

Levy Summer Series

2023



Tuesday, June 13

***“Another Promised Land? A Texan Perspective on
Southern Jewish History”***



Professor Joshua Furman

Associate Director of the Program in Jewish Studies at Rice University in Houston, where he also serves as curator of the Joan and Stanford Alexander South Texas Jewish Archives.

“There are Jews in Texas?” Nearly forty years ago, the documentary film *West of Hester Street* attempted to shed light on the history of Jews in Texas by narrating the story of the Galveston Movement, a project that brought almost 10,000 Jews to the United States via the port on Galveston Island in the years before World War I.

Today, Texas Jewish history and the larger history of Jews and Jewish communities across the southern United States are enjoying a 21st-century renaissance, as evidenced by the work of the Institute for Southern Jewish Life in Mississippi, the formation of the Joan and Stanford Alexander South Texas Jewish Archives at Rice University in 2018, and the opening of the new Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience in New Orleans. Nevertheless, outside of Texas and the Deep South, Jews who have made this region their home remain something of an obscure curiosity.

(note: presenter for this talk will be joining us via video link from Rice University)

Lunch:

Cream of asparagus soup, dinner rolls & mini muffins

Choice of entree: Atlantic Salmon stuffed with Shiitake mushrooms & spinach, wild mushroom cream sauce **or** Tofu Poke Bowl with veggies, ginger soy sauce, and sesame seeds, honey glazed carrots, Dauphinoise potatoes.

Dessert: Tiramisu

Tuesday, June 27

“The Dead Sea Scrolls”



Rabbi David Kopstein

Rabbi David comes from a long line of rabbis tracing back to eleventh century Spain. Although officially retired from congregational work, he is frequently called into service as a cruise rabbi aboard Celebrity, Holland America, Princess, Royal Caribbean and Seabourn Lines. He and his wife, Patti, a clinical psychologist, live in West Madison.

The Dead Sea Scrolls' discovery reads like the opening scene of an Indiana Jones thriller. Were it not for some dramatic twists and turns, the Scrolls might have gone from their limestone-cave hiding places directly into the hands of private collectors.

But now, thanks to digital imaging technology and the pioneering work of Israel Antiquities Authority, these precious texts can be read, translated and studied by all who wish to explore this priceless world heritage. Hear the dramatic story and take a look at surprising revelations about some familiar Biblical personalities.

Lunch:

Seasonal fruit plate, dinner rolls & mini muffins

Choice of entrée: Pecan-crusted walleye ***or*** Vegetable Napoleon, sour cream and chive whipped potatoes, roasted root vegetables

Dessert: Door County cherry pie a la mode

Wednesday, July 12

“Gedanken - Klezmeric Fantasies, Meditations and Improvisations”



Annette Bjorling is "The World's First and Only Klezmer Harpist." Beyond merely adapting Jewish tunes to the harp, Annette creates a unique voice that fits naturally within the idiom of Yiddish music. Annette is a member of several performing groups, including the international ensemble Myridián. She was co-director of the Klezmer Orchester (Germany). She has performed and taught at international harp conferences and

music festivals in Europe and North America.

Kurt Bjorling, clarinet & basset-horn, is Director of the Chicago Klezmer Ensemble and a member of Brave Old World, Kurt has also toured and recorded with the Klezmatics and violinist Itzhak Perlman. He has taught klezmer music style in Europe and North America, and he has composed symphonic pieces based on klezmer music. In addition to his Yiddish music, he has been active playing jazz, chamber music and various styles of ethnic music, as well as performing music for theater.

The program of klezmer music includes virtuosic mazltovs, celebratory dance tunes, instrumental interpretations of liturgical and Hassidic music and classic Yiddish songs. Based upon their ongoing research and exploration of traditional East European Jewish wedding music, Duo Controverso creates a unique soundscape, presenting a program to entertain, educate and elate listeners.

Lunch:

Caesar salad, dinner rolls & mini muffins

Choice of entrée: Broiled Tilapia topped with tomato, red onion, basil & Kalamata olive salsa *or* Pan-fried tofu and vegetables, white and wild rice blend, steamed asparagus.

Dessert: Dark chocolate ganache three-layer cake

Wednesday, August 9

***“Reuniting Families and Recruiting Workers:
The Industrial Removal Office in Madison, 1900-1920”***



Professor Jonathan Pollack

Chair, History Department, Madison Area Technical College, and
Honorary Fellow, Center for Jewish Studies, UW—Madison

Many members of Madison’s Jewish community have come here to take a particular job. Others followed family members who did the same. In an earlier era, people came from Russia to Madison when earlier-arriving relatives sent money home and paid for their passage. But in the early 20th century, the Industrial Removal Office (IRO) sent people from New York to Madison, reuniting families who lacked money for train fare, and matching Russian Jews with job opportunities in Wisconsin’s capital city.

This talk will describe the IRO’s growth and decline nationally and in the Madison area, as well as the experiences of Jewish Madisonians who worked with this short-lived social-service organization.

Jonathan Z. S. Pollack has taught at Madison Area Technical College since 1998, and has been an Honorary Fellow at UW’s Center for Jewish Studies since 2012. In 2019, he published his book, *Wisconsin, The New Home of the Jew: 150 Years of Jewish Life at the University of Wisconsin—Madison*. His research interests include the history of Jewish communities in Madison and small towns across the Midwest, with particular attention to the history of Jewish dealers in scrap and surplus materials.

Lunch:

Nakoma salad, dinner rolls & mini muffins

Choice of entrée: Baked Cod with Toasted Spinach-Lemon Butter Sauce *or* Vegetable Phyllo topped with marinara and crème fraîche, roasted red potatoes, French beans and baby carrots

Dessert: Turtle sundae

Levy Summer Series Registration

Please print your name(s) on dates you will attend and check your meal preference(s). On the provided lines, please list the names of your guests and their meal preference.

Scholarships are available: contact Paul Borowsky at 608-442-4083 or paul@jssmadison.org.

Schedule: 10:30-11 am check-in, 11:00-12:30 presentation, 12:30-1:30 lunch

Luncheons and presentations all take place at Nakoma Golf Club in Madison

Tuesday, June 13: Dr. Joshua Furman

“Another Promised Land? A Texan Perspective on Southern Jewish History”

Atlantic Salmon *or* Tofu Poke Bowl

NAME

1. _____
2. _____

FISH VEG

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* Deadline for registration is Monday, June 5

Tuesday, June 27: Rabbi David Kopstein

“The Dead Sea Scrolls”

Pecan Crusted Walleye *or* Vegetable Napoleon

NAME

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* Deadline for registration is Monday, June 12

Wednesday, July 12: Kurt and Annette Bjorling

“Klexmeric Fantasies, Meditations & Improvisations”

Broiled Tilapia *or* Pan-fried Tofu and Vegetables

NAME

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* Deadline for registration is Monday, July 3

Wednesday, August 9: Jonathan Pollack

“Reuniting Families & Recruiting Workers: IRO in Madison 1900-1920”

Baked Cod *or* Vegetable Phyllo

NAME

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* Deadline for registration is Monday, July 31

Mail or in-person: **Jewish Social Services,**

6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison WI 53719 Registration by phone: **608-442-4081**

Each program is \$25 per person. This includes presentation and the meal.

Please enclose your check or use your credit card

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

PROGRAMS @ \$25 EACH

of programs _____ x # of attendees _____

Total Program Fees: _____

Additional Optional Donation for

Senior Program Scholarships: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make checks payable to Jewish Social Services or enter credit card information

Check enclosed ☐

Check number _____

Credit/Debit Card Type: Visa MasterCard

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

CVV three-digit number (*on back of card*): _____

Signature: _____

**Mail or bring registration & payment to: Jewish Social Services,
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison WI 53719**

Program and menu descriptions also at www.jssmadison.org/events/levy-summer-series

Looking forward to seeing you !

We are grateful at being able to be together again this year. The Summer Levy Series has become a welcoming of summer, and an occasion to socialize, share a wonderful meal, and feed our minds with a variety of inspiring presentations and discussions.

While masks are not required, we encourage all to take whatever precautions necessary in protecting yourselves and others. Please stay at home if you are not feeling well, and consider an antibody test before attending if you are unsure. Thank you all for being considerate and patient as we all work to adapt, cope and stay active and engaged with each other.



Jeffrey C. Levy

Madison businessman Jeffrey C. Levy is co-owner of Phillips Distributing. Jeff is a member of Temple Beth El and Beth Israel Center. He serves on several community foundation boards including United Way, Meriter-Unity Point, and Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Jeff and his family have been committed supporters of Jewish Social Services for many years.

With his generous support, Jewish Social Services is moving into its ninth year of Levy Summer Series programming.

Jewish Social Services established the Levy Summer Series in 2013 with the generous support of Jeffrey C. Levy. We continue this partnership to bring you this year's four-part program series. It is an opportunity to lifelong learners to interact with scholars, artists, and community leaders over a broad range of topics of interest. We look forward to seeing all of you at this year's Levy Summer Series.

Thank you for assistance in this year's series: Jeffrey C. Levy, Kai Yael Gardner Mishlove, Jakob Heinemann, Barbara Immergluck, JSS staff and Advisory Committee members