Activism. Maurice Sugar, the UAW's chief legal counsel in its peak years of struggle, was a Jew from tiny Brimley in Michigan's Upper Peninsula who remembered the anti-boss Finnish lumberjack songs he heard and crafted some of the most important and widely sung songs of the UAW's insurgency. Within the Jewish community, cantors and their children's choirs supported faith through music. Many

organizations, such as the Jewish People's Chorus, promoted political activism and ideologies, including the many Zionist groups. Jewish kids also took part actively in the creation of the counterculture, along the Cass Corridor and beyond, in their folk-song groups and social activism.

Diversity and open ears. The community was, internally, extremely diverse and fragmented, musically as well as socially and politically. But it also engaged in countless outreach efforts to mainstream Detroit's civic society, probably as a counterweight to the city's intense anti-Semitism. Jews actively took part in ecumenical religious, social, and, particularly, classical music efforts to use music as a way of crossing the borders from their enclave in the center of Detroit. This sensibility was common to modern Jews everywhere, from Odessa, Berlin, and Vienna, to other music-minded American cities such as Boston and Cincinnati. Already in 1945, the JCC brought the rising star, Leonard Bernstein, as a bridge figure. Twice it was Jewish musicians and patrons who kept the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) running when the auto moguls pulled the plug on funding.

A trio of citywide stars—Mischa Mischakoff, concertmaster of the DSO, pianist Mischa Kottler, and nationally renowned broadcaster Karl Haas—worked both within and across the Jewish-mainstream social borders.

Jews also helped the development of other ethnic organizations, such as the gentleman who coached the Polish Lutnia Society's ensembles or the many civic appearances of Zinovi Bistrizky, Jason Tickton, and other activists, especially Julius Chajes and his prominent musician wife, Marguerite Kozenn Chajes. This outreach extended to prominent DSO members such as Meyer Shapiro and Felix Resnick playing in "Latin" bands, or their moonlighting with Motown, shaping the string sound that we all identify with that label.

In summary, Detroit was a highly musical city at a time when industry and immigration went hand in hand, and music was considered both socially useful and commercially viable. Jews literally played a significant role in the peak decades of the city's prominence.

Mark Slobin is the Winslow-Kaplan Professor of Music, Emeritus at Wesleyan University and the author of nearly twenty books, mostly recently *Motor City Music: A Detroiter Looks Back* (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2018).



LET THERE BE ART: A JEWISH TOUR OF THE COLLECTIONS OF THE DIA

BY BARBARA COHN, JHSM VICE PRESIDENT
AND CHAIR OF "LET THERE BE ART"

On March 24, 2019, eighty-five guests had the privilege of attending the sold-out tour, "Let There Be Art," at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Under the able leadership of DIA docent and event chair Barbara Cohn, guests were treated to a DIA-docent-led tour of seven of the museum's galleries, where they explored thirty-five works of art related to Judaism or created by Jewish artists. During a jam-packed afternoon connecting to Jewish history, learning, and having fun, DIA gallery guides Linda Gershel, Sandra Gross, Ray Henney, Elise Levinson, Eileen Nowikowski, Howard Rosenberg, and Jerrie Sasson led groups of twelve to fifteen guests through the museum, stopping in each gallery for fifteen-minute presentations by a DIA docent stationed in the gallery.

Docents Linda Markman, Jackie Bean, Laurie Dean-Amir, Gail Fisher, Susan Moiseev, and Stacey Simmons provided each group with new insights into the Jewish-related art in their respective galleries. In many cases, guests experienced artwork they had seen before through an entirely new lens. Participants left having spent a stimulating afternoon learning about art while connecting to their Jewish heritage.

DID you know there are over fifty works of art on display at the Detroit Institute of Arts that have a Jewish theme, a Jewish connection, or were created by a Jewish artist? Did you know there is a work of art in the DIA's Glass Gallery called *Holocaust* or that artist Eva Hesse was on the Kindertransport? On Sunday, March 24, 2019, JHSM hosted "Let There Be Art: A Jewish Tour of the Collections of the DIA." During the two-hour, sold-out tour, eighty-five participants visited seven galleries and the Woodward lobby at the DIA, learning about the museum's collections, while experiencing the artwork from a new perspective and connecting to their Jewish heritage.

As a docent at the DIA since 2007, I thought I knew a lot about the museum and its art. I have walked down the long central hallway or "Spine" on the main floor of the museum countless times, but never noticed, until recently, the Hebrew words on a prominent painting. *Saint Jerome in the Wilderness*, which Spanish artist Jusepe de Ribera painted in 1648, depicts Saint Jerome holding an unfurled scroll in his left hand and a quill pen in his right hand, with several books lying nearby. Hebrew words appear in two separate areas of the painting: The Hebrew words for "Book of Kings" appear on the spine of one of the books, and the Hebrew words for "In the beginning, God created..." appear on the scroll. Three more works of art containing Hebrew words then were discovered: Elihu Vedder's *Samson*, Vedder's *Delilah*, and Ben Shahn's *Bookshop: Hebrew Books, Holy Day Books*. These four paintings formed the genesis for "Let There Be Art:" a new way to experience art at the DIA, feel inspired, and learn.

"Let There Be Art" introduced participants to thirty-five of the over fifty works of art related to Judaism currently on display throughout the DIA. This article provides a glimpse into the Jewish connections and themes in some of the works viewed during the tour.



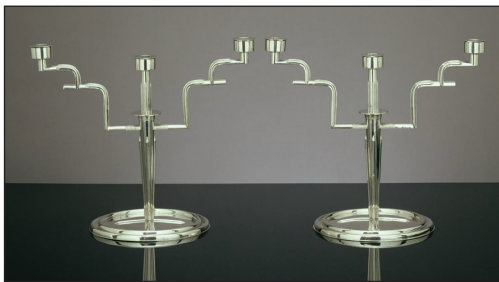
Jusepe de Ribera,
Saint Jerome in the Wilderness (1648)

JEWISH ARCHITECTS AND ARTISANS

In the Woodward lobby of the DIA, tour participants learned about renowned Jewish architect Albert Kahn's (1869-1942) involvement with the museum and about the work of Jewish artisan Samuel Yellin (1884-1940). In 1919 Detroit mayor James Couzens created the first arts commission in the city of Detroit. Led by Ralph H. Booth, the first commission included notable Detroiters Albert Kahn, Edsel B. Ford, and William J. Gray.

Among its responsibilities, the commission oversaw the design and construction of the museum's current building, which opened in 1927. While Kahn did not design the building, he handpicked Paul Philippe Cret to be its architect, and Kahn was very involved in the design process. Dr. Wilhelm Valentiner, art director at the time, professed deep admiration for Kahn's creative architectural conceptions. Today, a dedication plaque honoring the arts commissioners who served when the current building opened greets visitors entering the museum from Woodward.

In addition to serving on the arts commission, Kahn and his wife donated a number of works of art to the museum, including sculptures, decorative arts, Spanish tiles, and pottery. "Let There Be Art" participants had the privilege of seeing one of their donations, Peter Müller-Munk's *Candlesticks*, (1929, sterling silver, American Art Gallery).



Peter Müller-Munk, Candlesticks (1929)

The DIA's Woodward lobby also highlights the work of artisan Samuel Yellin, who immigrated from Poland in 1905 and settled in Philadelphia. Yellin was a master blacksmith and, in the 1920s, his company employed more than 200 laborers. In the DIA's Woodward lobby, Yellin created the window munitions and inset medallions, radiator grills flanking the front doors, security gates on the exterior doors, and the gorgeous ornamental gates at the entrances to the European and American Galleries. In Rivera Court, Yellin created the window grates on the west wall, lunettes over the gallery doors on the north and south walls, and stair railing leading to the second floor.

JEWISH ARTISTS

A highlight of the tour was learning about the backgrounds of Jewish artists whose works are displayed in the DIA's Contemporary Galleries. Several were born in Eastern Europe, but managed to escape at a young age to avoid persecution. For example, Eva Hesse (1936-1970), at age two, was put on board one of the last Kindertransport trains to the Netherlands. Mark Rothko (1903-1970), whose birth name was Markus Rothkowitz, was born into an Orthodox family in Russia and remembered his family's experiences facing anti-Semitism before escaping to the United States. George Segal (1924-2000) was from a family of Polish Jews, most of whom perished in the Holocaust. His parents survived and ran a kosher butcher shop in the Bronx. Later, Segal became a prominent painter and sculptor associated with the Pop Art movement. The parents of Philip Guston (1913-1980), born Phillip Goldstein, were Ukrainian Jews who escaped persecution when they moved to Canada from Odessa.

In their artwork, these artists drew upon their Jewish religious, political, and cultural experiences to challenge traditional views. For example, George Segal's works of art often depicted a message and sensitivity about life. Segal created the Holocaust Memorial at the Legion of Honor in San Francisco, which depicts a group of Holocaust victims lying dead on the ground while a lone survivor peers through barbed wire. For Segal, works like this one and *The Tunnel* (1968, Contemporary Art after 1950 Gallery), which participants viewed during the tour, were a conscious effort to come to terms with his roots.



*Tour participants learned about George Segal's *The Tunnel* (1968), a plaster and mixed media meditation on his family's horrific experiences during the Holocaust.*



Jacob van Ruisdael, *Jewish Cemetery* (1654 or 55)

JEWISH-THEMED ART

In addition to learning about Jewish artists, participants had the opportunity to learn about works of art containing Jewish themes and symbols. For example, participants viewed *Jewish Cemetery* (1654 or 1655, Dutch Gallery), a painting by Jacob van Ruisdael (1628-1682). The painting depicts a dilapidated cemetery in Oudekerk near Amsterdam that served in 1614 as a Jewish burial ground for Sephardic Jews who found refuge in Amsterdam from religious persecution in Spain and the Spanish Netherlands. Although van Ruisdael depicted an imaginary setting of abandoned tombs, a ruined church, storm clouds, and a rainbow, the tombs themselves with carved Jewish names were real and are still found in the cemetery today. The Jewish names identified on the tombs in the foreground of the painting are:

- Dr. Eliahu Montalto (a Portuguese physician to Ferdinand I [grand duke of Tuscany] and Maria de Medici)
- Dr. David Farras
- Issak Ben Abraham Uziel (physician, rabbi, and educator)
- Abraham Israel Mendes (a member of a prominent Spanish family)

Another topic of interest during the tour was paintings depicting stories from the Old Testament or, as docent Linda Markman said, "Your Sunday School review." A highlight was a pair of paintings, *Samson and Delilah* (both 1886, American Gallery), by American symbolist painter Elihu Vedder (1836-1923). The paintings were inspired by the Old Testament story in which Delilah tricked Samson into identifying his long hair as the secret of his strength. Delilah cut Samson's hair while he slept and betrayed him to the

Philistines, who blinded Samson and forced him to grind grain at a mill in prison. The Philistines brought Samson before thousands of people gathered in the temple to celebrate his capture. God gave Samson a final burst of strength, enabling him to pull down the temple, killing himself and thousands of Philistines.



Elihu Vedder, *Samson and Delilah* (both 1886)

The paintings appear side by side in their original gold frames, which Vedder designed and had made in Italy by the Roman frame-maker Guisepppe Berardi. At the tops of the frames are inscriptions in Hebrew of Samson's and Delilah's names, and around the sides are carved symbols associated with their story. These include: the jawbone of an ass with which Samson slew one thousand men, the young lion that Samson killed with his bare hands, the scissors with which Delilah cut Samson's hair, the coins Delilah paid for Samson's treachery, and the millstone with which a sightless Samson ground grain while working in prison.



Peter Paul Rubens, *The Meeting of David and Abigail* (ca. 1625-28)

In the Grand Tour of Italy Gallery, docent Linda Markman continued the discussion of "Sunday School" stories, explaining how non-Jewish artists in the seventeenth century were well-versed in Old Testament subjects and stories. Peter Paul Rubens' painting, *The Meeting of David and Abigail* (ca. 1625-1628), was inspired by the story in the book of Samuel of Abigail and

her servants gathering together gifts of food to appease approaching troops led by David after Abigail became afraid that David would attack her husband for refusing to pay for David's protection. Thanks to her beauty and eloquence, Abigail succeeded not only in avoiding war but also in eventually winning David's heart.



Salvator Rosa, *The Finding of Moses* (ca. 1660-65)

Another painting, *The Finding of Moses* (ca. 1660-1665), by Salvator Rosa, depicts the well-known scene from Exodus when Pharaoh's daughter finds baby Moses along the banks of the Nile River. Guests learned that the true subject of the painting was the dramatic landscape, and the figures were a small part of the foreground. Often, seventeenth-century artists incorporated fabricated history, landscape, or mythological elements to give the artwork a more serious tone or contemporary feeling.

A sculpture of *Lot's Wife* (1995) by Kiki Smith is a modern version of the pillar of salt which Lot's wife became after looking back at Sodom in the book of Genesis. Smith's sympathetic portrayal of the biblical character with her sorrowful head turned back, covered in part with real salt, evoked empathy from participants during the tour.

Participants spent an inspiring and thought-provoking afternoon connecting to Jewish culture and history while experiencing the DIA's art through a new lens. Providing opportunities for visitors to engage with the artwork is an important goal of the DIA. In fact, many of the groups on the "Let There Be Art" tour shared their own stories and interpretations of the art. Let's keep the conversation going!



Kiki Smith, *Lot's Wife* (1995)

COMING SOON:

Beginning in Fall 2019, JHSM is excited to bring "Let There Be Art" to private groups of ten or more. Additional information is forthcoming.

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Docent Gail Fisher (right) inspired "Let There Be Art" participants at the DIA. Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography.

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**Except where otherwise noted, all photos in this article are courtesy of the DIA.*

ISRAEL MOSS: THE FIRST DISTRIBUTOR OF FAYGO POP OUTSIDE THE CITY OF DETROIT

BY STEVEN JAMES SEILER

THE Feigenson family may be synonymous with Faygo pop, but many other individuals contributed significantly to the success of the beverage company founded by brothers Ben and Perry Feigenson in Detroit in 1907. One such unknown, but important, contributor was Israel Moss, the first distributor of Faygo pop outside the city of Detroit.

Israel Moss (born Isreal [*sic*] Moskovitch) was born on October 10, 1891 in the town of Kashif in southern Bessarabia, which eventually became part of Romania. Israel and his wife, Anna, immigrated to Waterloo, Ontario, and then to the United States in 1919. Along with Israel's brother, Samuel, the family lived in a home on Benton Street in Detroit. At the time, Benton Street was home to a tight-knit Jewish community, the members of which enjoyed sharing a common language, culture, and religious beliefs.

Relatives of the Moss family lived in three other homes on Benton Street. One of the houses was located near the home of brothers Ben and Perry Feigenson, who operated their Feigenson Brothers Bottling Works beverage company out of it. As a result, Israel and Anna and their relatives became friends with the Feigensons. One Moss-family relative became a supplier for Feigenson Brothers Bottling Works, and Israel may have worked for the Feigenson brothers for a period of time while living on Benton Street.

In 1926 Israel became the owner of Ypsilanti Bottling Works, a bottling plant located near Eastern Michigan University. Israel and Anna moved into the building where the plant was located and raised their two daughters, Sonia and Fannie, there. Anna was listed as the owner of the building to protect against creditors if Israel's business failed.



Israel Moss (right) loading a truck at Ypsilanti Bottling Works, circa 1933.
Photo courtesy of Ypsilanti Historical Society

Israel's best friend in Ypsilanti was Everett Wiard. Wiard was the original owner of Ypsilanti Bottling Works and continued to run a small business in a building on the bottling plant's property after Israel and Anna moved there. Everett was a member of the Wiard family who was well

known in Ypsilanti for Wiard's Cider Mill and Apple Orchard, founded in 1837 and still in operation today. He served as a business consultant to the Mosses and used his family influence to help Israel land a lucrative share of the local market.

Israel maintained his relationship with the Feigenson family and, from 1942 to 1961, was the first distributor of Faygo beverages outside of Detroit. Feigenson Brothers Bottling Works, which became known as Feigenson Brothers Company in 1939 and Faygo Beverages in 1965, sent semi-truck loads of Faygo products to Ypsilanti. Israel would then use smaller trucks to deliver the beverages to stores well west of the Detroit area.

Israel operated Ypsilanti Bottling Works for 35 years, retiring in 1961. Faygo tried to continue running the Ypsilanti distribution facility without him. In 1965, Faygo brought in an outside distributor to take over Israel's work, but nobody was able to achieve his success! By 1968, the bottling plant was demolished and replaced by an apartment building.

Following his retirement, Israel moved back to Detroit, where he passed away in 1978. Israel Moss is a name to be remembered in Faygo history!

Adapted from Steven James Seiler, The Rise of Faygo 1907-1987 (Columbia: independent publisher, 2018), which explores the history of Faygo and the Feigenson family. For additional reading, see Joe Grimm, The Faygo Book (Detroit: Wayne State Univ. Press, 2018).

JHSM

Welcomes These New Members

The Anti-Defamation League
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From May 5, 2018 to April 30, 2019

**of Blessed Memory*

Jewish Historical Society of Michigan makes every attempt to account accurately for all financial contributions. If your name does not appear above or is incorrect, we apologize and ask that you contact our office to correct the error.

JHSM

Tributes

MURRAY BARON
JACKIE BEAN
HARRIET BERG

Wishing you a very happy birthday from Risha B. Ring and Amy Rothberger
Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn
Mazel Tov on your "8 over 80" honor for your leadership in the world of dance
from Judith & Bernard Cantor

LORI BOLKOSKY
JUDITH CANTOR
BETTY CHU & NAVOT SHORESH
BARBARA COHN
ARNOLD COLLENS

Special birthday wishes from Judith Domstein and Elizabeth Kannon
On your 90th Birthday from Glenn Cantor & Inge Eriks
In honor of Adam's Bar Mitzvah from Charyl Apple
For your dedication to sustaining the legacy of JHSM and elsewhere from Patrice Merritt
In honor of your 75th birthday and for being honored by JHSM
from Nancy, Howard, Adena, Max & Morgan
In honor of your receiving the 2018 Leonard N. Simons History Award from Evelyn Diskin,
Doreen & Alan Finer, Sharie & Albert Gladner, Paul & Louis Glazier, Fenei Greenwald & David Gumenick,
Dodie & Larry Harris, Gina & Arthur Horwitz, Suzanne Malkin, Susie Melamed, Donna & Will Phillips,
Edith & Donn Resnick, Karen Rosender, Beverly & Larry Sklar

BARBARA & JERRY COOK

In honor of your 50th wedding anniversary from Judith & Bernard Cantor, Ruth & Jim Grey,
Stanley Meretsky, Risha B. Ring, Harriet Siden & JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff

LAURIE DEAN AMIR
CATHY & JAMES DEUTCHMAN
CHARLES DOMSTEIN

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn
Thank you for your hospitality at The Henry Ford from Debbie Levin & Larry Snider
In honor of your receiving the 2018 JHSM Volunteer of the Year Award from Margie & Allen
Charnes, Leo Eisenberg, Jana & Bob Emmer, Edith & Donn Resnick, Susan & Joel Seidman

EUGENE DRIKER
JACQUELINE ELKUS

In honor of your receiving Federation's Lifetime Achievement award from Judith & Bernard Cantor
Thank you for volunteering for The Henry Ford... THROUGH A JEWISH LENS program
from Barbara Cohn

ADAM FINKEL

In honor of your receiving Federation's Westman Young Leadership Award
from Judith & Bernard Cantor

GAIL FISHER
JERI FISHMAN
HYMAN FOX
LINDA GERSHEL
RUTHE GOLDSTEIN
BARBARA GOODMAN
RUTH & JIM GREY
SANDRA GROSS
LARRY GUNSBURG
RAY HENNEY
JHSM MICHIGAN WOMEN
WHO MADE A
DIFFERENCE PROJECT

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn
In honor of your receiving the Woman of Valor award from Judith & Bernard Cantor
On your 100th birthday from Evelyn & Jack Costantino
Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn
Wishing you a full recovery from Jacqueline Elkus, Jeannie Weiner, JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff
Mazel Tov on your "8 over 80" honor from Judith & Bernard Cantor
In honor of your 50th wedding anniversary from Harriet Siden, & JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff
Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn
Wishing you a speedy recovery from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff
Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour from Barbara Cohn

To continue JHSM's efforts to document, preserve, and share the stories and achievements of Michigan's Jewish women from Constance & Daniel Arnold, Anaruth & Henri Bernard, Barbara Kaye

JHSM

Tributes

ROB KAPLOW

In honor of your receiving the 2018 Leonard N. Simons Lifetime Achievement Award
from Marcy & Michael Feldman, Phyllis & Allen Gantman, Cheryll & Stuart Israel, Linda Kayes, Morton Noveck, Barbara Rom, Miriam & Steve Wolock, Anita & Harvey Zalesin

RISA KIPSCHNER
DR. STEVEN KOROTKIN

In honor of your book being published *from Alicia Tisdale*

HARVEY LEVEN

In honor of your very special birthday *from Risha B. Ring*

ANDY LEVIN

Mazel Tov on your retirement *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

EILISE LEVINSON

Mazel Tov on becoming a member of the U.S. Congress *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

RABBI ASHER &

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

RACHEL LOPATIN

Welcome to the Lopatin family and welcome back *from Risha B. Ring, Amy Rothberger, Jared Rothberger & family*

DONNA & MICHAEL MADDIN
FLORINE MARK

Thank you for your generous gift of tickets to The Henry Ford event *from Richard Stoler*

LINDA MARKMAN

In honor of your receiving Federation's Lifetime Achievement award *from Judith & Bernard Cantor*

HONORABLE SUSAN MOISEEV

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

EILEEN NOWIKOWSKI

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

HEIDI PEVOS

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

EDITH RESNICK

In honor of your receiving an Outstanding Teacher award *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

In honor of your receiving the National Council of Jewish Women award

from Judith & Bernard Cantor

EDITH & DONN RESNICK

Mazel Tov on your 71st wedding anniversary *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

RISHA B. RING

In honor of your unflinching leadership and service *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

HOWARD ROSENBERG

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

MARLA ROWE & NEIL GOROSH

Mazel Tov on becoming grandparents *from Risha B. Ring*

JERRI SASSON

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

MARTY SHICHTMAN

Wishing you a speedy recovery *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

STACEY SIMMONS

Thank you for volunteering for the Let There Be Art tour *from Barbara Cohn*

DR. MANUEL SKLAR

Congratulations on your "8 over 80" honor *from Judith & Bernard Cantor*

ANN SLOMON

In honor of Ann Slomon *from Esther Mintz*

PAMELA SOFFERIN

Thinking of you and sending positive thoughts *from Barbara & Sheldon Cohn, JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

MARK VOIGHT

In honor of your hosting a Nosh Gen event at Century Bowl *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

JEANNIE WEINER

In honor of Jeannie Weiner *from Anaruth & Henri Bernard*

ANNE WEINER

Thank you for volunteering for The Henry Ford... THROUGH A JEWISH LENS program
from Barbara Cohn

ANDREA WOLFE

In honor of your birthday *from Patti Aaron*

RALPH WORONOFF

In honor of your impending retirement *from JHSM Board, Officers, & Staff*

WENDY ROSE BICE

Discretionary Fund Tributes

When JHSM Executive Director Wendy Rose Bice retired in July 2018, she established the Wendy Rose Bice Executive Director Discretionary Fund to provide much-needed funds for her successors' fundraising efforts. The following individuals and organizations honored Wendy with a donation to the fund:

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Wendy was honored for her service at a reception on September 23, 2018. Pictured here are (l to r) Wendy's husband, Gary Bice; co-chair Jeannie Weiner; host Florine Mark; Wendy; and Wendy's mother, Rhoda Jonas. Photo courtesy of Elayne Gross Photography.

In Memoriam.

WE FONDLY REMEMBER...

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