

A decorative menorah with a lion and Hebrew text. The menorah is made of a dark, patinated metal, possibly bronze or brass. It features a central stem with a lion rampant on the left side. The lion is facing left and is positioned next to a vertical rectangular plaque containing Hebrew text. The menorah has a base with a circular knob and a decorative pattern. The background is plain white.

TULSA
Jewish Review

*Kislev/Tevet 5783
December 2022*

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STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AIDA NOZICK
anozick@jewishtulsa.org

ADVERTISING MANAGER

HOLLY HUGHES
hhughes@jewishtulsa.org

COPY EDITOR

SANDY SLOAN
sandy@jewishtulsa.org

COPY EDITOR & LAYOUT

SARAH WINKELMAN
swinkelman@jewishtulsa.org

**LAYOUT, MARKETING,
& COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR**

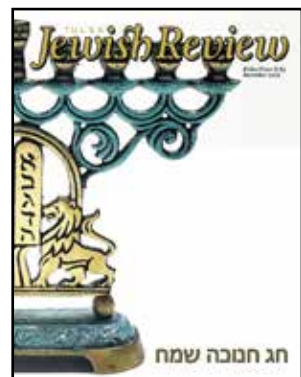
JASMINE RIKIN
jrikin@jewishtulsa.org

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FRONT & BACK COVER



Chanukia from The Sherwin Miller
Museum of Jewish Art Permanent
Collection.

**JEWISH FEDERATION OF TULSA
MESSAGE BOARD**

WINTER CLOSINGS

Sunday, December 25 - ALL CLOSED

Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Charles Schusterman Jewish Community
Center, and The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

Monday, December 26 - ALL CLOSED

Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Charles Schusterman Jewish Community
Center, and The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art

Sunday, January 1

Jewish Federation of Tulsa & The Sherwin Miller Museum of
Jewish Art - **CLOSED**

Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center - **Open 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.**

Monday, January 2

Jewish Federation of Tulsa and The Sherwin Miller Museum of
Jewish Art - **CLOSED**

Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center - **Open 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.**

GOT MAZELS?

Have a b'nai mitzvah, wedding announcement, milestone, or
accomplishment to share with the community? Feature it in our
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Email Marketing and Communications Coordinator Jasmine Rikin
for submission requirements. JRikin@jewishtulsa.org

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

by Jasmine Rikin, Isabella Silberg, Sandy Sloan, and Sarah Winkelman



Jewish Federation of Tulsa staff in Chicago, IL for the General
Assembly. [from left to right] Sarah Winkelman, Jasmine Rikin,
Isabella Silberg, Sandy Sloan

For the first time in three years, leaders in the North
American Jewish Community gathered in-person
for the annual General Assembly (GA). Since it was
first held 90 years ago, GA has been the largest, most
consequential gathering for staff and lay leaders.

Our Federation sent four staff members to Chicago,
October 30 – November 1 to attend this year's assembly
filled with networking, breakout sessions, and featured
speakers. Staff explored the complex issues facing our
Tulsa Jewish Community and learned about the shared
goals of JFNA (Jewish Federation of North America),
our flagship, in the year ahead!

Below is a short take-away from each staff person, in
their own words:

My goal for attending the General Assembly was to
gather more tools to combat antisemitism locally,
globally, and virtually. During the "Combating
Antisemitism" session, presenter Deborah Lipstadt, US
Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism,
helped me to form clear explanations of antisemitism.
A really meaningful takeaway I had was in order to
combat antisemitism, you need to know what you
stand for and then fight for it! Be your true authentic
Jewish self always, not as a response to antisemitism.
These simple but strong actions are the foundation of
being able to confront antisemitism as a community.

—Jasmine Rikin

While there were many interesting sessions that I
attended, the one that had the greatest impact on me
was called "Measuring Jewish Wealth in Data." My
takeaways are that good data allows for organizations
like ours to measure how our community is growing,
what the needs are, and how to predict ways to best
serve the greater Tulsa Jewish community. Data is
valuable when guiding ideas, but it needs action. We
will continue to take action when we hear the wants
and needs of our community by planning innovating
and engaging activities for multi-generational
programming.

—Isabella Silberg

One session at the GA that stood out for me was "The
Changing Jewish Family." Nowadays, most Jewish
families are not typical, and often a high percentage
only have one parent that is Jewish. The big takeaway
from this session is that it is ok to participate in Jewish
life in each person's own way. One person's Jewish life
may be attending a religious service every Sabbath,
while another's may be attending on occasion, or not at
all. One person's Jewish life may be attending a Jewish
Day School, while another's may be participating in a
Federation program or event. Whether we experience
Jewish life through celebrations, education, or
experiences, the goal is that we all belong. And there is
a difference between welcoming and belonging. We are
a diverse Jewish community and have diverse Jewish
experiences, but in the end, we are all one community,
and we all belong.

—Sandy Sloan

My favorite featured session I attended is "Building
a Culture of Belonging, Security, and Engagement:
Keeping all of our communities safe." My takeaway
from this session is the ever growing need to build
partnerships and relationships with multi-faith,
diverse groups in our community. We need to stand
up for other organizations and institutions before
something bad happens, not in response to an act of
harm. We must understand the intersectionality of our
communities and how our community's demographics
are becoming more diverse. Creating authentic and
genuine relationships with other Tulsa communities
and collaborating on programs can engage new and
diverse participants!

—Sarah Winkelman ■



YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIVING

by Joy Platt, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration

As we approach the end of the year, it is helpful to reflect on steps that can be taken to reduce taxes. Many individuals are seeking strategies to reduce their tax liability and increase the impact of their giving. Below are some tax strategies available to individuals to accomplish both of those goals.

Gifts of appreciated assets

Gifting appreciated property such as stock or bonds directly to an organization remains a best practice for tax savings and philanthropic impact. Such gifts not only provide a deduction to the donor of the value on the date of the gift, but also avoid the capital gains tax. Conversely, built-in loss assets generally should be sold (generating a tax loss) with the resulting cash proceeds donated, if desired. Note that, as in previous years, up to \$3,000 of capital losses may be used to offset ordinary income.

Gifts from retirement accounts

Individuals over the age of 71 ½ are required to make minimum distributions from individual retirement accounts before the end of the year. IRA charitable rollover is an attractive option as it satisfies the minimum distribution requirement without incurring any income tax for the individual. Transfers directly to a charitable organization are not included in income for the individual. This tax benefit applies whether or not the individual itemizes on their tax return and can be done every year.

Gifts to Donor Advised Funds

If a deduction is needed on your 2022 income tax return, but you want to make a significant donation to a charity over time or at a specified time in the future, a contribution to the Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is a good solution. This is especially beneficial for gifts of appreciated property to avoid capital gains tax as discussed above. A DAF can be a great vehicle to create a family philanthropic fund and cultivate the virtue of philanthropy with younger generations. A DAF provides immediate tax savings, receives market exposure for growth, has low costs and grants can be made to virtually any IRS approved public charity. A DAF can foster a new

family tradition on Rosh Hashanah or Hanukkah to select charities to support as a family. The Jewish Federation of Tulsa Foundation administers several DAFs for donors and is happy to provide you any assistance needed.

Cash gifts

Rising costs for staff and goods have made maintaining a balanced budget for charitable institutions an even greater challenge. There is proposed legislation to maintain an above the line deduction for charitable giving of \$300 (\$600 for a joint return) similar to what was available for 2021. There has also been proposed legislation to allow a charitable deduction of up to one-third of the standard deduction available to non-itemizers (about \$4,000 for individual filers and \$8,000 for a joint return). Whether these proposals will be made final in 2022 is still unknown, but what is certain is unrestricted cash donations have a strong immediate impact to an institution.

Legacy gifts

Thinking past current year tax deductions, charitable giving to save on estate and gift taxes can be a great way to maximize generational wealth transfer. There are a multitude of options available and customizable for individual estate needs.

As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is always advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile and to consult your tax advisor. Jewish Federation of Tulsa does not offer tax planning advice. ■

ISRAEL AT SEVENTY-FIVE

by Chen Shoval, Israeli Emissary

It has been almost seventy-five years since David Ben-Gurion rushed into the art museum on Dizengoff Street in Tel Aviv. It was a Friday afternoon, a few hours before Shabbat, and the Arab forces were about to attack from the south. Only a few people were invited to the event and it was supposed to be a secret, but when David Ben-Gurion pulled up, the street was already crowded with people. The chairs from the coffee shop next-door filled the museum, and everybody nervously and excitedly waited for the highly anticipated statement from Ben Gurion, “We announced the establishment of the Jewish state in the Land of Israel—this is the state of Israel.” Moments later the Israeli philharmonic played Hatikvah and the crowd inside and outside the museum, danced the Hora, filled with joy. A day later, the British mandate was over and five Arab nations’ armies joined the local Arab forces in the war against Israel. Moments after the British left Israel, Harry Truman and the United States recognized the new state. Since then, Jewish communities around the world celebrate this day, as Israel’s Independence Day.

It is clear to me why there are celebrations in Israel on Independence Day, but I find it fascinating that the Jewish communities across the United States have a great desire to celebrate Israeli Independence Day here as well. This shows that although we are scattered around the globe, speaking different languages and living in different cultures, we are still connected to each other as one people.

As Israel celebrates seventy-five years of independence, we will be having a variety of events in Tulsa celebrating the state of Israel. On Yom Ha’Atzmaut, April 25th, I will be in

Israel, leading a group of Young Jewish Professionals. There we will have the opportunity to celebrate Independence Day the Israeli way—in Tel Aviv, with shows, parties, and the IDF Airshow above the Tel Aviv shoreline. When I return, in the beginning of May, we will have a variety of celebratory events, to commemorate Israel’s Memorial Day (Yom HaZikaron) and Israel’s Independence Day (Yom Ha’Atzmaut). On that week we will host previous Shlicim that will join our celebration. My final months in Tulsa will focus on Camp Shalom and this year, as with years past, will be filled with both Israel and Hebrew content, making camp both a fun and educational experience for the kids.

I am very excited to welcome 2023 as we will start a new series, The Colors of Israel, showcasing multiculturalism in Israeli society and the diversity in the modern state of Israel. In each session, we will meet a different Israeli speaker sharing their personal and unique story. In addition to Israeli speakers, we will explore Israeli art, music, and film. The first session will be on January 9th where we will hear from Gadeer Kamal-Mreeh. Today, she is the Jewish Agency’s first Druze emissary to the United States, based in Washington D.C. Previously, she was elected to the Knesset as a member of the Blue and White party, making history as the first Druze woman to become a Member of the Knesset.

Join us to learn, experience, and explore the state of Israel’s diverse society and culture, and celebrate Israel’s seventy-five years of Independence. I hope to see you at all of our Israel programs in the coming year! ■



Colors of Israel Series • Part 1

Monday, January 9 • 7:00 pm • Central Library



Gadeer Kamal-Mreeh

Gadeer Kamal-Mreeh is the Jewish Agency’s first Druze emissary to the United States, based in Washington D.C.

Previously, she was elected to the Knesset as a member of the Blue and White party, making history as the first Druze woman to become a Member of the Knesset. During her tenure, she chaired the Caucus for Planning, Zoning and Industrial Areas, the Caucus for the Advancement of Druze Women and was a member of several committees. Kamal-Mreeh began working for the Israeli Broadcasting Corporation in 2011, where she hosted a program in Arabic that focused on social and cultural issues concerning Arab youth in Israel. She was selected to host the Israeli Broadcasting Corporation’s daily newscast in Arabic, and in 2017, she began anchoring its main Hebrew Saturday evening newscast, becoming the first non-Jewish anchorwoman in Israel to broadcast the evening news in Hebrew.

Kamal-Mreeh holds a degree with honors from Bar-Ilan University in Medical Imaging and Social Sciences and a master’s degree with honors in International Relations from Haifa University, specializing in negotiations and international relations decision-making.

UPCOMING EVENTS



The Lunch Bunch | Wednesday, December 7 | 12:00 pm | Jewish Federation of Tulsa

In this talk, The Honorable Rodger Randle will teach us about contemporary Oklahoma by looking at how our past formed who we are today. We will examine factors in Tulsa's past that contributed to our cultural formation. We will conclude by identifying changes occurring in Tulsa now and how and how these changes are already shaping our future.

RSVP and lunch purchase is required by December 5.

Register at jewishtulsa.org/lbdec7



Sisterhood Social Action Project with DVIS | Sunday, December 11 | 9:30 am

The sisterhood groups from Congregation B'nai Emunah Synagogue, Jewish Federation of Tulsa, and Temple Israel are partnering for a social action project with Domestic Violence Intervention Services (DVIS) at the outpatient counseling facility. Some of these projects include gift wrapping, assembling personal hygiene kits, and organizing their donations.

RSVP at jewishtulsa.org/sisterhoodsocialaction



PJ Library Hooray for Hanukkah Party | Thursday, December 15 | 5 - 8 pm | Jewish Federation of Tulsa

Calling PJ Library families for a fun evening of dinner and Hanukkah prep! Each child is invited to make a countdown menorah filled with goodies. We will have a play rug with toys for our littles joining us. This program is open from 5 - 8 pm, so come and go as you please. There will be food, snacks, toys, and craft activities to keep families of all ages engaged.

Register by December 11 at jewishtulsa.org/pjhanukkah



Young Jewish Professionals Hanukkah House Party | Saturday, December 17 | 7:00pm

Our annual Hanukkah celebration in collaboration with Tulsa Tomorrow is almost here. This year Hillary and Ben Aussenberg are graciously hosting the party in their home. We will have latkes with all the toppings, dreidels & gelt, games, music, food & drinks, and more.

RSVP at jewishtulsa.org/yjphanukkah

SAVE THE DATES

Colors of Israel Series - Part 1 | Monday, January 9 | 7:00 pm

Lunch Bunch with Biker's Against Child Abuse | Wednesday, January 11 | 12:00 pm

44th Annual Tulsa MLK Parade - March Together | Monday, January 16 | 11:00 am

MOMentum Trip Informational Meeting | Tuesday, January 24 | 7:00 pm

Young Jewish Professionals Dinner & Havdalah | Saturday, January 28 | 6:00 pm

Open Tables Interfaith Dinner | Sunday, January 29 | 5:30pm

Pearl Society "Period Poverty" | Thursday, February 2 | 7:00pm

Please contact Director of Programs Isabella Silberg with any questions.
isilberg@jewishtulsa.org 918.495.1100

Go to www.JewishTulsa.org/events to view a full calendar of events.

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BRINGING LIGHT ON DARK TIMES

by Sarah Winkelman, Digital Marketing Associate

On the 84th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass, the greater Tulsa community gathered together to hear from four speakers about their experience with the Holocaust. Dr. Marcel Binstock, Mieke Epps, Sue Ginsburg, and Eva Unterman shared their personal and family's stories of survival in Europe during World War II. It is a unique and increasingly rare experience to be able to hear first-hand experiences about the Holocaust. It is inspiring to hear from these speakers about their family's resilience and perseverance to overcome and make it out of Europe to start new lives after the liberation. I cannot thank these four incredible people enough for sharing their stories with the packed audience. These stories encourage me to go out and do more in the community, to build partnerships, and to teach others about the rich history of the Jewish people.

Over the last few months, I have been traveling around Tulsa to different middle and high schools giving lessons on Holocaust education and Kristallnacht. The Jewish Federation of Tulsa hosts a series of student art and writing competitions throughout the school year. The first one is the Kristallnacht art contest for 6-12 graders. The theme this year is Moral Courage, and the art must show their knowledge of the Holocaust, Kristallnacht, and represent the theme. We recognized all six winners in attendance for their creativity portraying Moral Courage through a variety of artforms.



Eva Unterman speaking to the audience

The winners from the high school division are:

1st place - Lauren McCormick of Edison High School; Sponsoring Teacher Julie Thomas

2nd place - Greyson Gursky of Cascia Hall; Sponsoring Teacher Ariana Brandes

3rd place - Cadence Kinney of Broken Arrow High School; Sponsoring Teacher Brett Gray

The winners from the middle school division are:

1st place - Charlie Hensley of Rejoice Christian School; Sponsoring Teacher Anita Yocum

2nd place - Rachel Purifoy of Rejoice Christian School; Sponsoring Teacher Anita Yocum

3rd place - Lorelei Efaw of Cascia Hall; Sponsoring Teacher Zac Livingston

"Never Again" is the phrase associated with the Holocaust, promising that the world will never forget what happened to European Jews of the 1930s and 1940s. It encourages people to study and learn about the horrors of this time and make sure history never repeats itself. As verbal and physical acts of antisemitism continue to rise in America and around the world, we must continue to educate one another about the history of our ancestors. It is all of our duty to ensure bigotry and injustices are fought and struck down from the very beginning. As Eva Unterman said at the end of her speech, "please study, study!" to ensure a vibrant and everlasting future for the Jewish people. ■



Kristallnacht student art contest winners

Upcoming Exhibitions:

Retrospective: Donna Matles - February 2023

A collection of jewelery, woodworks, and more by Jewish artist Donna Matles (of blessed memory).

Will Eisner Comic Fest - March 2023

Our sixth comic festival honoring Jewish cartoonist Will Eisner. This year we are teaming up with OKPOP Museum!

Upon thy gates: Mezuzot Collection - September 2023

Showcasing the eclectic range of styles, materials and Jewish symbols found in mezuzot around the world.

Stories of Survival: Object-image-memory - February 2023

More than 60 personal artifacts brought to America by Survivors of the Holocaust and other genocides, never before on display.

Yom HaShoah Art Contests : Moral Courage - April 2023

An Oklahoma-wide call for student art submissions. This year's focus is on moral courage as exemplified by the Ritchie Boys, or other persons during the Holocaust who displayed this admirable trait. High school and middle school contests include a visual arts division and our White Rose Memorial Essay Contest.

16th Annual Purim Mask Art Contest - March 2023

A Tulsa-wide call for student art submissions in celebration of Purim.



Hanukia by Donna Matles



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Questions about 2023 membership? Contact Tracey Herst-Woods, 918.492.1818 or development@jewishmuseum.net or join online at Jewishmuseumtulsa.org.

THE FIVE PILLARS OF THE MILLER MUSEUM GALA

by Tracey Herst-Woods, Deputy Director of the SMMJA and
Lynn Goldberg, co-chair of the SMMJA Gala

On Sunday, October 30, 2022 the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art held its 56th annual gala, The Five Pillars of the Miller Museum, honoring six outstanding individuals and institutions that have strengthened the museum, Brina Reinstein (Volunteer), Charlotte Schuman (Education), Donna Matles of blessed memory (Art), Alan and David Livingston (History) and The Tulsa Historical Society lead by Michelle Place (Partnership). The Five Pillars exemplify the important fundamentals of the Museum's success and mission.

The Barbara and Dave Sylvan Auditorium was elegantly transformed into a gorgeous setting with blue and white hydrangea centerpieces, soft candles, and the Five Pillars projected onto the walls. The room was elegant and celebratory—a fitting setting for this special evening. David Patterson, SMMJA Chair, welcomed guests before Rabbi Dan Kaiman offered the invocation. After a delicious dinner catered by Chef Devin Levine of the Cox Convention Center, Dr. Marc Goldberg (Gala Co-Chair) introduced emcee for the evening, Ginnie Graham, Tulsa World Editorial Editor. Ms. Graham expertly summarized

each of the 5 Pillars' contributions to the museum followed by a short video highlighting each honoree. Deputy Director of the SMMJA, Tracey Herst-Woods, presented each honoree with a personalized engraved plaque featuring the Five Pillars graphic. Closing the gala were remarks from Aida Nozick, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa and Lynn Goldberg, Gala Co-Chair. The evening concluded with the benediction by Rabbi Michael Weinstein.

A special THANK YOU to gala co-chairs Dr. Marc and Lynn Goldberg, emcee Ginnie Graham, SMMJA President David Patterson, Tracey Herst-Woods, and all the event patrons and sponsors for your generous contributions. The gala supports educational, cultural, and historical programs, as well as Museum operations to further the mission of preserving and promoting Jewish heritage, culture, history, and community through art and education. The SMMJA community and supporters are the reason the Museum continues to thrive and succeed. THANK YOU!



Front Row [left to right] Marc Goldberg, Brina Reinstein, Charlotte Schuman, Alan Livingston, Gail Matles Kirkland, Michelle Place.

Back Row [left to right] Lynn Goldberg, Aida Nozick, Tracey Herst-Woods

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as of 11/22/2022

MY FITNESS JOURNEY

by Benny Ortiz

I started playing sports at a very young age. I always had a ball in my hand or was being active in some way. I did not truly get into fitness as a hobby or even as a career until later on. I had moments where I was hooked but then would lose focus after a while. The passion I have for fitness didn't come until a few years ago when I was determined to get back to being active on a daily basis. I continue to be on my fitness journey. I've come a long way and plan on going even farther. Going through my own journey helped me realize that I want to help people start and continue to be the healthiest and best versions of themselves.

I have four fitness classes available in the evenings Monday through Thursday. On Monday and Wednesday the class is bootcamp. Bootcamp class is at 6pm. It is a full body workout that will keep your heart rate up and work on your endurance. Bootcamp is one of my favorite workouts, and I am so excited to be teaching these classes! The Tuesday and Thursday class is circuit training. This class is at 8pm. If you are a beginner and need a helping hand to get started, this class is perfect for you. I design a personalized workout plan for everyone in the class, so you can target your personal needs and reach your fitness goals!

When I am not teaching classes, I am in the fitness center getting a good weight training workout in. I am looking forward to seeing you all the evening classes and getting to know everyone better! ■



Benny Ortiz Fitness Instructor

December Fitness Challenge : Better Together

All December, join us for any fitness class and be entered to win one of five \$50 gift cards to the business of your choice. This means any time you come to a fitness class at the CSJCC during the month of December, you will get your name in the drawing for another chance to win. Come one, come all! Bump up your odds of winning and pump up your muscles at the same time!

Contact Fitness Manager, Hannah Bakewell, to join the challenge.
Fitness@jewishtulsa.org or at the fitness desk.

Camp Shalom "School's Out" Winter Break Camp

Camp Shalom's School's Out Camp is back! We are hosting our Winter Break Camp on December 19-23 and 27-30. Available for children between the ages of 3 years old and 10th grade. Limited space available.

\$50 per child for a day full of fun activities with friends!

Register online at www.csjcc.org/schools-out-programs

Contact Martha Kelley, Deputy Director of CSJCC, with any questions at mkelley@jewishtulsa.org.



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HEALTHY SPAGHETTI

SQUASH BAKE

by Sarah Winkelman

Health and Wellness is not just about exercising regularly! To incorporate full body wellness, we have to take care of ourselves through food. One of my favorite ways to do this is to use fruits and veggies that are in season and create hearty and delicious meals from them. Spaghetti squash is in prime season right now, which means it is inexpensive and ripe. This recipe includes lots of veggies to hit your daily nutrition value goals, while also bursting with flavor! When it's all done, it looks like regular spaghetti, so it should be easy to sneak it past your picky kid's palette! I hope you enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 1 white onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 pound ground turkey
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 Tbsp tomato paste
- ½ cup salsa
- 1 pound spaghetti squash
- Oil of choice- I like avocado oil or olive oil
- 1 tsp cumin
- Salt and pepper – to taste
- Optional seasonings
- Garlic powder
- Onion powder
- Dried sage
- Dried thyme
- Ground ginger
- Chili powder



Instructions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Halve spaghetti squash (lengthwise for shorter “noodles,” width-wise for longer “noodles”), and scoop out the seeds.

Drizzle oil over both halves, season with salt and pepper. Poke a few holes with a fork in the skin of the squash and place it skin side up on a baking sheet or dish. Bake for 30-40 minutes.

While squash is baking, sauté onion and peppers in large skillet for 3-5 minutes. Set aside. In the same pan, sauté ground turkey and season with cumin, salt, pepper, and any other seasonings. When turkey is almost fully browned, add garlic and tomato paste. Mix well. Add cooked onion and peppers and salsa, stir.

Now that spaghetti squash is cooked, scrape inside to create strands and make “noodles.” Spread in bottom of a baking dish. Mix in the turkey and veggie mix. Bake at 350 for 15 minutes to meld flavors together. Serve warm and enjoy!

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HOW JEWISH DAY SCHOOL SHAPED MY LIFE

by Jillian Roberts, Mizel JCDS Board Member

A few months ago, I was asked if I would consider being on the board for Mizel Jewish Day School. I thought to myself, "What qualifications do I have to be on their board?" After Zooming with a current board member to see if I would be a good fit, I started to reflect on my own experiences attending Greenfield Day School in Miami, FL and how my Jewish education shaped the person I am today. I have many identities: audiologist, daughter, sister, friend, runner. One of the identities I take the most pride in is being Jewish. I believe that my deep-rooted pride and delight in being Jewish stems from my Jewish day school education.

I remember my siblings and I piling into my father's tan Suburban each morning in our embroidered school uniforms, excited for another day of school. I remember beginning each day in the cafeteria with daily prayers, mesmerized by the sound of the whole school singing Modeh Ani in unison. I remember learning to read and write in English while simultaneously learning to read and write in Hebrew. I remember small class sizes and feeling like my voice was heard. I remember dressing up for Purim and acting out weekly Torah portions. I remember passionate teachers who instilled a love of learning for which I am forever grateful.

I truly believe that attending a small, Jewish day school shaped me into the person I am today. It instilled a love of learning that carried me all the way to a doctorate degree. It gave me community and friends who were just like me in a world that is not always kind to Jews. It set a foundation of Jewish identity and learning that inspired me to stay involved with the Jewish community thereafter, from BBYO to Hillel to the community here in Tulsa. It gave me the skills to breeze through Bat Mitzvah learning and even the ability to chant Haftorah at the Synagogue Sisterhood Shabbat last year with ease. It taught me values that are forever engrained in my daily life like Tzdekah and Tikkun Olam.

So when asked if I would support Mizel Jewish Day School and serve on their board, there was no hesitation to say "yes" knowing what role this school can play in the lives of the Jewish youth in Tulsa. Now more than ever, I feel it is so important to instill a strong sense of Jewish identity into the future of the Jewish community in Tulsa. I have been impressed by the leadership, growth, dedication, and intentionality of all the Mizel staff and board, and I cannot wait to see how the school continues to flourish and shape the Jewish youth of Tulsa. ■



Jillian Roberts at 7 years old



Charlie Drouin

Charles Leo Drouin Bar Mitzvah

Charles Leo Drouin, son of Sarah and Jeffrey Drouin, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 3rd, at Congregation B'nai Emunah.

Charlie is a 7th-grade student at Carver Middle School, where he plays Saxophone and participates on the debate team. When not immersed in video games, he plays on the Ninjas baseball team and is an active member of Boy Scout Troop 20. Charlie has attended B'nai Emunah Sunday school since kindergarten. For the past year, he has been preparing for his Bar Mitzvah under the tutoring of Elliot Wulff and the guidance of Morah Sara.

As he leads the Shabbat service, Charlie will be surrounded by his family and friends, including his brother, Jack, and out-of-town family from Massachusetts, the District of Columbia, Washington state, Florida, and New York. Charlie is the grandson of Edward De Vos and Judy Schechtman of Newton, MA, Phyllis Brawarsky and Noah Fasten of Brookline, MA and Barbara and Donald Drouin of Naples, FL.

The community is invited to join the Drouin family for services at 9:30 a.m. in person at Congregation B'nai Emunah or on Zoom. The meeting ID is 918-583-7121. ■

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Jillian Roberts at the 2022 Jewish Federation of Tulsa annual campaign kickoff

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THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH DELI ©

by Phil Goldfarb

The birth of the American Jewish deli occurred in the 1840s after waves of immigrants settled predominantly on the Lower East Side in New York City. Traditionally, a delicatessen or "deli" is a retail establishment that sells a selection of fine, exotic, gourmet, or foreign prepared foods. The delicatessen originated in Germany (called *Delikatessen*) during the 18th century and spread to the United States as European immigrants to the United States, especially Ashkenazi Jews, popularized the delicatessen in American culture.

The first delis that were reminiscent of what we know today drew from the culinary traditions of non-Jewish Germans, who were already serving items like cold cuts, sausages, pickled herring, and dill pickles. Yiddish-speaking Eastern European immigrants pulled from some of these dishes while adding some of their own, including pastrama, (later called pastrami) a dish native to Romania, brought traditional foods and incorporated kosher laws. Early delicatessens in New York catered to the German immigrant population living there. As the German-Jewish population increased in New York City during the mid to late 1800s, kosher delicatessens began to open.

No one really ate like this back in Eastern Europe as most Jewish families rarely ate out, didn't have much money, and many deli items were considered delicacies. Huge sandwiches stuffed high with fatty cured meats and doused with mustard were not the common diet of Jews in "The Old Country." The first Yiddish-run delis were quite like the German ones, except pork and dairy were removed to remain kosher. Because cheap beef was prevalent in New York City, corned beef became a popular dish, made with brisket preserved in brine. A Jewish deli serves various traditional dishes in Ashkenazi Jewish cuisine and are typically known for their sandwiches such as pastrami on rye, as well as their soups such as matzo ball soup, among other dishes which has been adapted to local taste preferences. Jewish delicatessens serve a variety of dishes, while many are kosher-certified, some are kosher-style and do not mix meat and dairy in the same dish, while others serve food with no dietary restrictions such as the Reuben sandwich. Jewish delis feature prominently in Jewish culture, as well as in general American popular culture.

The first Jewish American deli in New York City was Katz's according to Ted Merwin in *Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli*, which opened in 1888. There are records of a few Jewish delis popping up in the late 1800s, though, and across the country in



pastrami sandwich

the very early 1900s. It was only in the 1920s that the deli became a celebrated gathering place in Jewish and American life and the signature sandwiches a standard.

Delis became a part of the Jewish foodscape when they began opening in New York's Theater District, attracting many leading Jewish and non-Jewish actors and performers. Jews relied on the deli as a social space to avoid antisemitism prevalent in the 1910s and 1920s where they could also immerse themselves in celebrity culture. The Jewish deli shifted more toward a sit-down restaurant during this time, and they achieved great success during the Great Depression.

Ratner's was one of the earliest delis in New York City to attain national attention, often regarded as a complement to Katz's Deli because it did not serve meat. It was founded in 1905 and was known for its cheese blintzes, potato pancakes, gefilte fish, and onion rolls. Reuben's was open for almost 100 years, starting in 1908. The restaurant named sandwiches after celebrities, and Reuben's even played a small role in the 1919 Black Sox scandal as the meeting place for some of the planning including top Jewish gangster Arnold Rothstein.

Barney Greengrass, although today more an appetizing store, opened in 1908 in Harlem, specializing in smoked fish including sturgeon and salmon. It was one of the first stores uptown to serve American Jewish fare, and

crowds built up over the years. Lindy's was one of the most famous delis, opening in 1921. Eisenberg's opened in 1929, while many were founded during the Great Depression including Stage Deli in 1937, B&H Dairy in 1938, and Carnegie Deli in 1937. There were hundreds of others that operated across the five boroughs during their heyday, but most have been lost to time.

Jewish delis became increasingly popular as Jews became more secular, and served as meeting places to talk politics, hold community meals, and even meet spouses. World War II took a toll on these delis, some of which lost significant business and faced meat shortages. Though, many delis banded together, supporting one another during tough times (which might be why many delis feature similar features, including furniture, decorations, and architectural layout).

The delicatessen became the primary gathering place. Sunday night in the Jewish deli at times replaced Friday night in the synagogue. In the theatre district, Jewish delis expanded in popularity among celebrities, increasing morale in the Jewish community.

"These were places where Jews could not only rub shoulders with the stars of the stage and screen of the day, but places where they could actually feel like they were becoming almost like celebrities themselves," says Merwin. "Sense of celebrity of importance of having finally arrived in America."

The 1950s and 1960s were two difficult decades for delis in New York City. Many dozens had already closed, although Second Avenue Deli opened in 1954 while 24-hour Sarge's Delicatessen & Diner opened in 1964. Following World War II, many Jews moved from predominantly Jewish parts of New York City to other cities, bringing with them the deli. The rise of suburbanization limited interactions between Jews and thus made it more difficult for delis to survive.

Because kosher meat was (and still is) expensive to buy and prepare, profit margins at delis were quite small, so when clientele dropped, many could not sustain themselves unless they pulled from other cuisines.

Delis continued to close throughout major cities in the 1970s and 1980s, when people became more health-conscious and less willing to try these cholesterol and fat-heavy sandwiches and made the deli somewhat of a relic of the past. Ultimately, immigration slowed to New York City, and the deli struggled to modernize while holding onto recipes of the past, especially amid a rapidly modernizing city. The decline of the deli as an independent retail establishment was most noted in New York City. From a high in the 1930s of about 1,500 Jewish delicatessens to only about two dozen delis

today (and just a handful in each of the country's major cities).

Ben's Best, Carnegie Deli, and Fine & Schapiro in NYC, Ashkenaz in Chicago as well as Greenblatts and Juniors in L.A. have all closed in the last several years.

However, over the past two decades or so, modern Jewish delis have started to open and old ones are being glorified in movies and TV shows like *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Deuce*, and *Billions*. Because of this, the deli is undergoing a revitalization and a modernization that will hopefully keep tradition alive. ■



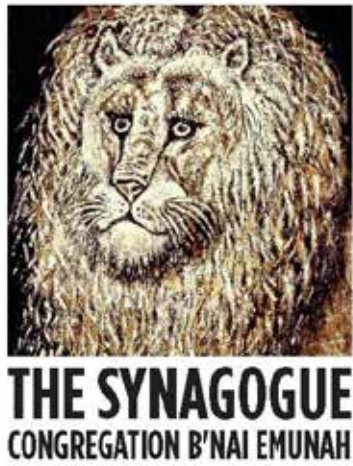
Carnegie Deli

Next Jewish Genealogy Meeting: The History of Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism refers to the prejudice and/or discrimination against Jews as individuals and as a group. While the actual term "anti-Semitism" was not coined until 1873, scurrilous attacks against Jews have been going on for centuries. In recent years, there has been an upsurge of anti-Semitism around the world, which is a great concern for every American and particularly every Jewish-American, especially as we move further and further away from the lessons of the Holocaust and WWII. Overall antisemitic incidents increased over 34 percent last year, while attacks against synagogues and JCC's increased 61 percent.

Join us for the next Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa meeting on Sunday, December 11 from 2:00-3:00 in the Dan Room of the CSJCC when the topic "The History of Anti-Semitism" will be presented. New members are always welcome.

For questions, contact Phil Goldfarb, President of the JGS of Tulsa at: phil.goldfarb@cox.net



Bibi-Dibi: Shabbat for Little Ones
Friday December 2 • 5:30 p.m.
Celebration • 6:00 p.m. Dinner

Crawling? Barely walking? Not yet talking? There's a place for you in our circle at Bibi-Dibi. It's a monthly Shabbat gathering for babies and their families. We sing songs, play games, and share a beautiful Shabbat dinner. We see this as an excellent way to build your own family traditions. While no reservation is necessary for the celebration, we ask that you make reservations by calling or visiting our website if you plan to join us for the meal.

Lifelong Learners
Wednesday, December 19 • 11:30 a.m.

Ageless seniors from every corner of the community are invited to join Rabbi Kaiman at the Synagogue for lunch and rabbinic storytelling from the literature of our civilization. The session will begin at 11:30 a.m., and a bus leaves from Zarrow Pointe at 11:00 a.m. each time. No charge for transportation (you may, of course, come in your vehicle), and lunch from Queenie's will be provided. It's our pleasure to provide this service in cooperation with our fellow Jewish institution. Please reserve your spot by calling the Synagogue at 918-583-7121 or emailing programs@bnaiemunah.com.

Touro Shabbat: Honoring the Adelsons
Friday, December 16 • 7:00 p.m.

Congregation B'nai Emunah is delighted to announce that its 2022 Touro Award honorees will be Dr. Steve and Ellen Adelson. A joyful celebration in their honor will take place in person and on live digital broadcast on Friday evening, December 16. The entire community is invited to be present in tribute to the Adelson Family. A

sweet and savory kiddush reception will follow the service. Please RSVP by visiting the Synagogue website.



HONORING THE ADELSONS
AT THE SYNAGOGUE ON DECEMBER 16 at 7PM

Winterlight Chanukah Festival
Sunday, December 18 • 5:30 p.m.

Let loose outside as we light up the night. We'll pour into the street in front of the Synagogue for an electronic dance party, fried foods, interactive light installations, and a communal candle-lighting. Activities for kids with a special focus on sustainability will punctuate the experience. Dress warmly for this outdoor party which starts at 5:30 p.m.

Chanukah at the Gathering Place
Thursday, December 22 • 4:00 p.m.

In partnership with the greatest park in the universe, we're excited to light the menorah, sing songs, and celebrate Chanukah amidst our neighbors and friends. Performances from Klay Kodesh, the Synagogue's musical ensemble, and Zemer, our youth choir, will punctuate the evening. With candle-lighting and kid-friendly sustainability activities adding to the experience, this will be one wonderful way to connect with community during Chanukah.

24 for 24: Meals for Hospice Families
Friday, December 23 • Sign Up Online

Volunteers will help prepare and deliver 24 complete turkey Christmas meals for families in hospice care who may not have the ability to provide a festive holiday meal for themselves. Kitchen

volunteers will cook a meal worthy of the season, and later a separate group will make delivery of the hot Christmas eve meals to the homes of the recipient families. If you'd like to be part of 24 for 24 by cooking earlier in the day, or by delivering meals visit tulsagogue.com to sign up online.

CookieBake 2022
Friday, December 23 • Sign Up Online

We invite all members of the community to bake their favorite cookies and bars at home for this project any time during the month of December. If you begin early, please wrap your contribution securely and freeze it at home. The Synagogue only stores items baked in our own kitchens. Please drop your baked goods to the Synagogue on December 23, before 10:00 a.m. We will tray everything for eventual distribution to hospital emergency rooms, waiting rooms, police and fire stations, the Ronald McDonald house—wherever essential services are offered on Christmas Day. If you'd like to participate in CookieBake 2022 by baking, traying, or delivering, again visit tulsagogue.com to sign up online.

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

Each week, we gather to experience traditional daily prayer and establish a quiet space for those mourning a loved one or observing the anniversary of a loss (yahrtzeit). All use these opportunities to recite a communal Mourner's Kaddish. Both gatherings take place in the Synagogue's Davis-Goodall Chapel, with full participation available both in-person and through the Synagogue Zoom Room. We ask that in-person attendees register in advance on our website. Friday gatherings always occur in the Synagogue Zoom Room at 918 583 7121.

Shabbat Morning Services
Every Saturday • 9:30 a.m.

Each week, we convene on Saturday morning to sing the liturgy of the tradition, study the weekly Torah portion, and spend time amongst family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this experience in person or on Zoom. Members and friends can access the Synagogue Zoom Room at 918 583 7121.

BLATT + BLUE: HALLELUJAH | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Leonard Cohen's great anthem, "Hallelujah," was a source of agony for its composer. By all reports, it took him two decades to write and refine, and then it was rejected by his record company, Columbia. Even a cover by Bob Dylan did nothing for its popularity. Not until it was featured in the animated film, Shrek, did it come to the attention of the public.

Like much about Cohen's career, the song has since swept millions more listeners along with its words and cadences. It is also part of the composer's growing influence. Cohen's hometown, Montreal, now claims him as a kind of hometown hero, and much is being made of his Jewish upbringing, influences, and impact. The whole of this story is the core around which filmmakers Daniel Geller and Dana Goldfein have wrapped their documentary.

All of this will be matter for discussion in the next session of Blatt + Blue on December 8 at 7:00 p.m. Potential participants can see the film for a small rental fee on Amazon Prime and other platforms. Call the Synagogue at (918) 583-7121 if you have any difficulty locating the program at home.

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 without a break for thirty-four months, spotlighting a diverse and provocative roster of films and television. The series expresses the Synagogue's commitments to an inclusive and pluralistic

vision of the Jewish world. No single endeavor can capture the whole of the Jewish experience. No single institution can exhaust the rich possibilities of Jewish life. 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 episodes themselves. After that, it's questions and comments from the Zoom Room audience.

Join the discussion in the Synagogue Zoom Room. The Zoom meeting ID is 918 583 7121 and the session will conclude at 8:00 p.m. If there is a film or broadcast you'd like to see in these sessions in the future, please reach out to Rabbi Marc Fitzerman at marboofitz@bnaiemunah.com. ■



LIGHT, SUSTAINABILITY, AND MORE

The essential demand of Chanukah is that we demonstrate our Jewish values and identity in the public square. The tradition asks us to light the menorah so that all can see its glow. We orient ourselves toward our neighbors and friends so that we can publicize the beauty of this season and share joyously in a moment of celebration.

For Chanukah 2022, the Synagogue will host two signature moments that we want to share with the whole community. On Sunday, December 18, at 5:30 p.m., we will occupy the street in front of the Synagogue with our Winterlight Chanukah Festival. With electronic music, fried food, and interactive light displays, we'll celebrate the first night of the holiday in the best way we know how: one gigantic party! The evening will culminate with a performance from Zemer, the Synagogue's youth choir, and communal candle-lighting. Dress warmly for this exciting outdoor event.

On Thursday, December 22, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., the Synagogue is proud to partner with the Gathering Place to bring our celebrations into focus alongside their

other winter holiday programming. Klay Kodesh, the Synagogue's musical ensemble, and Zemer, our youth choir, will both perform at this event. Educational and art projects will help engage the broader community in building an understanding of diversity and inclusion during this time of year. Of course, this program will also culminate with communal candle-lighting as we celebrate the fifth night of the festival.

Finally, as the Synagogue considers the themes of light, oil, and festivity this Chanukah season, we encourage all of Tulsa to think broadly about the themes of sustainability embedded in this holiday. The miracle of Chanukah is that limited resources lasted much longer than any of us could have expected. As we work to protect our planet, we have the same obligation to make sure our own limited resources last for many generations to come. In addition to gift giving, candles, and parties, please consider donating to the Eva Unterman Environmental Education Fund at Congregation B'nai Emunah, which will underwrite our sustainability activities throughout this Chanukah season. ■



Challenges of Reform Judaism on Zoom • Dec., 1, 8, 15 & 22 • 2:00 p.m.

Join us as we look at the societal challenges the Reform Movement has faced throughout American history. From the ethical question of slavery during the Civil War era, to Interfaith Marriage in the synagogue; from the early foundations of Zionism, to the Jewish response to LGBT in the latter 20th century; from the 1950's Encouragement to seek out the Convert, to the 1970's Rabbinical Ordination of Women. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Shabbat Learning Through the Ages on Zoom • Sat., Dec. 3 • 10:30 a.m.

Borrowing from our Temple Israel monthly Shabbat morning experience, we will join to study and learn from one another. We will explore Torah and Traditional Rabbinical texts based on themes of this week's Parsha, Torah Reading. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

Tot Shabbat in person • Fri., Dec. 9 • 6:00 p.m.

During Tot Shabbat Rabbi Jasper creates a sacred space for our young families with songs, prayers, and an activity. Stay for the complimentary dinner. RSVP by Tues., Dec. 6. Contact Rabbi Jasper at rabbitzvia@templetulsa.com for more information.

Zarrow Pointe Shabbat Service • Fri., Dec. 9 • 6:45 p.m.

We cordially invite all those who wish to join us for this meaningful Friday evening service with music, held in the Burnstein Auditorium at Zarrow Pointe. We welcome not only Temple members and Zarrow Pointe residents, but all other friends in our community who would appreciate being together on Shabbat.

Shabbat Service w/Torah in person, on Zoom & Facebook Live • Fri., Dec. 9 & 23 • 7:30 p.m.

Join the Temple Israel Clergy Team in person or online as we welcome in Shabbat with the chanting of Torah. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

TJ's Event • Sun., Dec. 11 • 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Kids and students ages 4-13 yrs. are invited to join Rabbi Jasper at Discovery Lab for a fun and educational afternoon. Cost is \$15 per person, includes lunch. Rsvp at www.templetulsa.com/rsvp.

Zamru L'Shabbat: Hanukkah Edition Haneirot Hallelu • Fri., Dec. 16 • 6:00 p.m.

Celebrate with Cantor Weinstein, Cantorial Soloist Jenny Labow, and Elijah's Minor Prophets, in person or online as we welcome Shabbat & Hanukkah with joyous holiday songs! Arrive at 5:30 p.m. for a pre-oneg. RSVP to rsvp@templetulsa.com for the Zoom link.

1st night Hanukkah Lighting • Sun., Dec. 18 • 5:00 p.m.

We will gather on the Temple Israel lawn to light our Hanukkah on this 1st night of Hanukkah. Come and enjoy sufganiyot, hot chocolate, and joyous Hanukkah songs. All are welcome!

Canvas and Cocktails • Mon., Dec. 19 • 7:00 p.m.

Join our first Canvas and Cocktails event. This year Temple Israel will be hosting a fun event in our building, Canvas and Cocktails. Rabbi Jasper and Cantor Weinstein will guide you through creative art and learning with a particular topic appropriate for the time of year. For a small fee, we will include your supplies; all you will need to bring is your camaraderie. Cocktails and mocktails provided

as well as snacks. Watch our iTinerary for cost and RSVP date.

lgbTI Game Night • Thurs., Dec. 15 • 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

LGBTQIA and Allies are invited to a free Game Night at Temple Israel! Bring your favorite board game and enjoy snacks and beverages. If you don't have a board game, don't worry, we have plenty! RSVP to rabbijasper@templetulsa.com.

HANUKKAH HAPPENINGS

Temple Israel's list of scheduled activities

- Friday, December 16 - 6:00 p.m.
*Haneirot Hallelu
Zamru L'Shabbat
with Elijah's Minor Prophets*
- Sunday, December 18 - 5:00 p.m.
Community Hanukiah Lighting
- Monday, December 19 - 7:00 p.m.
Canvas & Cocktails (Mocktails, too!)
- Wednesday, December 21 - 6:30 p.m.
Hanukkah Young Family Event
- Friday, December 23 - 7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Evening Service with Torah

JOIN US AS WE WELCOME

Rabbi Tzvia Jasper

TO TEMPLE ISRAEL'S FAMILY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 7:30 PM

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

Special guest Rabbi Elyse Goldstein
With a "Tzvia Takes the Cake" oneg

TULSA TOMORROW INVITES 17 PARTICIPANTS ON SEMIANNUAL TRIP TO TULSA

by Rebekah Kantor, Executive Director at Tulsa Tomorrow

As Tulsa Tomorrow embarks on its fifth year in existence, it only seems right to honor our mission with a cohort of young adults who were ready to explore a new city as their potential home. Priding ourselves on being a diverse community, our most recent group of visitors consisted of individuals from the U.S. and Canada, all with Jewish identities from Modern Orthodox to interfaith relationships. As with all our groups, we had participants from virtually every region of the country exploring Tulsa for whatever reason relates to them, whether it's a lifestyle change or desire to be closer to friends and family in the area. Regardless, the 17 individuals we welcomed to Tulsa explored our city with an open mind and received the trip of a lifetime.

A true Tulsa Tomorrow weekend doesn't lack the experience of dinner in the home of a local. Not only did we enjoy Havdalah outdoors in the fall weather at the Charney's, but we also had a meaningful Shabbat dinner in my home. Nothing says "Welcome to Tulsa" more than being welcomed into community members' homes! To further introduce our group to the Jewish community, clergy from Chabad, Congregation B'nai Emunah, and Temple Israel provided their insight on their congregations and community involvement. Our cohort took a self-guided tour of The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art and received a brief overview of all that the Charles Schusterman Jewish Community Center and Jewish Federation of Tulsa has to offer. Our

facilities are truly remarkable and state of the art...and has one of the only indoor pickleball courts in Tulsa!

Between driving through neighborhoods and walking the streets of downtown, it would be surprising if this wasn't one of the highlights of the trip. As always, an inspiring tour of the Gathering Place helps put the philanthropy of our city into perspective while highlighting the well-deserved title of "best city park in the country" when it opened.

You may be thinking, "well, what else? Did Tulsa Tomorrow highlight the culture here?" You bet we did. Several of our participants took an interest in the late-night activities of exploring the local bar scene or by attending one of our city's favorite seasonal festivals, Oktoberfest. Our early risers were given the opportunity to attend a morning hike at Turkey Mountain to catch the first taste of fall with the changing colors of the leaves. In addition to entertainment and extra curriculars, the group made visits to the ahha Museum, The Bob Dylan Center, Philbrook Museum, and Greenwood Rising.

In the three days we hosted our cohort, we were only able to scratch the surface of all that Tulsa has to offer. The main goal is to show that Tulsa is thriving, that there's a community here who wants them, and with that, we've been successful. Tulsa Tomorrow is already working with three of the participants who are actively pursuing relocation because of our efforts, and we look forward to many more in the future. ■



Tulsa Tomorrow participants visiting The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art.



Participants taking a walking tour of downtown Tulsa.

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