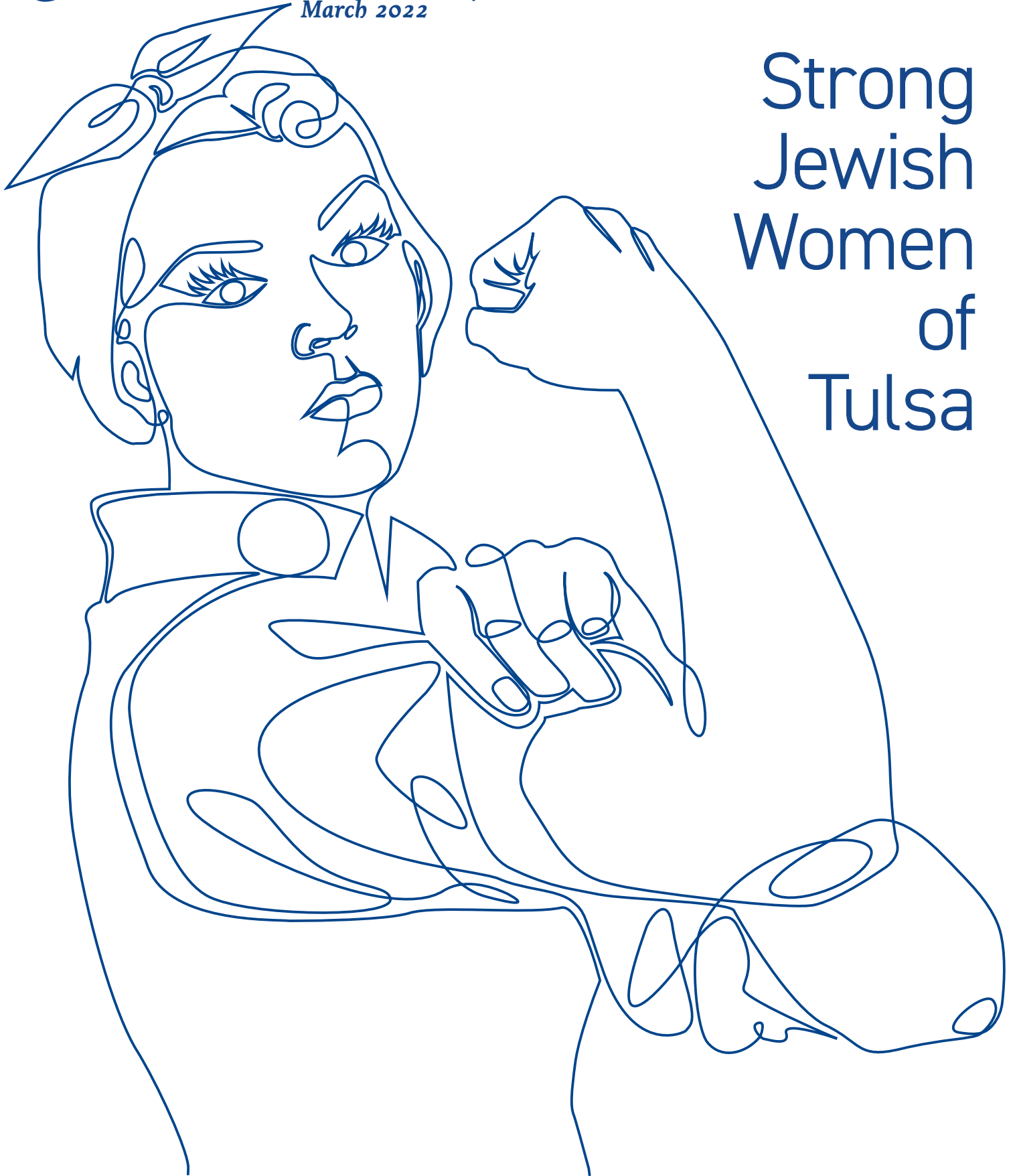


TULSA  
*Jewish Review*

Adar I/Adar II 5782  
March 2022



Strong  
Jewish  
Women  
of  
Tulsa



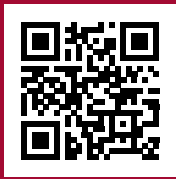
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*Tulsa's PreK through Grade 12 Independent Episcopal School*

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**Strong Jewish Women of Tulsa p.16-19**

# TULSA Jewish Review

A digital copy of the Tulsa Jewish Review can be found on our website at [jewishtulsa.org](http://jewishtulsa.org)

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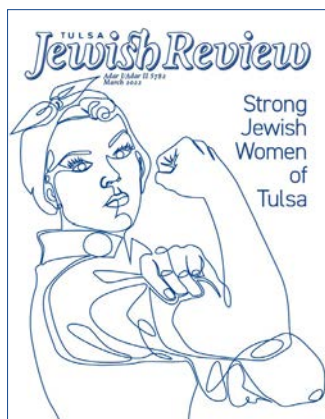
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## COVER



Artistic single-line rendition of Rosie the Riveter with text "Strong Jewish Women of Tulsa"

## The World is Your Oyster

by SANDY SLOAN, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

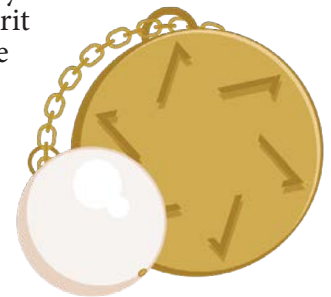
Calling all women—are you ready to join a woman led affinity group that provides engaging programming, a sense of community, social service opportunities, as well as supports the Jewish Federation of Tulsa? The Pearl Society is all this and more! Since 2020, the affinity group led by co-chairs Jennifer Joels and Jackie Lasky, has provided engaging and informational programming focused on Jewish women in our community.

Affinity groups are considered a part of the Federation's Annual Campaign. The Pearl Society embraces women no matter where they are in life and recognizes their desire to give and engage with the community through their philanthropy. With a minimum gift of \$180 annually, you become a member of this group of inspiring women, who just like you, want to make a difference. The gift must come directly from the woman (vs. a joint gift with a partner), giving each woman the power to support causes they care about.

Earlier this year, the Pearl Society knitted, crotched, and collected over 100 hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, and coats for the Tulsa Day Center. Previously, the Pearl Society held a drive-through social service drive benefitting Emergency Infant Services, resulting in several carloads of new diapers, wipes, formula, strollers, cribs, and infant clothing for Tulsa's littlest in need.

Programs are all centered on women in Tulsa—strong, interesting ladies making a difference in our community. We have learned about Jewish women who held positions of power in our both the community and our Jewish institutions, Jewish women in philanthropy, and advances women have made in other countries towards equality.

When you join the Pearl Society you join a sisterhood of nearly 146 other Pearl Societies at Federations nationwide. In partnership with The Vintage Pearl, each member receives a beautiful pearl with a Jewish Federation charm. As your commitment to the Pearl Society grows, so does the beauty of your charm (different colored pearls are added with your increased gift). I invite all woman to cultivate their spirit of philanthropy, learn about women in our city, create community, and help those in need by joining our ever-growing sisterhood. Let the pearl that is in you shine unapologetically! For information on the Pearl Society and how to join, contact me at 918-495-1100 x146 or email [sandy@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:sandy@jewishtulsa.org).



## Corrections to the February Issue:



We apologize for omitting the following generous 2021 Annual Campaign Donors:

Gale Mason

### February Cover: "Heath and Wellness Issue" correction

We would like to clarify that there is no one named "Heath" in our JCC staff nor will you find an abundance of Heath chocolate bars when visiting the JCC. This was a typographical error in the spelling of "Health". We apologize for any confusion this may have caused and are diligently working to avoid errors like this in the future.



# Camp Shalom

## Summer 2022

May 31st - August 5th

3 Years - Kindergarten | Theme Weeks

1st - 6th Grade | Specialty Camps

7th - 10th Grade | Counselor in Training (CIT) Camp

Register at [www.csjcc.org](http://www.csjcc.org)



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(Springer location only)

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# Women in Israel

by CHEN SHOVAL, ISRAELI EMISSARY

To live in a democracy means that there is equality between men and women for the right to vote, civilian laws, equal opportunities, and there is an aspiration for general equality between the sexes. When living in a Jewish state with an orthodox Jewish law sometimes it feels the equality between men and women is still lacking. Israel is both a Jewish and democratic state—an interesting combination in itself—and this combination leads to many challenges. Because Israel is both democratic and Jewish, it can be considered a social-democracy built on socialist values which puts the status of women nearly equal to that of men, especially when it comes to working.

If you toured Israel a hundred years ago you would see in the kibbutzim and the agriculture moshavim, women working the land with a hammer and hoe, shearing sheep, and milking cows at 4 am. Later in the critical first years of the establishment of the State of Israel, you would see women taking fighting positions in Palmach, in the Irgun, and later, in the IDF. It is said that the climax was when Israel had a female prime minister—Golda Meir. Today it sounds normal, but in the 1970s it was very unusual to have a woman leader, because many of the laws of the new state were formed from rabbinical laws. Every woman in Israel had to break the glass ceiling in her way—the first pilot in the IDF, the first colonel in the IDF, the winner of the first Olympic medal, the first judge, and much more. No different from the rest of the world.

Today Israel is in a good place in terms of equality between women and men. We see this in the current government—with a record 9 women. We also see equality in the business sector, in the IDF, in the courthouses, and more. The number of women with children who work full time is among the highest in the world, while on average, an Israeli woman will give birth to 3 children. And there are more interesting numbers I want to share:

In the Orthodox sector, there is significant improvement. More women work (76%), study, and are issued a driver's license (44.5%). In 2018 were 122,794 active athletes in Israel, 23.7% of them were women. In 2020 there were 327,000 students in Israel, 59.1% of them were women. By comparison, in 1969 women made up less than half of all students (43.3%). Between March – December 2020, since the COVID-19 pandemic, labor force statistics showed women were temporarily absent from work the entire week for reasons related to COVID-19 at 17.1% compared to 14.8% among men.



Despite the high representation of women graduates in business administration and management in the industries examined, women's wages are significantly lower than the wages of men. In the computer programming industry, for example, the wage gap is very high. And, it can still be seen that among married couples, most of the housework such as washing, cleaning, and cooking is mostly done by women.

Today in Israel about 40% of society is “secular”, and about 18% is Orthodox. Though progress in gender equality can be seen in all sectors of Israeli society, still there is much room for improvement. Until then, we will keep celebrating International Women's Day each

year and continue to strive for gender equality. To learn more about International Women's Day, please join our Pearl Society program on March 9 as we explore International Women's Day in several countries, including Israel. ■



Chen Shoval

March 27 - 31, 2022

# OKLAHOMA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Tickets and Information Available at:  
[www.CircleCinema.org/OKJFF](http://www.CircleCinema.org/OKJFF)

Sunday, March 27, 12:30 PM

## Here We Are

(Drama – Hebrew with English subtitles; 94 minutes)

\*\*Film followed by a Live Zoom conversation with lead actor Shai Avivi \*\*

Monday, March 28, 7:00 PM

## Persian Lessons

(Drama – German and French with English subtitles; 127 minutes)

Tuesday, March 29, 7:00 PM

## Kiss Me Kosher

(Comedy – English, German, Hebrew, Arabic; 101 minutes)

Wednesday, March 30, 12:00 PM

## On Broadway

(Documentary – English; 82 minutes)

Wednesday, March 30, 7:00 pm

## Abe

(Comedy, Drama – English; 85 minutes)

Free showing – youth and teens encouraged!

Thursday, March 31, 7:00 PM

## Thou Shalt Not Hate

(Drama – Italian with English subtitles; 96 minutes)

\*\*Film followed by a conversation with Jill Wenger, M.D.\*\*



## JFT Upcoming Events



**SMMJA | Will Eisner Comic Fest | Saturday, March 5 | 12:00pm | Free admission to the festival and museum**

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art will be hosting the 5th annual Will Eisner Comic Fest. The event will showcase an exhibit of Jewish Graphic Novels, local artists' table, and a cosplay contest. Both the event and museum admission are free.



**Men's Club | Wednesday, March 9 | 12:00pm | Hybrid Event**

It's Girl Scout cookie season, but there is much more to the Girl Scouts Mission that you may not even know! Join us for a lunch & learn session with Jennifer White on Wednesday, March 9th at 12pm in person at the JCC or on Zoom.

**Register at: [www.jewishtulsa.org/mensclub-mar9](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/mensclub-mar9)**



**International Women's Day Around The World | Wednesday, March 9 | 7:00pm | Hybrid Event**

Learn how International Women's Day is celebrated in four countries: China, Russia, Taiwan, and Israel. Hear of advances in women's rights and work still needed.

**See flyer on back cover**

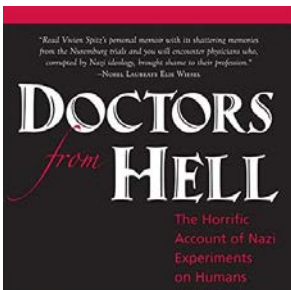
**Register at: [www.jewishtulsa.org/womensday22](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/womensday22)**



**Young Jewish Professionals Purim Party | Saturday, March 12 | 7:00pm | CSJCC Sylvan Auditorium**

Inviting All Young Jewish Professionals To A Night Of Fun And Games! One Purim mitzvah is to help those in need. To recognize this, we have added a social services project as the "entry ticket" to the event. This is a collaborative effort between the programmers from Temple Israel, the Jewish Federation of Tulsa and Tulsa Tomorrow.

**Register at: [www.jewishtulsa.org/yjp-purim](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/yjp-purim)**



**The Council for Holocaust Education | Panel Discussion - Doctors From Hell | Thursday, March 24 | 7:00pm | Hybrid Event**

**See flyer on page 17**

**Register at: [www.jewishtulsa.org/che-doctorsfromhell](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/che-doctorsfromhell)**



**Men's Club | Wednesday, March 30 | 12:00pm | Film at Circle Cinema**

It's Men's Club's day out for this segment! Join us at Circle Cinema for a viewing of *On Broadway*, An all-star cast tells the inside story of the Broadway theater and how it came back from the brink thanks to innovative work, a new attention to inclusion, and a sometimes-uneasy balance between art and commerce.

**Register at: [www.jewishtulsa.org/mensclub-mar30](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/mensclub-mar30)**



# JFT Upcoming Events Continued

March 27 - 31, 2022

**OKLAHOMA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

[www.CircleCinema.org/OKJFF](http://www.CircleCinema.org/OKJFF)

## Oklahoma Jewish Film Festival | Sunday, March 27- Thursday, March 31 | Circle Cinema

Features films from all over the world that explore common themes of Jewish identity and culture in a variety of genres. Comedy, drama, documentary, and narrative cinema will all be represented at this year's festival.

**All are welcome to purchase tickets for any showing, but we do have special days selected for our various interest groups:**

- Monday, March 28, 7:00pm - Holocaust Educators Night
- Tuesday March 29, 7:00pm - Young Jewish Professionals Night
- Wednesday, March 30, 12:00pm - Men's Club Lunch
- Wednesday, March 30, 7:00pm - Midrasha/Teen/BBYO Night
- Thursday, March 31, 7:00pm - Sisterhood Night

**See flyer on page 5 for full list of films - Tickets at: [www.circlecinema.org/OKJFF](http://www.circlecinema.org/OKJFF)**

As part of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa's ongoing commitment to provide a safe and healthy facility, we are requiring all individuals attending events within the JFT campus to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (with the exception of children under the age of 12).

Thank you for your continued tikkun olam!

**Please contact Director of Programs Isabella Silberg with any questions.**  
[isilberg@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:isilberg@jewishtulsa.org) 918.495.1100

Go to [www.JewishTulsa.org/events](http://www.JewishTulsa.org/events) to view a full calendar of events.



## We're Back!

CHAMBER MUSIC TULSA'S 2021-2022 SEASON

**Imani Winds**  
MARCH 12-13, 2022



**Atos Trio**  
MARCH 25-27, 2022



**Verona Quartet**  
APRIL 8-10, 2022



**Are you looking for something fun and local featuring the world's best chamber music?**

Tickets to Chamber Music Tulsa's spring concerts are the perfect thing!

All concerts take place at Tulsa Performing Arts Center and ahha Tulsa. Scan the QR code for a full list and details about each performance or go to [ChamberMusicTulsa.org](http://ChamberMusicTulsa.org)



## Women of Mizel's Past

by AMANDA ANDERSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MIZEL JEWISH COMMUNITY DAYSCHOOL

Nora Ephron, Jewish journalist, writer, and filmmaker once said, "Whatever you choose, however many roads you travel, I hope that you choose not to be a lady. I hope you will find some way to break the rules and make a little trouble out there. And I also hope that you will choose to make some of that trouble on behalf of women." [Commencement Address, Wellesley College, 1996]"

As human beings, we must have hopes and dreams for the future. As women, we must pave the way to accomplish the hopes and dreams for future generations.

In 1975 Mizel JCDS, then known as Heritage Academy, opened its doors as an elementary school in Tulsa, OK. The early years of school are an important time in children's lives because they first learn how to interact with others including peers, teachers, and parents. Children begin to develop interests that will stay with them throughout their lives.

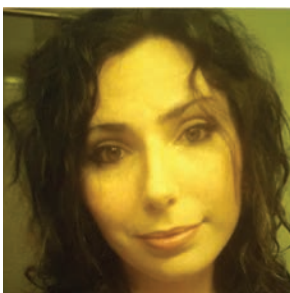
I reached out to several women leaders, who attended Mizel JCDS in their early years, asking them what hurdles they had made "on behalf of women", including where they were in life, a little about themselves, and their favorite memory of growing up in a Jewish Day School.



**Ashley Fredrick**  
NANNY & NEWBORN CARE SPECIALIST

Hi, I am Ashley Frederick (HA graduate 95'). I have called Colorado home for 9 years and love all the outdoor opportunities Colorado offers: skiing in

the winter, hiking and camping in the summer, and the sunshine all year long. I have been a career nanny for nearly 15 years and am currently adventuring into the Newborn Care Specialists world with a future goal of becoming a birth/postpartum doula within the next few years. I currently share life with my boyfriend Dan and our 2 rescue pups Stanley + Bowie.

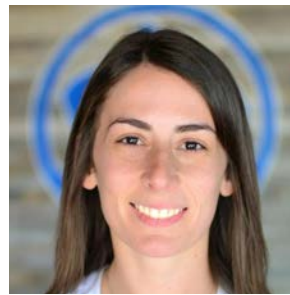


**Leah Aviva Leonoff**  
BUSINESS OWNER

Everyone knows me as Vivi. I graduated from Heritage Academy in 2000. Y2k was supposed to be the end of the world. I remember everyone stocking up on beans and rice.

I returned to Oklahoma in time for SQ788. I worked for a couple of cannabis grows before starting my own business. Currently, I've serviced over 50 grows in Oklahoma and have provided work to over 100 contract workers in Tulsa and surrounding areas. I've trained, provided job placement, and plan to expand into processing, so I can establish my own product line in the future.

Morah Spiegelberg and all the other teachers at Heritage were absolutely wonderful. I remember playing life-size Candy Land, I remember reading Harry Potter as a group, and all the other wonderfully creative ways they helped us learn.



**Michelle Vagin**  
ACCOUNT MANAGER AT HILTI

I'm Michelle Vagin, I was born and raised in Tulsa, OK. I have a twin sister Jessica Vagin. I graduated with my business administration degree.

Currently, I am working at Hilti. I am a certified yoga instructor and teach at multiple studios and a senior living community.

**Favorite Memory:** so so many! I loved my classmates. We had so much fun with such a small group. I remember doing all sorts of activities for a variety of holidays. I loved making challah. Morah Weinstein, Spiegelberg, O'Dea, and Rikin were the best and most supportive teachers. Graduation night was one of the most memorable nights. It was a great night getting to share our experience and goals for the future.



**Eylse Evans**  
SENIOR EVENT DESIGNER

After leaving Tulsa, I attended Tulane University then moved to Houston. I immediately jumped into the special events industry. Presently at year 11 with Aztec Events and Tents building amazing memories. My daughter Riley is a junior

at Bellaire high school.

When I think of Heritage Academy...I think of all the caring teachers, walking past the rabbi's offices to get to the basketball gym, playing outside on the corner playground, CC the janitor in the hallways, and the friends I made. We were the first graduating class at Heritage.





**Rachel Berkowitz**  
IN THE ARMY RESERVE AND  
A DEPUTY SHERIFF

I believe Heritage gave me an undeniably strong foundation which carried me through educational hurdles and built my confidence.

I attended Mizel when it was named Heritage Academy. I have many fond memories, and I learned more than I realized at the time. I thoroughly enjoyed learning Hebrew and music alongside English. (Music is a stand alone language.) I remember Morah Diamond teaching us about many cultures along with the Jewish culture. I loved Shabbat, especially going to Zarrow to spend time with the older generation. Celebrating the holidays as a big family was always fun. We came up with the idea to have an entire chocolate Seder for Passover. I think the kids appreciated it more than the parents and teachers, but it was fun!



**Sabrina Darby**  
HR AND ADMIN FOR TULSA  
SPCA

My parents and I came to Tulsa in 1979, shortly after I was born. My mother is from here and it was important to be near family.

When it came time to find an elementary school, several people recommended Heritage Academy. After speaking with the director and teachers, my parents knew it would be the right place for me. The teachers were thrilled that I already knew how to read! I attended the University of Tulsa and then spent some years moving around, doing theatre in various cities—Princeton, New Brunswick, and Memphis. I came home to get my graduate degree from Oklahoma State, and then moved to Tulsa. I've spent my career in nonprofits, helping to improve the Tulsa community in a variety of ways.

I never felt alone at Heritage; I was always surrounded by kids like me and teachers who truly cared. It felt like an extension of my family. My fondest memories are spending time with students and teachers outside of classroom lessons. Whether that was morning services, field trips, or special events in the community, it was always a good time.

Thank you to the women of Mizel's past for continuing to strive for excellence!



**Mizel Jewish Community Day School**

**In-Person, Individualized Learning**  
**Small Class Sizes**  
**100% Teacher Vaccinated**  
**Now Accepting New Students**

Mizel JCDS provides an outstanding educational program for ages three and up, with in-person learning. All our educational faculty are voluntarily vaccinated against Covid-19! Rooted in Jewish traditions and values, the general studies and Judaic curricula fosters critical thinking, collaboration, character and compassion. Mizel is a home to a diverse community of students: Jewish, interfaith, and other backgrounds. We believe in a collaborative meaningful learning experience, focusing on individualization of academics, social-emotional growth, and a connection to the larger community.

Contact us for a tour.



**Amanda Jakobovitz Anderson**  
**Executive Director**

**2021 E. 71st St., Tulsa 918.494.0953**

**office@mizelschool.org**

**mizelschool.org**





918-492-1818  
info@jewishmuseum.net



**Society's Cage Photo Retrospective Exhibit | January-March**

Photographs by Jamie Glisson - *Society's Cage* experiential installation was exhibited in Tulsa, Oklahoma to coincide with the centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre from Sunday, May 30, through Juneteenth on Saturday, June 19, 2021. The pavilion was exhibited on the grounds of the historic Vernon A.M.E. Church at 311 N. Greenwood Avenue.

*Society's Cage* has previously been exhibited in Washington, DC, on the National Mall and in Baltimore, Maryland, on War Memorial Plaza.

“The intent of *Society's Cage* is to educate about racialized state violence through an immersive experience,” says lead designer Dayton Schroeter, a principal at SmithGroup. “The installation complements the commemoration, remembrance, and reconciliation in spirit with the centennial of the Massacre, the most egregious and least-recognized instance of racial injustice in our nation’s history.”



**Will Eisner Traveling Exhibit January 13 – March 27**

This exhibition of giclées is from scanned or photographed original art by Will Eisner. The Giclées are very high-resolution fine art digital prints.



**White on Black, Linoprints by A. Raymond Katz, 1933 January – December**

Following his studies at the American Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Academy of Arts, Raymond Katz was employed by Balaban and Katz Theater Corporation to decorate movie palaces. His mural commission, *Ten Commandments* at Chicago’s Century of Progress exhibition in 1933 was based on the Hebrew alphabet. Subsequent murals and stained-glass window designs commissioned by synagogues throughout America display symbolic images interpretive of Jewish traditions.



**Next Year in Jerusalem (L’Shana Haba’ah B’Yerushalayim). The Western Wall Through Art Exhibit January – December**

Take a look through the museum’s collection to find artistic impressions of the Western Wall through mediums including wood, paint, photography, metal, and more.



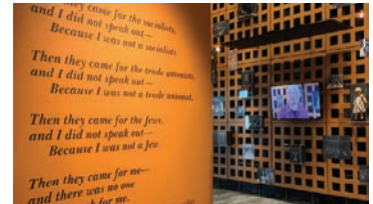
**Jews Rock**

This permanent exhibit is now open featuring photographs of music’s Jewish icons through the lens of photojournalist Janet Macoska. Also featured are hand-painted guitars by Oklahoma artists showcasing Jewish musicians.



**Oklahoma WWII Veterans Memorial**

The Memorial is now open to the public and honors the men and women who served in World War II.



**Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art**

Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center doubled the size of the Museum’s Holocaust Center space and provided for new state-of-the-art displays, greatly enhancing the Museum’s Holocaust education capacity. The new Holocaust Center is the cornerstone of what goes on at The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art and will continue to bring in new visitors every day to learn why and how the Holocaust occurred and how to ensure it never happens again. The center showcases over 250 artifacts from soldiers and survivors never before seen by the public. The horrifying events are told through the experiences of five Holocaust survivors who made Oklahoma their home. Their first-hand accounts, along with the artifacts and documents, will help you walk into the history and lessons learned during the Holocaust. Also featured in the only Holocaust Center in the region is a one-of-a-kind art installation from local Oklahoma artists. The Museum’s Sanditen/Kaiser Holocaust Center honoring Mildred and Julius Sanditen & Herman and Kate Kaiser showcases the effects of hate locally and worldwide.



5TH ANNUAL

# WILL EISNER COMIC FEST

SAT. MARCH 5, 2022  
12-5PM  
FREE!

Come enjoy:

- Comics
- Artists
- Vendors
- Cosplay contest
- Exhibit
- Panels

**FREE Admission**  
to the Festival and  
Museum!

Hosted by



The Speech Center was created by Will Eisner



The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art presents



## 15th Annual Purim Mask Invitational




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[Bortiz@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:Bortiz@jewishtulsa.org)



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Charles Schusterman  
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Applications are available online at [csjcc.org](http://csjcc.org)  
Questions - contact Martha Kelley at  
[mkelley@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:mkelley@jewishtulsa.org) or 918.495.1111







# NOW HIRING!

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Questions - contact Martha Kelley at [mkelley@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:mkelley@jewishtulsa.org) or 918.495.1111



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**More at Circle Cinema in March:**

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**Sun 3/27, 5:30p - 2022 Red Carpet Experience**  
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# Honoring Compassionate Tulsan Eva Unterman

by NANCY PETTUS, DIRECTOR OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION



*Eva Unterman holds her father's star*

Eva Unterman was chosen by Compassionate Tulsa, a committee of the Tulsa Human Rights Commission, as the February Compassionate Tulsan. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals who serve our community through acts of kindness and compassion, making a difference in the lives of others. Eva received this award at the February 21, 2022, Human Rights Commission Meeting.

For the past 40+ years Eva has unselfishly given of her time and her story to local, national, and international audiences to assure that the lessons of the Holocaust do not fade. Students are her primary audience, as she knows that children are our future. As a child survivor, Eva's quest has always been to tell her story in honor of the 1.5 million children who were murdered in the Holocaust. Eva's activism in Holocaust Education also

includes the creation of the Interfaith Yom HaShoah Commemoration, an event which often hosts an audience of up to 1,300. This year will mark the 24th year of the Commemoration. We congratulate Eva on this well-deserved honor and thank her for her tireless advocacy. Look for her picture and write-up on Compassionate Tulsa's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CompassionateTulsa/> ■

## Our Sacred Duty

by JOHN WALDRON, OKLAHOMA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 77

This year, I'm filing legislation to address the subject of Holocaust education. We've all seen the battle that broke out this year when Tennessee banned the graphic novel *Maus* for its use of nudity and profanity. The novel, which was based on the experiences of the author's father and grandparents in the Holocaust, is a powerful tale of one of humanity's darkest moments. It's a story worth telling, as a cautionary tale and as an example of humanity's terrible fragility and incredible resilience. And if it's worth telling, it's worth teaching about it in our classrooms.

House bills 3720 and 3721 would signal legislative intent to the State Department of Education, without imposing new mandates on teachers. Instead, we would develop more detailed curriculum guidelines on Holocaust education combined with links to resources for teachers in US History and Language Arts. In addition, we would create a Holocaust Commission, at no cost to the taxpayer, to survey teachers on what is being taught and create professional development opportunities around the state to ensure that this vital subject remains in our memory.

We're at a dangerous point right now, where we run the risk of forgetting. Few Holocaust survivors are still with us. Survey data suggests student knowledge of the

event is declining. And worst of all, violence against Jews is once again on the rise across the nation. As a history teacher, I always taught that the first duty we owe to our history was to remember it. After all, the Greatest Generation, which liberated the camps 77 years ago, wrote that history in their own blood.

This is not Tennessee. Nor is it Texas where an ugly debate opened up about teaching "both sides of the Holocaust." This is a moral imperative, even in an age where politicians want to believe our schools are teaching critical race theory (they aren't). We could step into a moral abyss of equivalency – or we could do the right thing and impart the best teachings of the past as guidance to the next generation. Isn't that our most sacred duty? ■



*Representative John Waldron*



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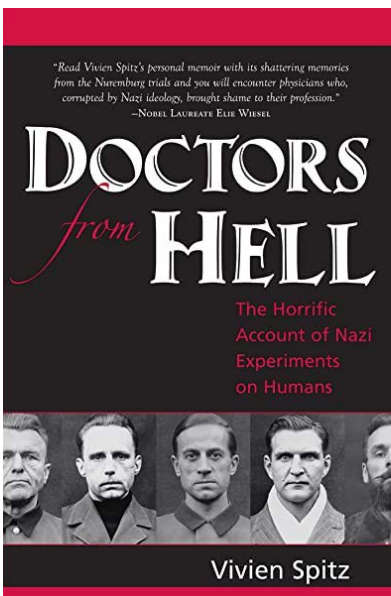
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## Panel Discussion: *Doctors from Hell*

THURSDAY, MARCH 24TH - 7:00PM - PRESENTED IN HYBRID: IN-PERSON OR VIA ZOOM



Four local Jewish doctors, Janis Finer, M.D., Gerald Sandler, M.D., Norman Simon, M.D., and Jill Wenger, M.D., will address the various “treatments,” “methodologies” and torture the Nazi doctors inflicted upon their helpless, innocent victims that clearly violated the Hippocratic Oath. Moderated by Janet Levit, JD, Professor of Law at TU.

#### REGISTER AT:

[www.jewishtulsa.org/che-doctorsfromhell](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/che-doctorsfromhell)

#### READ THE BOOK FOR FREE:

<https://www.tulsalibrary.org/books-music-movies/digital-collections>  
click “Hoopla” > click “Go to Hoopla”

You must then create an account using your Tulsa Library card. Then search for the book and download it for free for 21 days.

#### VIEW THE DOCUMENTARY BEFORE THE PANEL DISCUSSION:

Monday, March 7, 7:00pm - FREE viewing at the Circle Cinema  
“Nazi Medicine, In the Shadow of the Reich” which examines the process that led the German medical profession down the unethical road to genocide.

Contact Director of Holocaust Education, Nancy Pettus with any questions [NPettus@jewishtulsa.org](mailto:NPettus@jewishtulsa.org)





# Strong Jewish Women of Tulsa



Highlighting Ten Jewish Tulsa Women Who Work Hard To Make Our Community A Better Place

## Kara Joy McKee

Occupation: Tulsa City Councilor

As Tulsa's District 4 City Councilor, I work hard to help constituents know what's happening in their government and to be heard. That takes many forms. I make sure there is good communication between neighbors and developers. I learn from public health experts and share what we can do to keep each other safe during the pandemic. I work with the mayor, my colleagues on the council, and many others in the community to strategize for Tulsa's future – to attract good jobs, protect public safety and a healthy environment, advance justice and reconciliation to heal divisions in our community, and provide plenty of options for Tulsans to live, work, and have fun. With so many big issues coming before the city council, I know none of us have all the answers, but my position gives me a useful platform to uplift voices that should be heard on any topic.



## Mindy Galoob

Occupation: Deputy Director, Take Control Initiative

Through my work at Take Control Initiative (TCI), I work tirelessly to connect people to resources and raise awareness of our mission to increase access & reduce barriers to birth control in Tulsa. I believe that everyone has a right to quality reproductive health services and work each day to ensure we are moving towards a reality where ALL PEOPLE have the social, political, and economic power to make healthy decisions for their lives. One thing I am especially proud of is establishing TCI+ - a multi-year, clinic quality improvement project to ensure that patients can receive same day, affordable access to all forms of birth control with a shared-decision framework at all our TCI clinics. I LOVE my work and coworkers at TCI and feel blessed to do this work with all our amazing education, policy and clinical partners. In Deuteronomy 16:20 we are taught "tzedek, tzedek tirof" (justice, justice you shall pursue) and I take that as a call to action to do what I can to help those who face structural barriers to care. The patients we serve and the amazing health care providers we support keep me motivated, hopeful, and driven to keep pursuing justice in our community.





## Brina Reinstein

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Occupation: Campaign Director, Jewish Federation of Tulsa 1985-2008

When I moved to Tulsa in 1973 I decided that I wanted to help make a difference and began volunteering at the Jewish Federation. I worked on the Annual Campaign, Super Sunday, served on the Federation board, and chaired the Annual Women's Campaign. In 1976 I was one of the founding members of United Jewish Appeal's National Women's Young Leadership Cabinet. I served on its executive committee for 6 years, receiving the Young Leadership Award in 1978.

In 1985 my avocation became my vocation when Executive Director David Bernstein hired me as the Campaign Director. For twenty-two years we worked side by side along with a dedicated staff and a caring, generous Jewish community to help ensure the quality survival of the Jewish people. As Campaign Director, I organized special campaigns to help support Israel through many wars and help rescue Soviet and Ethiopian Jewry. The Federation partnered with a neighborhood in Tiberius, Israel, helping to revitalize their community by raising funds to build the Tulsa Library and the Tulsa Auditorium. I organized and started campaigns to raise money to revitalize our campus and bring the Mizel Jewish Day School and the Sherwin Miller Museum to our campus. A special campaign was started to make sure there were funds available to help subsidize those who could not afford to move into Zarrow Pointe.

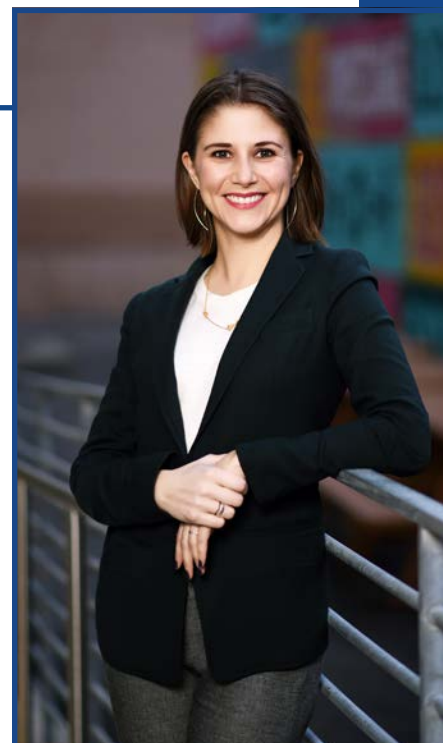
In addition to the special campaigns my responsibility was raising money to support our Jewish community, Jews in Israel and around the world through the Annual Men and Women's campaigns. I feel like I accomplished so much together with a generous caring community. We did amazing work! This work was my passion, my responsibility! As Elie Weisel said "Whatever he chooses to do, the Jew becomes a spokesman for all Jews, those dead and those yet to be born. His mission was never to make the world Jewish, but rather to make it more human."

## Marcela Swenson

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Occupation: Executive Director, Tulsa Responds

I was born with a heart to help and serve others and I know that I could not be truly happy if I wasn't in a role that had a positive impact on my community. Tulsa Responds provides low income households and small businesses 1:1 guidance in accessing federal programs such as free tax preparation, Medicaid, SNAP, internet subsidies, and SBA loans. In less than 2 years we've helped over 850 local businesses receive \$190 million in grants and loans, 2,200 households who previously did not have internet access get free internet, 450 individuals enroll in Soonercare, 4,500 tax returns processed at no cost to the filer, and, most recently, we've been working with Restore Hope Ministries to help renters impacted by the pandemic receive rental and utility assistance. I am motivated by Tikkun Olam. I want to lead by example. I want my daughter, Simone (4), and our baby (coming in July) to see that a woman can run an organization, do good for their community, and be a committed parent. I want them to see me do hard things and know that they can too. Most of all, I want them to see me living out my values and, hopefully, inherit my belief that if we want our world to be better we need to roll up our sleeves and get to work.





## Elana Newman

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Occupation: Clinical Psychologist/Professor of Psychology/Research Director of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma

My professional mission has been to understand and ultimately prevent and/or ameliorate the harmful psychological effects of violence and disaster. Throughout my career I have had opportunities to provide clinical services, conduct research, consult, teach, and provide leadership in my field. I have worked with and learned from adult and child survivors of many different types of events. Locally, I have helped various non-profit organizations and the courts become more trauma-informed and well versed in evidence-based interventions. I stay motivated by witnessing the resiliency of the human spirit. My passion is clearly connected to the Jewish values of Tikkun Olam I learned as a secular Jew. Further, as the child of Holocaust survivors, I had early on-the-job training!

## Randee Charney

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Position: Program Officer, Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies

Here in Tulsa, my work builds on the Schusterman Philanthropies' mission to improve lives, strengthen communities, and advance equity. The work that I have the privilege of engaging in every day embodies core Jewish values of tzedekah (justice), chesed (loving kindness) and tikkun olam. In the course of a given week, I may have the opportunity to support, engage, and partner with nonprofits locally that provide direct services to the stranger, the unhoused, and food insecure individuals as well as interact with agencies that advocate on behalf of gender and reproductive equity, or seek to eliminate racial inequities in the areas of education, economic mobility, immigration or the criminal justice system. My motivation remains constant because I believe that each day, through small, incremental acts, we can slowly shape improved possibilities for struggling individuals and members of marginalized communities to better their own circumstances and design their own futures.



## Sarah-Anne Schumann, M.D.

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Occupation: Family and Lifestyle Medicine Physician; Chief Medical Officer and Director of Clinical Culture at SolidaritUS Health

My personal mission is to help people optimize their health and well-being through mindfulness, food, and exercise as medicine. After more than 20 years as a family doctor, I have completed additional training in mindfulness meditation, yoga, and plant-based nutrition. It has been a joy and inspiration to share these practices with my family, friends, community, and patients. I know from both personal experience and the experience of others I have helped that even small changes can lead to noticeable improvements in quality of life. I have always found meaning through helping others and creating connection and a sense of community and purpose. I have cherished the opportunities to teach the Introduction to Mindfulness class at Congregation B'nai Emunah (CBE) and lead a session on Mindful Self-Compassion at CBE's Women's Wellbeing Retreat. I look forward to future partnerships with Tulsa's Jewish community improving everyone's health.







## Ruth Slocum LCSW, IMH-E® (Mentor, Clinical)

Occupation: Clinical Social Worker; Infant Mental Health Mentor

I am a Clinical Social Worker and an endorsed Infant Mental Health Mentor. When, after years of general practice, I began learning about the importance of early experiences, especially early relationships, I saw an opportunity to exponentially increase the impact of my work through supporting families directly, staff who work with infants and very young children, and other mental health professionals engaged in the work. It became my passion. Currently, in semi-retirement I consult with various early childhood programs and agencies serving vulnerable families with young children. In recent years, along with then-colleagues at OSU, I co-authored a parenting program called "First Five Years" published by Active Parenting, Inc. This program is used by groups across the country to guide families raising young children and includes activities for parents to learn to manage their own emotional well-being, as well as that of their children.

## Dr. Terrie Shipley

Occupation: Director of Out-of-School-Time Integration, The Opportunity Project; College and Career Planner, Terrie Shipley Consulting

Student development is my passion—everything I've done professionally is geared toward positive youth development, whether currently at The Opp and with my college and career counseling practice, or in my various previous employment (visiting professor at The University of Tulsa, Associate Director of the Youth Philanthropy Initiative, admissions counselor, academic advisor, student affairs officer, English teacher). I believe people have a fundamental right to education. As the daughter of a Chinese immigrant who escaped Mao's Cultural Revolution in hopes of accessing college, how could I not? Yet in my experience, much of learning happens outside of the traditional classroom. These doors must be open as well: access to quality co- and extra-curricular programming; opportunities for leadership, teamwork, and other personal development; and customized guidance on navigating college and career options. I work so that my kids, and all kids, can have their best chance of living a meaningful life through the multitude of benefits that only education (in and out of the classroom!) can bring.



## Hanita Kosher, MSW, PhD

Occupation: Director of Haruv USA, OU-Tulsa

For the past 20 years I have been working in Israel as a social worker in the field of children's rights and child welfare. I also have a PhD in Social Work and I am a faculty member at the School of Social Work and Social Welfare at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I arrived in Tulsa from Israel six months ago with my partner, Shay, and my 5 years old son, Dor, to be the director of Haruv USA at the Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work at OU-Tulsa. First initiated by Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, Haruv USA is a training center for professionals and students on all topics related to child maltreatment. Every day I consider myself lucky to work in an area of knowledge development including: teaching students in the university, developing training programs for professionals, conducting research and writing articles in topics related to children's rights, children's well-being and child maltreatment. I believe I am making a difference in helping the outcomes of child abuse and neglect.

# Women's Health and Rights

*op-ed by* HEATHER PALACIOS, Vice President of Community Engagement & Partnerships  
for Planned Parenthood Great Plains

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Some days, it feels like we are experiencing a dystopian moment in history, where the value of human life is weighed separately from, and with little regard for, the lives of women. Patients, staff, and volunteer escorts in Tulsa come face-to-face with this every Saturday. Since September 2021, anti-choice protestors have been showing up early in the morning at Planned Parenthood in Tulsa with their megaphones and larger-than-life posters displaying altered images of mutilated fetuses. The protestors go so far as to physically stand between our patients and their right to health care—all in an effort to frighten and intimidate visitors as they walk from their cars into the building.

When protestors show up with signs intended to shame patients, they send a clear message that a pregnancy at any stage, whether or not it was intended or is even viable, is more important than a patient's right to choose her own trajectory. The same is true when politicians attempt to restrict and deny access.

Planned Parenthood Great Plains (PPGP) serves a four state area (AR, OK, KS, and MO), offering a range of sexual and reproductive health services, including abortion. While it should be accessible to all who need it, abortion access at the local level is not a reality for many people in this country.

Since Texas Senate Bill 8 took effect last September, we have been offering care to thousands of patients forced to flee the state seeking care. These medical refugees drive hours from home, often leaving early in the morning to make appointments on time, while also scrambling to make travel and childcare arrangements. Some patients can get care despite the obstacles, but we know that is not true for everyone.

Those lacking the means to make the trip are forced to choose between carrying a pregnancy against their will or ending their pregnancy without medical supervision.

The extreme abortion bills being pushed forth in the Oklahoma legislature clearly don't take patients' quality of life into account, and they are not intended to make care safer.

Whether it's assigning a tracking number to individuals seeking an abortion or banning care at 30 days after the start of person's last menstrual cycle—a proposed law even more extreme than Texas' SB 8—politicians are directly interfering in the relationship between a medical provider and their patient. Their intent is clear: to further their own political agendas by shaming their constituents, and forcing our most vulnerable families that much further into poverty.

Abortion access has become more regional than ever before. Should Oklahoma ban nearly all abortions, which is exactly what will happen if Roe is overturned in June, it will join with Texas in becoming a state where its residents have fewer constitutional rights than their neighbors. In fact, 22 other states will also move to ban abortion without Roe in place as a federal safety net. If this happens, Kansas will become a critical access point for this region and the entire country.

The Kansas state constitution currently protects the right to abortion. However, this too will be up for a vote on the primary ballot in Kansas on August 2. Although the amendment was deliberately placed on a ballot where anti-abortion turnout projects to be high, our polling shows we have a good shot at defeating it. All eyes will be on Kansas, as this will be the first vote on reproductive rights after the SCOTUS ruling in June.

It is our most immediate hope for continuing care in this region. Keeping access open in Kansas will make it a refuge for abortion services in the region and will provide care to Oklahomans from all walks, just as we have been doing for Texans.

PPGP has joined a handful of sister organizations to form a coalition: Kansans for Constitutional Freedom. Funding will work to turn out moderate and independent voters by organizing and advertising. This is the best way to support continued access to care in this region. A donation to this cause may be the most important contribution toward reproductive rights that many of us will make during our lifetime.

Pro-choice Oklahomans often ask what they can do from here to be useful to the reproductive rights movement that is being battered in this country. Writing to our legislators begging them to be reasonable feels even more futile now than it ever has. Donating directly to patient care, while those gifts are always appreciated, is also not as urgent in light of all we are facing as a nation. The greatest need at this moment is ensuring that care remains accessible to as many individuals as possible - and that means joining the fight in Kansas. In fact, PPGP has committed to not asking its supporters for funding toward its health centers this year - not until we win the looming battle in Kansas this summer. Losing isn't an option.

Instead, we are asking all concerned to fight alongside us to save abortion access in Kansas.

PPGP will do as it has always done across our affiliate: fight back for our patients and our communities and continue providing abortion and other essential health care to those who need us most. We will not let up until this battle in Kansas is won, and the fight belongs to all of us. ■

*Heather Palacios is Vice President of Community Engagement & Partnerships for Planned Parenthood Great Plains and is based in Tulsa, OK.*

*“The greatest need at this moment is ensuring that care remains accessible to as many individuals as possible - and that means joining the fight in Kansas.”*

## **Learn More and Get Involved!**

### **Local Resources**

**Take Control Initiative – Works to remove barriers and increase access to birth control in Tulsa County.**

[www.takecontrolinitiative.org](http://www.takecontrolinitiative.org)

**Metriarch – A data haven for Oklahoma women**

[www.metriarchok.org](http://www.metriarchok.org)

**Follow the legislative tracker:**

[www.metriarchok.org/legislative-tracker](http://www.metriarchok.org/legislative-tracker)

**Bills to watch:**

HB3700

SJR17

SB1553

**Sign up for Fierce Facts, a weekly women's health bulletin**

[www.metriarchok.org/fierce-facts](http://www.metriarchok.org/fierce-facts)

### **Call and email your legislators**

**Contact your legislators**

[www.okpolicy.org/resources/find-your-legislator](http://www.okpolicy.org/resources/find-your-legislator)

**Find an OK Senator**

[www.oksenate.gov/senators](http://www.oksenate.gov/senators)

**Find an OK Representative**

[www.okhouse.gov/MEMBERS](http://www.okhouse.gov/MEMBERS)

### **Volunteer**

**Tulsa Clinic Escort Program – email Marci Penwright**

[Marci.Penwright@ppgreatplains.org](mailto:Marci.Penwright@ppgreatplains.org)

### **Support**

**Kansas for Constitutional Freedom**

[www.kansansforfreedom.com](http://www.kansansforfreedom.com)

**Planned Parenthood Great Plains**

[www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-great-plains](http://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-great-plains)



# The History of Jewish Comedy Part 1©

by PHIL GOLDFARB

Jewish humor has a long tradition and is an important part of Judaism since biblical times. Not able to have children until old age, Abraham and Sarah (he was 100, she was 90) when told the happy news that they were to have a newborn, they both laughed (for different reasons). Because of this laughter, the heir to Judaism was named Yitzach or Isaac which means “he shall laugh.” The Greek origins of the word “comedy” comes from the words for “professional celebration” or “revelry” meaning village festival

In the narrative sections of the Talmud, it is full of witty asides and repartees and in one account, the Talmud even speaks of God laughing. During the medieval period, humor was established in Jewish communal customs, most famously in Purim comic plays based on the Book of Esther. The celebration of Shushan/Susa at the end of the Book of Esther which are celebratory and is continued today. The staging of plays called Purim shpils date back to the 15th century as these plays included parodies of the traditional story, mockery of authority figures and even obscene jests. European Jewish humor in its early form developed in the Jewish community of the Holy Roman Empire with theological satire becoming a traditional way of clandestinely opposing Christianization.

This led to the wedding jester called a marshalik or badchen which started in Eastern Europe around the 17th Century. The badchen was an Ashkenazic Jewish wedding entertainer, poet, and jester rolled into one whose job was to provoke laughter and strangely enough, to move the bride to tears! He was an indispensable part of the traditional Jewish wedding who guided the bride and groom through the stages of the ceremony while acting as a master of ceremonies

The badchen would also sing to the bride, groom, and in-laws with the accompaniment of klezmer musicians His job was to generate energy for the party and provoke laughter before and after the ceremony while also bringing guests along in the transition to a more serious tone immediately before the ceremony. He would speak and sing in verses, weaving in references to the Talmud and bible as well as making sarcastic commentary on contemporary life. They also had a traditional role on

holidays such as Hanukkah or Purim and today are primarily found in Chassidic communities.

The beginning of Modern Jewish Humor emerged during the 19th century among German-speaking Jews of the Haskalah (Jewish Enlightenment). It matured in the shtetls of the Russian Empire which became home for the new Jewish humor folk traditions...in the marketplace, the synagogue and in the family home the Jewish joke developed.

Freedom of expression included the right to be funny in public. The shtetl became home for the new Jewish-humor folk traditions and then flourished in 20th century America arriving with the millions of Jews who emigrated between the 1880's and 1920's. The term “Jewish humor” refers to the more recent stream of verbal and anecdotal humor of Ashkenazi Jews which took root in the U.S. over the last 100 years.



Why did Jews turn to humor? Modern theorists offered a number of hypotheses. Jewish humor is all about coping...Jews were miserable, and laughter kept them going. Others suggested the Jewish jest is a survival tactic...by altering one's perspective, the Jew can accept the unsympathetic world for what it was.

After Jews began to migrate to America in large numbers, they, like other minority groups found it difficult to gain mainstream acceptance and obtain upward mobility. The newly developing entertainment industry, combined with the Jewish humor tradition, provided a potential route for Jews to succeed.

In the early and middle decades of the 20th century, most American Jews were prevented from joining many high-status professional fields. As a result, many entered all sorts of occupations that were considered “low class,” especially popular entertainment.

It began with the Yiddish Theater, then Vaudeville, then radio, then stand-up comedy. They honed their craft in places like the “Borscht Belt,” finally television and the movies. A disproportionately high percentage of American, German, and Russian comedians have been Jewish.

Avrom Goldfaden was called the “father” of the modern Yiddish Theater and started The Jewish Theater Comedy with the comic operetta- The Two Kuni-Lemls in 1880. Another great act, Joe Weber and Lew Fields (born Moses Schoenfeld) opened their own music hall on Broadway in 1896. An ethnic act of this nature was called a “double Hebe.” The image of the Jewish comic at this time included: a black & white vest, ragged coat, large turn down collar, red tie, light striped trousers, loud colored stockings, black wig, black whiskers, and a large derby hat.

Some Yiddish words may sound comical to an English speaker such as: Schnook. Shmendrik, Shlemiel, Shlimazel, Meshuga and Chutzpah. “Yinglish” words were also added at times such as being “fancy-schmancy.” Yiddish constructions, such as ending a sentence with a question became part of the verbal word play of Jewish comedians.

The word Vaudeville comes from the French vodvil which is a theatrical genre of variety entertainment born in France at the end of the 19th century. Vaudeville was originally a comedy based on a comical situation: a dramatic composition or light poetry, interspersed with songs or ballets. It became popular in the United States from the early 1880s until the early 1930s

A typical North American Vaudeville performance was

made up of a series of separate, unrelated acts grouped together on a common bill, however, there was always the comedy. Characteristics of Vaudeville Jewish comedians included wit, verbal skills, self-mockery, ridicule, and insult jokes. Common themes included their heritage as Jews, experience of living between two worlds (ethnic and mainstream), anxiety of living as a minority in America and the shortcomings of American culture.

In Vaudeville, the reality is that many of the theater managers were Jews, the agents were Jews, the actors were Jews, and the audience was mostly Jewish. In fact, some of the routines are so full of Yiddish that gentiles didn’t even understand it! Early Jewish vaudeville comedians included Al Jolson, the Marx Brothers, Fanny Brice, Molly Picon and Eddie Cantor. Comics in the later vaudeville years included Jack Benny, Burns and Allen, Milton Berle, Larry Storch, and the 3 Stooges who used vaudeville as a launching pad for later careers.

Next month in Part 2: Jews and Jewish Comedy in the ‘borscht Belt,’ radio, TV, comic books, comedy records, comedy clubs.

Phil Goldfarb is the president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa and can be e-mailed at:

[phil.goldfarb@cox.net](mailto:phil.goldfarb@cox.net) ■

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## Help build a bigger, better Tulsa Zoo with a legacy gift

Since its inception in 1927, the Tulsa Zoo has delighted guests with opportunities to observe, admire and learn about a diverse collection of mammals, birds, reptiles and aquatic residents across interactive exhibits and habitats.

Animal lovers looking for a way to give back to the facility that's provided families with so much joy through the years may want to consider making a charitable donation or setting up a legacy gift.

### Making a difference through financial support

Just how important are donations to the zoo's daily and long-term operations? Simply put, extremely.

"The Tulsa Zoo relies on paid admissions and donations for our annual operating budget," says Monica Ericson Simmons, the zoo's director of development. "Without the support of our donors and guests, we would not be able to continue to further our mission of 'Connecting, Caring, Advocating for Wildlife, People and Wild Places.'"

To generate further support, the zoo hosts three major fundraising events each year — ZooRun, WALTZ on the Wild Side and HallowZOOeen, in addition to offering ongoing opportunities to make contributions through the A.D.O.P.T. and ArtUntamed programs. Other efforts include an annual fund campaign, monthly giving and special item sales.

### How are donations used?

Unrestricted donations allow the zoo to provide daily food and medical care for its animals, while restricted donations to the capital campaign support the creation of new immersive exhibits and improvements.

"Legacy gifts help secure the future of the zoo by allowing a donor to support the zoo in a meaningful way without giving a large outright gift," Ericson Simmons adds. "Every donation is important, and greatly appreciated."

### Be part of Gunda's Circle

To recognize planned giving donors who contribute \$1,000 or more, the zoo is launching Gunda's Circle in 2022, named in honor of the first elephant that lived at the facility. These generous contributors will receive callouts in the zoo's annual report and at the new front entry; invitations to exhibit openings, special previews and an annual breakfast event; personalized tours of the zoo; a certificate of recognition; and a commemorative plaque that features a photo of the beloved Gunda herself.

### Estate planning services are available

Thinking about making a legacy gift but not quite sure how to go about it? Like many nonprofit organizations, the Tulsa Zoo makes a dedicated estate planning specialist available to patrons in need of assistance.

"Because tax laws change frequently, we rely on estate planning services to have all the current information to help our donors make the best decisions," Ericson Simmons explains.

From a wealth management perspective, planned giving may also offer certain tax benefits for donors and their heirs depending on the gift and its execution.

"The Tulsa Zoo relies on gifts and donations for day-to-day operations as well as special projects," says Ericson Simmons. "We spend about \$34,000 each day to care for animals. No gift is too small to make a big difference."

To learn more about making a one-time donation or a legacy gift to the Tulsa Zoo, please contact Monica Ericson Simmons, director of development, at 918.669.6891 or email [mericson@tulsazoo.org](mailto:mericson@tulsazoo.org). For visitor info about the Tulsa Zoo, go to [tulsazoo.org](http://tulsazoo.org).

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## Jewish Learning Institute - Meditation From Sinai



### Meditation FROM SINAI

**6 Mondays, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**Jan 31st - Mar 7th**

This course is being offered for both online and in-person attendees

In person class to be held at  
Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center  
2021 East 71st Street  
Zoom participants will be sent a link upon registration.

JLI@JewishOK.com

918.492.4499

Fee: \$55 (includes textbook)

Scholarships available, just ask.

March 7 - Lesson 6

ACT NATURAL, CLIMB THE MOUNTAIN DO

Those that can't, don't. Those that can, do. And you can. At its core, Mount Sinai is Mountain Do. Physical actions, called Mitzvos by the Creator, engender spiritual and physical change in the universe.

ב"ה

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For reservations or to sponsor this event  
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or call Chabad at 918.492.4499



### Moroccan Menu

Moroccan Harira Soup  
Sweet and Spicy Carrots  
Chicken Marbella  
Garlic Roasted Potatoes  
Dessert: Meskouta Cake



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**THE SYNAGOGUE**  
CONGREGATION B'NAI EMUNAH

**Afternoon/Evening Services**  
Every Wednesday and Friday • 5:30 p.m.

Each week, we gather together to experience traditional daily prayer and establish a quiet space for those who are mourning a loved one or observing the anniversary of a loss (yahrtzeit). We invite every member of the community to use these opportunities to recite a communal Mourner's Kaddish. Wednesday gatherings take place in the Sanctuary and we ask that in-person attendees register in advance. Friday gatherings always take place in the Synagogue Zoom Room at 918 583 7121.

**Shabbat Morning Services**  
Every Saturday, March 5, 12, 19, 26 • 9:30 a.m.

Each week, our community gathers together at the Synagogue to sing the liturgy of the tradition, study the weekly Torah portion, and spend time among family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this experience. Please remember that everyone entering the building is required to be masked and all eligible individuals must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Members and friends can also participate in this experience by signing on to Zoom at 918 583 7121.

**Baker's Dozen**  
Every Monday • 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

We continue to collect cookies, bars, and single-serve baked goods and deliver them immediately to frontline workers around the city. All are invited to participate, and any gift in any amount is appreciated. Please wear a mask and deliver your cookies to the

front desk at the Synagogue entrance on Mondays from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Shaver at nshaver@bnaiemunah.com.

**Lifelong Learners**  
Wednesday, March 2 • 11:30 a.m.

As part of our plan to bring all of us back to the Synagogue building, we hope that older members of the congregation will join us for a new monthly lunch and discussion series with Rabbi Dan Kaiman. This month we will be sharing stories and insights from the Synagogue's Refugee Resettlement Agency. A catered lunch from Queenie's will be served free of charge this month as part our official welcome back. Transportation will be provided for Zarrow Pointe residents in our new partnership with Executive Director Jim Jakobovitz and his staff. For more information and to register, please call the Synagogue office at (918) 583-7121.

**Blatt + Blue: The Flat**  
Thursday, March 10 • 7:00 p.m.

Our ongoing film and television series, Blatt + Blue, spotlights the discussion-leading skills of film and television enthusiasts David Blatt and Alice Blue. This month, they will lead an exchange about The Flat, an award-winning documentary that follows the journey of Israeli filmmaker Arnon Goldfiner as he investigates long-buried family secrets and unravels his grandparents' painful past. The Flat is available on Amazon Prime for a modest rental fee. Join us on Thursday, February 10 at 7:00 p.m. for a lively discussion in the Synagogue Zoom room at 918 583 7121.

**Two Rabbis And...**  
Friday, March 11 • 7:00 p.m.

Join us for the new format of our podcast, "Two Rabbis And..." After Shabbat dinner at home, log on to Zoom at 7:00 p.m. for a live conversation featuring Rabbi Kaiman and Fitzerman. This month's conversation will focus on the upcoming Supreme

Court decision on Roe v. Wade, the landmark decision that gave every American woman access to a safe and legal abortion. Our guest will be Kathryn Kolbert, author of Controlling Women: What We Must Do Now to Save Reproductive Freedom. The book is the definitive account of the battle for reproductive freedom and a bold new strategy to safeguard the gains of Roe v. Wade. The Zoom Room access number is 918 583 7121. "Two Rabbis And..." is an ongoing conversation about our shared journey in a diverse, multicultural world. As always, the resulting podcast is available on Spotify, iTunes, and the Synagogue website. We hope this new format brings stimulating conversation to your Friday evenings.

**Traditional Megillah Reading**  
Thursday, March 17 • 8:00 a.m.

All are invited to gather in-person in the Sanctuary and on Zoom for a short service during which we will chant the Book of Esther. We'll conclude by 9:00 a.m. so that you can move into your day with joy and strength! Please remember that all people entering the building are required to be masked and all eligible individuals should be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Members and friends can participate in this experience by signing on to Zoom at 918 583 7121.

**Purim Street Festival**  
Sunday, March 20 • 10:30 a.m.

The entire community is invited to join us for our annual Purim Festival! We'll gather at 10:30 a.m. in the street in front of the Synagogue to fulfill the four mitzvot of the holiday. We'll read the megillah, enjoy a festive meal, give gifts to each other, and give gifts to the poor. There will be plenty of inflatables, games, face painting, hamantaschen, popcorn, cotton candy, donuts, and so much more! Costumes are strongly encouraged and all are welcome!



**Shabbat for Everyone Dinner and Celebration**

**Friday, March 25 • 6:00 p.m.**

It's not just for you and it's not just for me. It's Shabbat for Everyone at CBE! Join us for a festive Shabbat dinner in the Synagogue at 6:00 p.m. With indoor and outdoor seating options available, we hope this setting can be safe and comfortable for all who choose to participate. We'll then move to the Sanctuary for our musical celebration highlighted by song, dancing, and storytelling at 7:00 p.m. The service will be

broadcast live on Zoom at 918 583 7121. In-person capacity is limited, and we'll be attending to our regular protocols including masks, vaccinations, and pre-registration for everyone entering the building. Please register in advance on our website, [www.tulsasynagogue.com](http://www.tulsasynagogue.com).

**Pride Brunch**  
**Sunday, March 27 • 11:30 a.m.**

We are delighted to announce our new Pride Brunch series at the Synagogue. Members of the LGBTQ+ community are welcome

to join us for a delicious catered meal and conversation about the intersectionality of our queer and Jewish identities. We are intended to be an inclusive, welcoming, and safe social space, not only for those who are out and proud but also for those who need a place to explore their identities among friends. Please register in advance on our website, [www.tulsasynagogue.com](http://www.tulsasynagogue.com).

**BLATT + BLUE : THE FLAT ON THURSDAY, MARCH 10**



In the great avalanche of films on Jewish concerns, *The Flat* is a standout documentary on one of our signature preoccupations. Winner of multiple awards (Tribeca, Toronto Film Festival, Jerusalem Film Festival), the feature follows the journey of filmmaker Arnon Goldfinger as he investigates long-buried family secrets and unravels his grandparents' painful past. The result is a moving family portrait and an insightful look at the ways different generations deal with the challenges of Jewish history.

Israeli critic Yehuda Stav gave it a rapturous review: "Arnon Goldfinger's spellbinding work *The Flat* is one of the most intriguing and important documentary films made in Israel in the last decade. This is not only because of its unbelievable subject

matter, but because of its meticulous weaving, its artistry of filmmaking and above all because of the complexity of issues that are addressed and the deep emotional impact they have on the viewer."

Blatt + Blue is one of the longest-running projects at the Synagogue during the period of the pandemic. Born in March 2020, it has run consistently for two full years, spotlighting a diverse and provocative roster of films. The series expresses the Synagogue's own commitments to an inclusive and pluralistic vision of the Jewish world. No single film can capture the whole of the Jewish experience. Film and television enthusiasts David Blatt and Alice Blue begin each session with a summary of the featured material. It means that you'll be able to follow the conversation even if you have to delay your viewing of the film itself. After that, it's questions and comments from the Zoom Room audience.

*The Flat* is easily available on Amazon Prime for a modest rental fee. Join the Zoom discussion on Thursday evening, March 10, at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting ID is 918-583-7121 and the session will conclude at 8:00 p.m. Please note that security protocols are always in place during Synagogue events. If there is a film you'd like to see in these sessions in the future, please reach out to Natalie Shaver at [nshaver@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:nshaver@bnaiemunah.com). ■



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**Scholar in Residence Weekend  
Mar. 4-6**

Join us for Temple Israel's Scholar in Residence Weekend with Rabbi Debbie Prinz, author of *On the Chocolate Trail: A Delicious Adventure Connecting Jews, Religions, History, Rituals and Recipes to the Magic of Cacao*. Please see events listed below.

**Shabbat Service with Rabbi  
Debbie Prinz  
Fri., Mar. 4 • 6:00 p.m.**

Rabbi Prinz discusses Jewish Resilience Through Chocolate - How chocolate nurtured Jews facing upheaval in earlier generations. Chocolate smooths things over in times of stress.

**Shabbat Learning with Scholar  
in Residence Rabbi Debbie Prinz  
Sat., Mar. 5 • 10:30 a.m.**

Join Rabbi Debbie Prinz for the discussion - Why Matzah? Making sense of the confusing and even contradictory Torah passages about matzah to inform our Passover customs for matzah eating. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com) for the Zoom link.

**Havdalah & Chocolate Tasting  
with Rabbi Debbie Prinz  
Sat., Mar. 5 • 7:00 p.m.**

Have you ever wondered if you've been eating chocolate properly? Did you know there was a proper way? We'll find out as we end Shabbat with this delicious Havdalah.

**Brotherhood Breakfast:  
Breaking Jewish Breads with  
Rabbi Debbie Prinz  
Sun., Mar. 6 • 10:00 a.m.**

Join us in person at Temple Israel for a complimentary breakfast where we will explore the diversity of Jewish communities through celebratory breads. These fancifully shaped breads express Jewish hopes through the seasons of the year. RSVP is required by Wednesday, March 2. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com) or call the Temple Israel office at (918) 747-1309.

**Challenges of Reform Judaism  
Thurs., Mar. 10, 17, & 24 2:00 p.m.**

"Repairing One's Character" through the study of Jewish values. Join us on Thursday afternoons, as we unpack our Jewish values, creating an awareness; a better understanding of who we are as Jews and as people. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com) for the Zoom link.

**Purim Carnival • Fri., Mar. 11 •  
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Stay tuned for more details about this family friendly event!

**Shabbat Service w/Torah on  
Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri.,  
Mar. 11 & 25 • 7:30 p.m.**

Join the Temple Israel Clergy Team as we welcome in Shabbat with the chanting of Torah. Vaccine requirements, masks, and social distancing practices will be adhered to at all services. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com) for the Zoom link.

**Purim Spiel on Zoom • Wed.,  
Mar. 16 • 7:30 p.m. •**

Join Temple Israel on Zoom for a fun and festive evening as we retell the Story of Esther (here's a hint....we're off to see the wizard!). Everyone is welcome. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com)

for the Zoom link.

**Zamru L'Shabbat  
Fri., Mar. 18 • 6:00 p.m.**

Join Cantor Weinstein and Elijah's Minor Prophets, in person or online, as we welcome Shabbat and celebrate with joyous songs! Vaccine requirements, masks, and social distancing practices will be adhered to at all services. RSVP to [rsvp@templetulsa.com](mailto:rsvp@templetulsa.com) for the Zoom link.

**Zarrow Pointe Shabbat Service  
Fri., Mar. 25 • 6:45 p.m.**

For our Temple friends and family at Zarrow Pointe, we hope you will join us for this meaningful Friday night service on the Zarrow campus. We look forward to seeing you there! Vaccine requirements, masks, and social distancing practices will be adhered to at all services.

**Havdalah on Facebook Live  
Sat., Mar. 26 • 7:30 p.m.**

Join the Temple Israel Music Team on Facebook Live, as we separate the sacred from the sublime and begin the week anew with Havdalah. Sing along as we offer the prayerful songs of Havdalah. <https://www.facebook.com/TempleIsraelTulsa>

## Women's History Month – Art and Action: Portraits in Awareness

by RABBI LILY KOWALSKI

As an art enthusiast, I enjoy finding artists that meld with my sensibilities and patronizing them by purchasing their works and displaying them in my home and office. A particular point of pride for me in my office at Temple Israel is the wall of art focusing on women. It is the wall right by my office door, the one I stare at daily as I sit at my desk. It is a montage of various other areas of interest in my life: Jewish texts, pop culture, women's rights, and feminism issues.

When seeking a moment of calm or inspiration, I often stare at the "She Series" sets by Karen Hallion (for more information about Hallion, visit: <https://www.karenhallion.com/>). Now up to its eleventh iteration, the She Series started out highlighting female fictional characters, combining a portrait of them with a verb to emphasize their power and ability. This was an important choice for Hallion who wanted to focus on what these women can do, action words, rather than who or what they are, descriptive words.

Lately, Hallion has turned her focus to real life heroines. Half of her "She Series" collages are of real women, people we can learn from and research. In light of on-going social justice issues, Hallion's most recent collages have focused on marginalized populations, spotlighting Black and African American women, Asian American and Pacific Islander women, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Proceeds from these collages are donated to organizations that further these causes. I was ready to purchase any new collage Hallion created before. I find it even more necessary and appropriate to support her and her work now.

If Hallion were to approach me (if only) to consult on a Jewish women collage, it only takes a moment to think of a few I would include. The message of empowerment, historical relevance, and inspiration of such a collection only grows when we realize that this year marks two notable Jewish milestones in women's history. This year marks the 50th anniversary of women being formally ordained as rabbis in the United States, pioneered by Rabbi Sally Priesand in June 1972. It also marks the 100th anniversary of the Bat Mitzvah, as Judith Kaplan (daughter of Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan) celebrated in March 1922. Both of these stories are also being immortalized in art, in the form of books by Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso: *Judy Led the Way* was originally published in 2020 and *Sally Opened Doors* will be published later this year.

Representation matters. Awareness is paramount. Actions define who we are and how we interact with the world. Artists help us to understand and relate to the world as it could be, as it should be. This Women's History Month, I encourage you to find at least one new woman, perhaps any of those featured in Hallion's works, and learn more about them. I hope the next time we see each other, you will tell me about your new-found knowledge.

Here's to strong women: may we know them, may we be them, may we raise them. ■

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JFT Pearl Society Presents  
**International Women's Day**   
**Around the World**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00 pm**  
**Hybrid: In Person at CSJCC or Zoom**



**Alpha Edens, Ph.D, MED - China**



**Olga Randolph - Russia**



**Chen Shoval - Israel**



**Johnna Yoder - Taiwan**



The month of March is Women's History Month. March 8 is International Women's Day. Let's continue to celebrate advancements of women as we learn how International Women's Day is celebrated in four countries around the world.

**Register at [www.jewishtulsa.org/womensday22](http://www.jewishtulsa.org/womensday22)**

