



MALIBU JEWISH CENTER
& SYNAGOGUE

The Seabreeze

Fall 2019/5780





Shalom Chaverim,

With the arrival of this Rosh Hashanah's New Year, I am very conscious of using the traditional greeting for this season with the full intention of all my thoughts, my words, and my deeds: "May it be a Good and Sweet New Year! *L'Shana Tova u'Mitukah!*"

The "Good" year we wish for echoes God's own words in the Torah looking back on the handiwork of creating the world, breathing an appreciative sigh: *וַיַּרְא אֱלֹהִים כִּי טוֹב* — *vayar Elohim ki tov* — "And God saw that it was Good." This suggests an ethical quality to everything, an ability to give favorable judgement, and a sense of gratitude and satisfaction.

As we look to make a fresh start for the year 5780, this greeting of "May it be a Good and Sweet New Year! *L'Shana Tova u'Mitukah!*" seems to beg the questions: What will make this year good? What will make this year sweet?

Surely we want a "sweet new year"... without the lingering taste of bitter ashes from the Woolsey Fire or the threat of another disaster. And surely we want a "good new year"... without bad things happening, without bad luck, without bad people doing bad things.

But aside from the absence of bitterness or badness, can we say what needs to be present to make the year sweet? What will make it good? Can we identify the thoughts, the words, and the deeds that we will have done during the upcoming year so that at least we'll have a fair chance to be able, at this time next year, to stand back and breathe an appreciative sigh for the year saying: "It was Good"?

One factor in the sweetness and the goodness of the New Year is your involvement in your community, your "being part of something larger than yourself." Malibu Jewish Center & Synagogue is larger than all of us, and yet it is incomplete without each of us. Being part of a community is to be a part of a shared destiny – this is the very essence of what being Jewish means.

Involving and engaging in community affairs, in community learning, in community events, worship, leadership, social, and other activities is a way to experience all that this community can offer you. What expertise, energy, pair of hands, new ideas, time and presence, spirit, sponsorship, personality, knowledge, or inspiration can you contribute towards making our community a whole greater than the sum of its individual parts?

MJCS has many opportunities for connecting in 5780. Please see the rest of this Seabreeze to see what your community can offer you...and what there can be for you to offer your community!

I pray that this year we find Goodness and Sweetness in celebrating and deepening our shared destiny here in Malibu, in our appreciation of all we have together despite the fragility of so much around us, in our ability to cherish "what is good and pleasant (sweet)...to be together as a family, as a community!" - *Hinei ma tov u'ma nayim...shevet achim gam yamchad.*

Rabbi Michael
Rabbi Michael Schwartz

Sacred Music, Sacred Community

Dear MJCS Family,

This year, together will share the responsibility of creating a community of holiness that embraces and embodies the ideals, ethics, faith and culture of the Jewish people. We will deepen our own Jewish identity and nurture our Jewish souls through music, worship and action.

We will become God's partners in bringing wholeness and holiness to the world. We will answer the call to repair the world's brokenness and heal the suffering. We will seek shalom, the blessing of wholeness and share the responsibility of transmitting Judaism to the new generations.

The true essence of the New Year begins with renewal of our spirit. Our voices are precious gifts that inspire us to believe that we can have this renewal of spirit in the coming New Year.

The time has come. Rabbi Michael and I, our beloved choir, our Torah readers—this year we have close to 50 readers who will read from the Torah, our shofar players, our musicians—and all of you join together to uplift us to a higher state of consciousness and sacredness.

Singing our prayers will open our hearts to Godly thoughts. Singing brings us a sense of security from knowing that this life is taking place in the presence of God. It helps us tap into our inner melodies and renew our spirit in the coming New Year.

Shema Yisrael... listen! Each tune tells a story. *The nusach* tells, a tale of the ongoing saga of survival and hope. We need to only listen closely and we will hear its eternal message. The word *teshuvah*, "returning," hints at the fundamental goodness that is in each of us.

This season is the time when we gather together to pray and create that spiritual and sacred environment here at MJCS.

This New Year we will have wonderful new activities and huge celebrations with our successful program "Hand in Hand" in it's 10th year of existence, new Cantor's and Choir's concerts, our "standing room only" Chanukah concert, new musical *shabbatot* including acapella groups and Jazz, tango dancing classes, an original and hilarious Purimshpiel, special celebrations including an LGBTQ Passover seder, life cycle events that will stay in your hearts for a lifetime, and new original programming to reach out to new people as we embrace everyone here at MJCS... a new wonderful year is waiting for us!

I wish you all a happy, healthy and musical New Year!
Shanah Tovah, vemele'ah b'Musikah!
The best is yet to come! Come with us!

love,
Cantor Marcelo



Message from President

L' Shana Tovah!

As my four years as MJCS President is coming to a close, I want to thank all of you for your constant support, not just of me, but of our clergy, staff, Board and institution. In a sea of rising anti-Semitism, political conflict, shifting values and great uncertainties, exacerbated by devastating fire, and loss, and hardship, we, the MJCS community, have come together, held hands and ensured that those in need were served and that our Jewish values would survive and continue to be a shining light of hope and continuity for us all.

And so another year has come to pass, and what a year it was. Rabbi Michael and Executive Director, Al Welland had barely begun their tenure when we were faced with the devastation and fearsomeness of the Woolsey fire, but they, together with Cantor Marcelo, Jennifer Herguth, and then School Director, Jennifer Pearlman, formed an extraordinary team, and with help from many of us in the community, and especially Karen and Arnold York who formed Operation Recovery, provided deeply caring and effective assistance to those in need. As you all know, the impact of the fire on MJCS was unparalleled in our history, resulting in the loss of members, the closing of the preschool, and having to suspend operations, but this was balanced by the remarkable families who put aside their personal tragedies and moved forward with b'nai mitzvot in one case not knowing if, and in the other knowing that their home was lost. And the generosity and kindness shown by so many of you to both members of our community and others in Malibu and environs who suffered, was unparalleled. In the face of these many challenges, we have shown ourselves to be the community we all dream of being.

This was also a year of wonder. Our Art of Wine and Annual Gala was extraordinary and a great success, thanks to all of you who participated, including our honorees. Our Shabbat on the Beach program continued its success, and the Shabbat Off the Beach program, Shanti Shabbat, proved itself to be great fun and has a

bright future.

The year also has been filled with a cornucopia of other wonderful events and programs: the Purim Carnival (and a particularly excellent Purimshpiel), the Chanukah Concert, Waking Up to Jewish Ethics, Shabbats in the Home, Tuesday Mamas, Tot Shabbats, Edible Judaism with Rabbi Bill Kaplan, Sisterhood events and retreats, Master Chef Shabbat, Israeli Dancing, Adult Education programs, the LGBTQ and Community Seder, special movie events by the Malibu Film Society, and the always spiritually lifting Hand in Hand events. Many more programs and events are in the planning stage, and we really would love to hear from you about the kinds of programs and events you want to be part of.

But even with all of this, we have our challenges ahead. We have had to increase security given the instability of our society and the extraordinary rise in anti-Semitism. With the loss of members because of the fire and downward shifts for many in the economy, we have significant financial challenges. We are so very proud of our remarkable clergy and our staff, and it will take all of us to continue contributing, in gelt, participation and in heart, to maintain the beauty of what we have. So please come to our High Holy Day Services this year with the twin spirits of generosity and gratefulness. We are a very blessed community, and I know we all want to hold onto what we have and be all we can be.

And in the spirit of my own gratefulness, I thank you, our members. Without your loyalty, participation and spiritual and financial generosity we wouldn't exist; because of you we can move forward into the future. Please continue to be active this coming year; we would love to see more of you involved in event planning, committees, community outreach and attending our programs. We would love to hear your feedback and ideas. A community is nothing without its members, and the more involved you are, the more our community thrives.

On behalf of the Board, our staff and our teachers, we wish you a new year filled with light, joy and great things for all. It has been my great honor to serve as President these many years, and I am grateful to you all.

Warmly, **Steve Weinberg**

Message from President-Elect

I am proud to take over as Board President and thank Steven for his extraordinary hard work and dedication over the last four years. Since joining in 2012, MJCS has been an important part of my family's life.

Our clergy has been there to support us through major life events and we have found dozens of new and dear friends. Having a place to call our Jewish home is important to

my family, as I know it is to yours.

As President, one of my aims is to strengthen the bonds that form our special community by making every member feel truly connected to MJCS. We will create more opportunities to connect through religious services, educational programming and other events.

And, as a Board, we will act with financial discipline to ensure MJCS is around to serve future generations. For those of you I don't already know, I look forward to meeting you at our beautiful High Holy Days services.

Jonathan Goldstein



Board of Directors

Rabbi Michael Schwartz
Cantor Marcelo Gindlin
Steven Weinberg, *President*
Jonathan Goldstein, *President-Elect*
Ahavah Brooks
Jaime Castiel
Chris DeMoulin
Lynne Friedman

Lori Gray
George Greenberg
Susan Monus
Don Rosen
Sandy Stackler
Adam Stern
Karen York
Al Welland, *Executive Director*

Welcome New Board Members



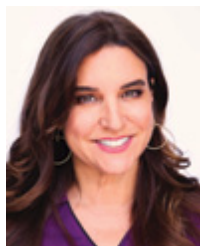
Ahavah Brooks began coming to MJCS when Rabbi Judith Halevy was hired, as she had been studying with her since the nineties. The holder of an MBA in Non-Profit Management from the University of Judaism (renamed American Jewish University), she was the administrator of the Sephardic Temple. She has been a member of Congregation Beth Chayim

Chadashim for over 29 years where she served on the ritual committee, wrote press releases, and was an advisor to a past president. Currently retired, she worked in the health insurance industry as an auditor, claims manager and grievance manager. She is a lover of theater, music, reading and a poet who regularly attends the Shabbat Morning Minyan, High Holiday Services and classes in Malibu.



Jaime Mechulan Castiel and spouse Carmen Castiel, a pharmacist, of 39 years, have been MJCS members since 2010. Jaime has a degree in accounting from CSUN and is the owner of J.M. Castiel, an Accountancy Corporation in Encino since 1980. Jaime is certified as a Public Accountant, CPA since 1979, an active real estate broker, insurance

broker, Series 7 and a member of The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). His office presently works with Tax Exempt organizations, financial and retirement planning, and corporate clients and their shareholders. Jaime and Carmen have lived in Porter Ranch since 1982, and live part time in both Malibu, and Palm Desert. Jaime and Carmen are originally from Cuba, but are now citizens of Spain, under the Spanish new law to bring back Sephardic Jews to Spain. When in Malibu he loves to surf and study Torah.



Lynne Friedman has been a member of the Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue since 2000. She has previously held the MJCS board positions of Membership Chairperson and Treasurer. She also headed the interior committee during the building of the sanctuary and was first lady.

With a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics/Applied Science from UCLA and the designation of Certified Public Accountant, she lived and worked in Moscow, New York City and Copenhagen as a CFO and in mergers and acquisitions. After her move back to her native Los Angeles, she made a career pivot to private chef and cake artist. Her writing has been published in The Los Angeles Times and The Malibu Times Magazine, and she has contributed food writing to the literary anthology of 1970s Los Angeles, *Weird Scenes from the Goldmine*.

Lynne enjoys personal wine making from her own vines and is a martial artist involved in the world of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. Her two children, Ian and Ava, both attended MJCS's preschool and celebrated their bar and bat mitzvahs in the synagogue.



Sandy Stackler is a Certified Senior Advisor and Advocate, Business and Personal Coach, a public speaker, and author. A business entrepreneur with many year's experience, she co-owned a wedding gown manufacturing company that was written up in *Forbes* magazine, *Entrepreneurial Woman*, *USA Today* and *Success Magazine*. The company was also included in a book called "The Wizards."

She is the co-author of "The Secret To a Fabulous Wedding. How to be a relaxed and Radiant Bride." She lived and worked in Europe and Asia for many years. She is a visionary with a global view that influences her work and ideology. She has been a financial advisor with Mass Mutual and a Women's Financial and Divorce Coach. She is on the Board and the strategic planning committee of The Los Angeles Jewish Home.

After being a silent worshipper in traditional synagogues on Saturdays for over 25 years, Sandy decided that she wanted to be counted and heard as a Jewish woman. Malibu Jewish Center made this possible and she recently had her Bat Mitzvah.

Thanks to MJCS Sandy believes that people can continue to grow, learn and contribute at any age and stage of their life.

The Art of Wine – Annual Gala



Honoree Presentation: Rabbi Michael Schwartz, Larry Gray, Jay Scott, Alex Wilkins, Dr. Sabine Hazan Steinberg, Dr. Dean Graulich, Dr. Dana DePerno, John Gooden, Paul Johnson, Roui Israel, Scott Tallal, Cantor Marcelo Gindlin, MJCS President, Steven Weinberg.

The Art of Wine Festival & Gala at Saddlerock Ranch

It was a beautiful day in Malibu on Sunday, May 5th when our entire community came together for the 2019 Art of Wine Festival & Gala at the spectacular Saddlerock Ranch. With about 400 in attendance, the event included an afternoon wine tasting festival with food, silent and live auctions, live music by Lenny Goldsmith, Malibu Wine Safari tours and visits with Stanley the Giraffe, followed by a gala dinner dance under the

stars. The MJCS Board of Directors is thrilled to announce that the 2019 Art of Wine exceeded its ambitious fundraising goals.

Following an incredibly difficult six months in our community, MJCS was moved to recognize 10 Honorees for *kum v'aseh*, or "get up and go" exemplifying their dedication to the spiritual and physical protection and rebuilding of our community during and after the Woolsey Fire.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Art of Wine Festival & Gala possible, including event co-chairs Jillian Rosenbaum and Monica & Chris DeMoulin, the Semler family, John Gooden, Jaime Hiney, Leslie Salove, MJCS Clergy & Staff, Board President Steve Weinberg, Sisterhood Chair Lori Gray, and all of our generous sponsors, donors and volunteers.

Mark your calendars for next year's Art of Wine on May 3, 2020.



Religious School News

**WELCOME (BACK) — BARUHHA'BA — ברוך הבא
to our CONGREGATION — Eda — עדה**



Michelle Geft
Religious School Director

We greeted our returning students and welcomed our new students to Religious School on September 3rd! I am thrilled to once again welcome our wonderful teachers: Joy (K-1), Tamara (2-3), Anat (4), Gil (5), me, Michelle (6), our aides, Robin and Victoria, our *Madrichot*, Elle and Elizabeth and, of course, our incomparable Cantor Marcelo and Rabbi Michael.

Eda (עדה), in Hebrew, means congregation. The Jewish people

are sometimes referred to as *Edat Bnei Yisrael* (The congregation of the children of Israel). The act of congregating in Judaism is crucial. Throughout Jewish history, the Jews have learned together, eaten together, lived together, prayed together, celebrated together and supported one another. Coming together is what has kept the Jews united and thriving until today. I understand that our Modern world doesn't allow for us to be together all the time, but we can congregate at least once a week and keep the connection throughout the week. In light of this Jewish concept, we added a new aspect to Religious School this year encouraging community building and parent participation. We have special *Shabbats* for you to attend, our annual traditions like the *Chanukkah* concert, *Purimshpeil* & Carnival, and community holiday events like *sukkah* building and planting for *Tu B'shvat*. We look forward to building and bonding to create a true sense of community. A community that knows they have someone to call on and someone to help when needed. I look forward to your family joining us more than before.

As Director and part of the teaching staff, I have the privilege of seeing the school from different perspectives. I understand the needs of the teachers, I am in class with the students and see the various outlets they need to thrive, and I hear the parents' suggestions; I have a bird's eye view of the entire Religious School community. Being in this unique position, I understand the flexibility we have to have for our community and the continuous connection we have to keep with our students. Realizing the importance of these issues, we have made additions to our school to support them.

Last year was a great success with the new programs and new schedule we introduced. This year, we have more to vary our Tuesdays for our students.

We will be working with Shemesh Farms in their beautiful garden they now have on our campus. Tamar Forman, Rabbi Michael's wife, who is an exceptional educator and artist, will be working with our students throughout the year integrating art and education. I am developing and looking for online interactive activities and videos to share with you so we can bring a little more of what we learn into your home. We will continue our "Hebrew Through Movement" program which proved to be successful and so much fun for the kids! Look for the weekly words that are sent home so you can practice and learn too. This year at Religious School, please come early and sit with your child during *Kinus*; Pick up early and sit with us for *T'filla*; Mamas, stay for Tuesday Mamas! Join us for our activities on Tuesdays and during the holidays. This year please sit with your children while watching a "homework" video and play the apps we send home, so you too can learn! Let's weave Judaism into our week, here and at home.

Our charity this year will be with Jewish World Watch. They help refugees worldwide encouraging *V'ahavta L'ray'aha Ka'Moha* — Love your Neighbor as Yourself. Rabbi Akiva wrote this quote to sum up the entire Torah. As Jewish people, we take responsibility for our own and branch out to help others. We want to teach our students this lesson and give them the first hand opportunity to help others.

In closing, I would like to thank you for being part of our Religious School community and let you know how much we love having your children as our students. Each teacher here is invested in your child and cares about each and every one of them. We discuss ways to create the best space for each child and act upon it.

Looking forward to creating the best year yet,

Michelle Geft



**Pictured top row, from left: Anat Phil Golan, Joy Czubiak, Michelle Geft
Bottom row, from left: Tamara Leider, Robin Katz, Victoria Conley, Gil Ramot**

B'Nai Mitzvah 2019



Sandy Stackler 6/15/19



Benny Efraim 7/8/19, 10/26/19
Israel MJCS



Paisley Shapiro 9/7/19

Israel Trip with MJCS



**MALIBU JEWISH CENTER
& SYNAGOGUE**

**Israel:
In Search of the Good Life
Led by Rabbi Michael Schwartz**

June 17-28, 2020



**Land & Air Package
Price Per Person: \$5,814 plus tips**



**For more information contact
Rabbi Schwartz: rabbimichael@mjcs.org
www.keshetisrael.co.il**

2019 Sukkot Schedule



Sunday, October 13 @ 10am
Sukkah Decorating & Brunch, honoring volunteers, welcoming new members

Tuesday, October 15 @ 5pm
Religious School Celebrates Sukkot

Wednesday, October 16 @ 11:30am
Seniors Forever Young in the Sukkah

Wednesday, October 16 @ 6pm
Sisterhood in the Sukkah

Thursday, October 17 @ 4pm
Hand in Hand in the Sukkah

Friday, October 18 @ 7pm
Shabbat in the Sukkah

Sunday, October 20 @ 10:30am
Hoshanah Rabbah with MENSch Club and the Chumash Indians

Monday, October 21 @ 9am
Shemini Atzeret Yizkor Service

Tuesday, October 22 @ 5:30pm
Simchat Torah Celebration (Parade and "Torah Tarot")



MJCS MENSch Club

Sunday, October 20
Hoshanah Rabbah in the Sukkah with the Chumash Indians

Sunday, November 17
Watch Football Game @ Private Home

Sunday, December 15
Community Service Project

Friday, January 24
Shabbat dinner and service @ Larry Gray's House

Sunday, February 16
"Fireside Chat"

Sunday, March 15
Hike and Lunch

Sunday, April 19
Sportfish Trip

Saturday, May 16
Bowling with Sisterhood



Save the Date

December 6 Chanukah Concert

February 9 Tu B'Shevat Seder

March 6 Purimshpiel

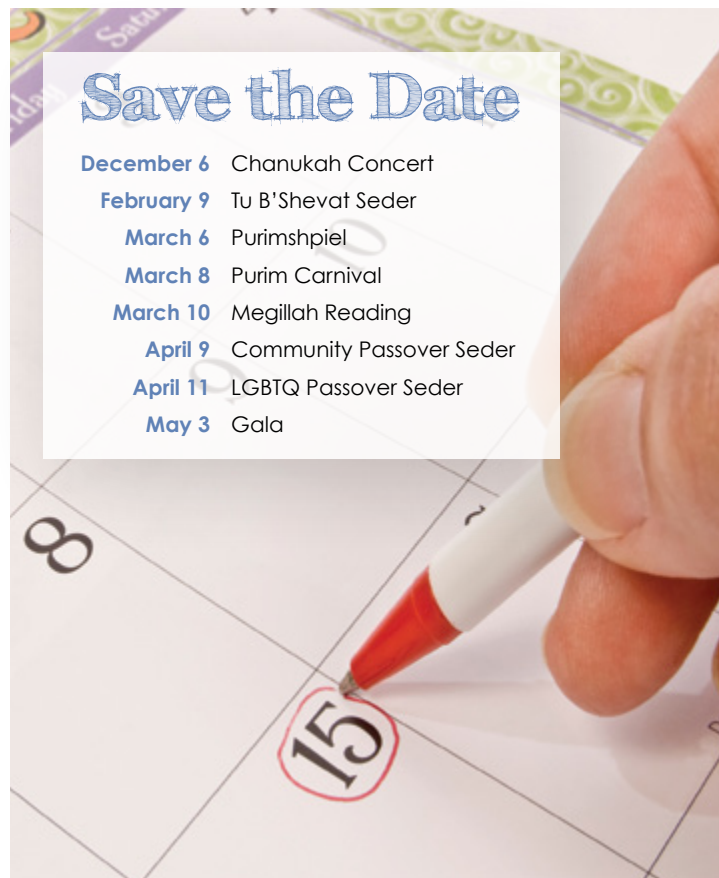
March 8 Purim Carnival

March 10 Megillah Reading

April 9 Community Passover Seder

April 11 LGBTQ Passover Seder

May 3 Gala



Sisterhood



We have had an amazing year and despite the fires affecting so many; have found resiliency, strength and new meaning to belong to MJCS as we walk on together. From our community-wide event on Homelessness in Malibu, to walking the streets of Boyle Heights where we toured the Breed Street Shul, remembering/imagining Jewish life in LA ... your Sisterhood is thriving.

We had an extraordinary retreat in Ojai with Rabbi Judith and are thrilled that Judith will again be leading our retreat this upcoming year in Lake Arrowhead.

The New Year will find us in Lotus Land touring this world-class garden with our Santa Barbara sisters; we'll be bringing Jewish Women's theater to Malibu and we'll go bowling and hiking with the Men's Club.

In honor of Yom Hashoah we will sponsor a community-wide event on Holocaust Remembrance Day, and we will participate in a program to help the Downtown LA Women's Shelter as we tour this incredible facility as part of our annual walking tour of DTLA.

From shaking our Lulavs in the Sukkah, to magical Rosh Chodesh evenings; to helping feed the homeless in Malibu ... to our monthly book club where great conversation and wine freely flows; we hope you will join us as we continue to make new friends and honor our magnificent heritage.

L'shana Tova - Lori Lerner Gray

RETREAT · RECONNECT · REJOICE

With Rabbi Judith In a Winter Wonderland

Friday, January 24 – Sunday, January 26, 2020

Join Rabbi Judith at Bruin Woods in Lake Arrowhead for a spiritual journey of renewal filled with meaningful meditation, yoga and sisterhood



Space is limited!
Please call to reserve your room 310.456.2178
Single Rooms Only
\$575 (members) \$695 (non-members)
Meals, round-trip transportation are included
Registration begins September 3 – members
September 23 – non-members



MALIBU JEWISH CENTER & SYNAGOGUE

MJCS Sisterhood

Connect. Inspire. Lead.

We are a diverse group of Jewish women in Malibu who inspire our community to observe and promote Jewish values and traditions.

S.O.S

[Sisterhood Outreach Support]
We are here to respond and help.
Call MJCS @ 310.456.2178

JOIN US!

Details to follow

Bookclub & Potluck
(Ongoing) *Call for details*

Wednesday, October 16 @ 6pm
Sisters in the Sukkah
Shake your lulav & potluck

October 16 - November 13
Clothing Drive to Benefit DTLA Women's Center

Friday, November 8 @ 7pm
Screening of "Wendy's Shabbat", Q&A with Filmmaker

Wednesday, November 13
DTLA Women's Center Tour & Lunch

Friday, December 6
@Chanukah Concert
Candles & Gelt Sale

Monday, January 13
Sisterhood feeds the homeless

Friday-Sunday, January 24 - 26
Retreat, Reconnect, Rejoice with Rabbi Judith HaLevy

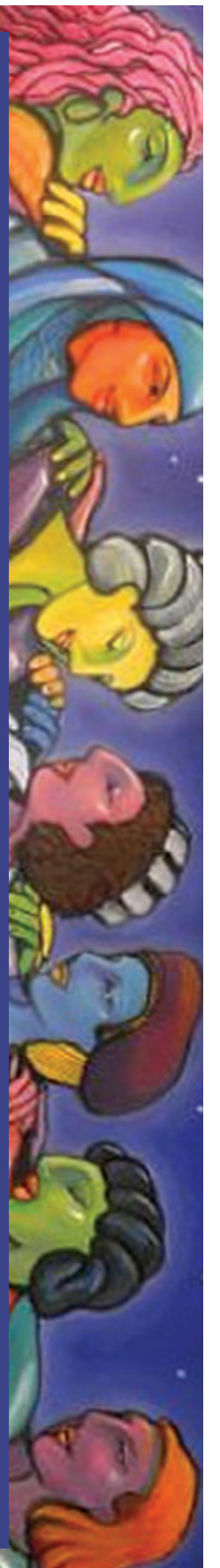
Thursday, February 20 @ 9:45am
Morning walk at Temescal With KI Sisterhood

Tuesday, March 24
Jewish Women's Theater

Tuesday, April 21
Community-wide Yom HaShoah Program and Screening with MFS

Saturday, May 16 @ 7pm
Sisterhood & Men's Club Bowling Night

Wednesday, June 10
Lotus Land Tour with Santa Barbara Sisterhood



Adult Education



Taste of Hebrew

Tuesdays 8:30-9:30am

Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19,
Dec. 3, 10, 17

Learn to speak, understand, and connect to this uniquely ancient and ultra-modern language. Hebrew, as spoken in Israel, is a key to unlock depths of Jewish culture, music, poetry and the history of the Jewish people. Tamar Forman brings the language to life for those with beginner and intermediate Hebrew skills. Semester rate (8 classes): MJCS members \$100; Guests: \$180; Minimum enrollment = 5



Ceramics

Thursdays 9:30-11:30am

High Holiday Ceramic Workshop

Sept. 19, 26 and Oct. 3

Come experience working with clay! Make pomegranates, Sukkah decorations and dishes for apples and honey.

\$90 for MJCS members; \$180 for guests, includes materials (8 students max., 4 minimum)

Oct. 24, 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21; Dec. 5, 12

Inspired by Jewish theme, art, and nature, we'll explore a variety of hand-building techniques and ways to decorate, paint and glaze our ceramic creations. As Chanukah approaches, we will explore the theme of "light."

\$200 paid + materials; (8 students max., 5 minimum)



Third Annual Leonard Cohen z"l Tribute and Essentially Jewish in Rock and Roll

Sundays 10-11:30am (with brunch!)

Nov. 3, 10, 17

This year we will mark the third yearzeit of poet and singer Leonard Cohen z"l by listening and studying Cohen's songs as spiritual texts. Two additional classes will explore themes of Jewish identity in the music and lyrics of famous Jewish rockers, both from the US and from Israel.



Aging Wisely

Friday, November 22 @ 6pm

Well-known LA Rabbi Laura Geller will discuss her new book, "Getting Good at Getting Older," which is a guidebook for steps to take and processes to pass through as we age and as we age Jewishly, modelled after the famous Jewish Catalogue books from the 1960s. The discussion and the book will launch a series of follow-up workshops led by our own Chaplain Ruth Belonsky — with things to get our heads around as well as practical steps to take — for aging wisely.

No cost for MJCS members only.



The Art of Jewish Argument

Wednesdays 7pm

Dec. 4, 11

The art of argument is, actually, very consciously fixed at the very foundation of Jewish culture as the Rabbis established it following the conquest of Judea by the Romans in 70 CE. In this class, we will learn — as we debate! — the rules and the art of Jewish argument. We will self-consciously consider what rules we need to establish for our own community that ensures we can remain a unified community going forward into an election year here in the United States. MJCS members only: No charge



Mali-Jew Bu

Mondays 7pm — January 13, 20, 27

Many Jews embrace the spirituality and ideas of Buddhism. Is Judaism — founded in the "Middle East" — more of what we would generally call an "Eastern" spiritual tradition, or a "Western" one? What are the connections and deep insights between Jewish thought, mysticism, and ritual practice with those of Eastern thought and philosophy? Can we point to any similarities — and real differences — between these two traditions that help us better understand our own spiritual paths?



Israel-For-Reel

Wednesday 7pm — February 12, 19, 26

This innovative series gives an "insider's" view into Israeli culture and society through film, TV, documentaries, advertisements, and more. This year we will be exploring the idea of "home" for Israelis and Jews outside Israel, the encounter and dynamic of relations and relationships between secular and religious Jews, and an experience of issues and feelings about the ongoing conflict between Israel and its neighbors. Israel-for-Reel is a program of Palo Alto's Israel Cultural Connection and is taught by Tamar Forman.



Reconstructing Judaism

Mondays 7pm - March 16, 23, 30

Our own MJCS is a member of the Reconstructing Judaism Movement. What do we believe? What does our Movement stand for? If Judaism is an evolving religious civilization, what great innovations have we Reconstructionists brought to the Jewish world, and what innovations are we working on now? How do we connect and implement this evolution with a reverence for the past and in the context of belonging to a distinctive People? These and many other questions are at the cutting edge of what it means to be Jewish today and for indicating what direction the Jewish People — at the critical crossroads of our long history as a civilization — will take. This class will help us understand ourselves, our community, and our Jewish world today. No cost to MJCS members.

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Series

Featuring our own musicians, members of the choir, and our special guests:



Klezmer Juice

November 1st @ 7pm

Klezmer Juice is the new generation of Jewish Soul music. It's Yiddish Soul Music with a Latin American vibe.



Annual Chanukah Concert

December 6 @ 6pm

Featuring our MJCS choir, musicians, Religious School, Hand in Hand program, and much more!



Purimshpiel

March 6 @ 6pm

Featuring the talents of our MJCS choir and Religious School.



Larry Steen World Jazz Ensemble

April 3 @ 7pm

Larry Steen returns with Jewish World Jazz; a blend of Jewish liturgical, folk songs with the rich harmony of jazz, and the global rhythms of the Middle East, South America and the Caribbean.



Noa Dori & Freddy Shiftan

May 1 @ 7pm

Internationally acclaimed singer-songwriter, a native of Israel of Middle Eastern & Hispanic descent.



MJCS Choir

June 5 @ 7pm

Come to a musical extravaganza featuring our beloved MJCS choir. An uplifting evening in harmony and community.

Schedule subject to change. For more information call 310.456.2178

Hand in Hand TEN YEARS!!!

Hand in Hand is an Inclusive Afternoon Social Program for Young Adults With Special Needs

With enthusiasm, open hearts, and 10 years of experience, we begin our 10th year of Hand in Hand. It has been an amazing journey, and something that we all at MJCS should feel proud of.

It all started with Ellen Wolf and Paula & Paul Reiser at a restaurant in Malibu 10 years ago, talking about creating a program that could be helpful and transformative. We never expected to grow this much, but our growth is because of a real need in our community.

A need not ONLY for the kids with special needs, BUT for the peers and community members involved. We have added so much to the lives of so many. That is what a community should be. And Hand in Hand gave everyone the space for it.

Now, entering our 10th year, it is a joy to reconnect with all of our participants — volunteers and families alike — enjoying ourselves after a summer of planning.

As always, we'll be cooking, singing, dancing, making art, taking fieldtrips and making friends. We are so lucky to have the participation of many local chefs, musicians, yogis, dancers, and yes, even woodworkers, who share their talents and passions with us every week.

We will be continuing our commitment to community service again this year by partnering with organizations such as Chai Life, which serves families who have children with serious health issues, Shemesh Farms, and My Stuff Bags, which provides blankets and other personal necessities to kids in the foster care system. We are also busy planning for our two big



events for the coming year: our "Winter Formal Dance", and our "Annual All Abilities Fair". We welcome community involvement and attendance at both of these amazing events. But most importantly our STAR STUDDED HAND IN HAND 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT FUNDRAISER. DATE TBA.

If you would like to become a sponsor, please, let us know.

Hand in Hand is a place of inclusion for all of Malibu—a place to laugh and enjoy the company of others, of all abilities; a place for students and adults to volunteer; a place for families to connect with resources; a place to come home to, and just be yourself.

So come and join us any Thursday from 4:00-5:30 pm, and see what all the happiness is about.

Please, check our latest promotional video on youtube: [youtube.com/watch?v=kGIZX4hCY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGIZX4hCY)

We thank the Windsong Trust for their continued generosity.

This year we are also hoping to purchase a van for our program. We are reaching out to anyone and everyone who would like to help us purchase a "Hand in Hand van." If you or someone you know would like to help us, we would love to hear from you.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and having a year of purpose and fun, please, let us know!

Come with us

As we walk "Hand in Hand"

Cantor Marcelo, Janet Ettenger and Lisa Szilagyi

Hand in Hand Important Dates



- **September 19**
First Day of Hand in Hand!
- **October 17th**
In the sukkah
- **December 6**
Chanukah Concert
- **December 12**
Holiday Party
- **January 9**
Back from break

- **February 7**
Winter Dance
- **May 14**
Last Day of Hand in Hand
- Semler Ranch & Universal Studios
Dates TBD

HAND IN HAND IS AN INCLUSIVE AFTERNOON SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

And we're looking for you...
to share what you love to do with us!

- Cooking
- Arts & Crafts
- Dance
- Music
- Sports and Games

We meet every Thursday at MJCS from 4:00-5:30 and we'd love for you to join us.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE A SPECIAL GUEST ONE THURSDAY:

Contact Janet Ettenger at 310.435.6543 or yocheved57@aol.com

Shemesh Farms

As you approach the entrance to Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue (MJCS,) it is hard not to notice the beautiful sprouted garden that is in full bloom in the back of the main building. Colorful herbs like purple sage, yellow mustard seed, lavender, and orange nasturtium are just a few of the edible plants that make up our bio-diverse garden known as, Shemesh Farms.

But, ShemeshFarms is more than a beautiful, aromatic garden, it is also a social enterprise that empowers young adults with special needs and diverse abilities by inspiring and hiring them to take on the responsibilities of building our social enterprise. Employment includes working as farmers, product developers, sales associates, computer techs, and in our shipping and packaging department, as well as marketing and

branding of our products. Together, we have created a premium, handcrafted organic & kosher, Salt, Pepper, Spice and Herb line of which we are proud. The young adults who are hired at Shemesh (known as Farm Fellows) take great pride in being part of our working community.

Shemesh Farms is an initiative of Shalom Institute, an experiential education camp and retreat center located in Malibu, and home to Camp JCA Shalom. After the November, 2018 Woolsey Fire ripped through Shalom Institute destroying our entire property. Shemesh Farms had to find a new home to keep the operation intact and the Farm Fellows employed. Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue welcomed us with open arms. We are grateful for the MJCS community

for taking us in and believing in our vision. Not only did we build a lively soil garden, but with gifts from generous donors we purchased six hydroponic garden towers that now grow sweet basil, green onions, tomatoes, thyme, oregano, marigold blossoms and so much more. We use our freshly grown herbs from both our soil garden and garden towers to curate our delicious salt, pepper, spice & herb blends. The Farm Fellows and our entire Shemesh Team create fun titles like, *Karpas Diem* (parsley and horseradish blend) *Malibu Riviera* (Italian herb inspired blend) and *Rosemary Crush* (pure crushed rosemary), and we add new herb blends to our culinary collection each season.

Michelle Cait
Director of ShemeshFarms



Davis Watson is in his 4th year as the Farm Director at the Shalom Institute and ShemeshFarms. Originally from Nashville, TN, he has been out in LA for over a decade working as a filmmaker and farmer. He's thrilled to be able to work the land here at MJCS.



Michelle Cait is the Director of ShemeshFarms/Enterprises. She is going on her 6th year working for Shalom Institute. Michelle is from Los Angeles and her background is in Art Therapy.



Shabbat on the Beach

Thank you to our generous sponsors

Laurie & Robert Briskin, Monica & Chris DeMoulin,
Ruth Flinkman-Marandy & Ben Marandy, Linda Kaye,
The Keyes Family, The Ross-Glazer Families,
The Weinberg Family, Ellen Wolf & Isaac Blumberg



Shanti Shabbat @



with Rabbi Michael Schwartz and Cantor Marcelo Gindlin

Friday October 18, November 15,
February 21, April 17, May 15, June 19

6:30pm Food • 7pm Service
In the Main Sanctuary at MJCS



You've felt the spirit of MJCS' Shabbat-on-the-Beach, now come experience an all-new way to begin your weekend: *Shanti Shabbat!* Bid farewell to the week-that-was, and elevate your Friday evening with friends, song, a glass or two, meaning, and a feeling of Shabbat Shalom...

MUSIC JOY COMMUNITY SHABBAT

Malibu Jewish Center & Synagogue | 24855 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA 90265 | (310) 456-2178 | MJCS.org

MALIBU FILM SOCIETY

Last season included 82 amazing events!

- ★ Free community rebuilding events open to all
- ★ Q&A discussions with top stars & filmmakers
- ★ Awards Season screenings of top contenders
- ★ Sneak previews of films not yet in theaters
- ★ Fun & casual Oscar-night watching party
- ★ Fully catered "Dinner & a Movie" nights
- ★ Special screenings of restored classics

Join anytime; annual memberships are still just \$250!

MFS is by far the best deal in town, as members get:

- ★ Free admission to all 80+ regular season shows
- ★ Free or discounted admission for your guests
- ★ Free popcorn, snacks, wine & beverages
- ★ Exclusive "members-only" events

For more info, please visit MalibuFilmSociety.org

IMAGINE your next event



IN MAGICAL MALIBU...

Weddings • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs
Film Screenings • Corporate
Events • Cocktail Parties

- Kosher Kitchen
- Unique Flexible Floor Plan
- Accommodates 20-500 Guests



THE MALIBU JEWISH CENTER
& SYNAGOGUE



Malibu Jewish Center & Synagogue
24855 Pacific Coast Highway
310.456.2178 | mjcs.org | events@mjcs.org



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