

Summer 2014

# CIRCA

Newsletter of the Goldring/ Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life

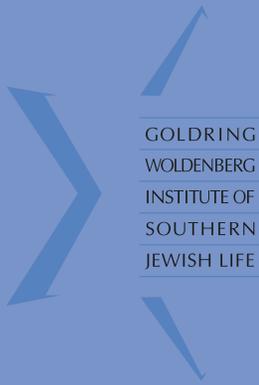


*Greetings* from

# THE SOUTH



*Y'all come visit!*



**ISJL Board of Directors**

Chairman Rayman L. Solomon  
 Secretary Minette H. Brown  
 Treasurer Robert Roubey  
 Immediate Past Chairman  
 Jay Tanenbaum  
 President Macy B. Hart

Imogene Berman  
 Janet Brueck  
 Laura Corman  
 Clay Crystal  
 Lynn Crystal  
 Alice Elgart  
 Pepe Prince Finn  
 Gail M. Goldberg  
 Ed Grauman  
 Joe Herzog  
 Jay Hesdorffer  
 Sally Schneider Huebscher  
 Lynette Perlman Koppel  
 Julius L. Levy, Jr.  
 Margaret Meyer  
 Joan Sadoff  
 Rachel Reagler Schulman  
 Spencer Simons  
 Joe Stein, Jr.  
 Mary L. Wiener  
 Kenny Zadeck

Emeritus  
 Kathryn Wiener

Ex-officio  
 Jay Lehmann  
 Leonard Rogoff

CIRCA Editor  
 Beth Kander–Dauphin  
 CIRCA Designer  
 Rachel Jarman Myers

**CIRCA**  
**Contents**

Chairman's column ..... 2  
 President's column..... 3  
 Community Engagement..... 4-5  
 Museum ..... 6-7  
 Education ..... 8  
 History ..... 9  
 Rabbinic ..... 10-11  
 On the Road ..... 12-13  
 Staff..... 14-15  
 Programming..... 16  
 ISJL Wish lists..... 17  
 Contributions & Tributes..... 18-21

## IN THIS ISSUE OF CIRCA...



If “Southern Hospitality” is legendary, “Southern Jewish Hospitality” is a legacy, and it’s one we’re proud to celebrate at the ISJL.

Every summer, we welcome community members from across the South and presenters from across the nation as they journey to Jackson, Mississippi, for our annual teacher training institute. The beloved “Ed Conference” has become a sacred pilgrimage for many, and a time when those from cities of all sizes can connect and plan for their year ahead.



But it’s not the only time we welcome visitors here.

In this issue of CIRCA, we’re celebrating Southern Jewish hospitality and all of the journeys to, through, and all around our Southern region. From Rabbis on the Road to the upcoming Freedom Summer 50th Anniversary, from tour groups to the home hospitality provided to our Education Fellows when they hit the road, welcoming visitors is a mitzvah we embody every day!



We’re also welcoming new staff, as we wish *n’siya tova* (safe journey) to our graduating Fellows and staff beginning their next adventures. We would love to welcome you, to come reconnect with your Southern Jewish heritage or have your first-ever Southern Jewish experience. Y’all come visit!

And don’t forget, even when you can’t visit us in person, you can always soak in the Southern Jewish Experience online! Be sure to check out our new website ([www.isjl.org](http://www.isjl.org)) and on social media you can ‘like’ the ISJL’s Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/TheISJL](http://www.facebook.com/TheISJL)) and follow us on Twitter (@TheISJL), where you can always see what’s going on, right now, in the Jewish South.



## Chairman's Message



Message from  
ISJL Board Chair  
Rayman L. Solomon

This is my last CIRCA column. It has been my privilege for the past five years to serve as Chair of the Board of the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life.

This summer, I will be turning the gavel over to Rachel Reagler Schulman, and step down as chair, though I will continue to serve the ISJL as an executive board member.

It has been an eventful five years. Following the market crash in 2008, the ISJL experienced a downturn in support, which affected many of our funders' portfolios and thus their giving. Rather than cut our innovative programs, the Board decided to use our reserves to cover our shortfalls. We managed to work through this difficult period, and were helped out in 2013 when the Legacy Heritage Foundation offered us a 50% match challenge, if we could raise \$1 million in three months. We met the challenge, and were able to build back our reserves and continue to fulfill our mission to deliver quality Jewish programs to all of our community partners.

We did far more, however, than simply maintain the status quo. During this period we also re-examined all aspects of our programs and our processes. With the assistance of a consultant, we revised our strategic plan. This resulted in an overhaul of our bylaws, the reinvigoration and regularization of our committee structure, and an improvement in our communications. It also led to some imaginative proposals for increasing revenue through such program innovations as our Southern Jewish Heritage Tours.

None of these accomplishments during this period – in fact, none since the beginning of the ISJL – could have occurred without the ISJL's amazing staff.

It begins with our creative and visionary President, Macy Hart. I do not think there can be an executive of any organization who is more dedicated to that enterprise than Macy is to the Institute. He demonstrated all of these qualities in successfully meeting our challenge grant in three months. He is the consummate leader and friend.

Our COO Michele Schipper has flawlessly overseen all projects and personnel matters. The professional staff leads our departments with dedication, intelligence, and excellence. Many thanks to Rachel Stern, Rabbi Marshal Klaven, Rabbi Matt Dreffin, Malkie Schwartz, Stuart Rockoff, Josh Parshall, Rachel Jarman Myers, Beth Kander-Dauphin, and Ann Zivitz Kientz. I am also grateful to Nonnie Campbell, Betsy Samuels, Lynda Yule, and Shirley Eriksen for their extraordinary administrative skills.

During my five years as Board Chair, I have also worked with our group of bright, enthusiastic Education Fellows. They have helped make our Education Program a national model, and we are proud that so many of them are now pursuing careers as professionals in Jewish organizations throughout the country.

My fellow Board Members have been terrific partners, and I thank each of them; those currently serving and those who have rotated off. Each has provided extraordinary service, giving their time and wise counsel in helping to guide the organization.

I am delighted that Rachel Schulman has agreed to take on the role of ISJL Chair. Although she is now living in Chicago, she becomes the third native Arkansan in succession to serve as chair. Rachel brings many organizational and interpersonal skills to this role, and I know she will lead the Institute toward significant accomplishments over the next few years.

Finally, I wish to thank all of you who have supported the Institute during its first fourteen years. Together with the board and staff, you have made the ISJL an organization that provides Jewish spiritual, educational, and cultural life to all in our community. I look forward to continuing my work with and support of the Institute, and trust you will continue to join me in that effort.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rayman L. Solomon'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

## .....President's Message .....



Message from  
ISJL President  
Macy B. Hart

Jackson, Mississippi, is a fabulous place. We have an overflow of rich culture, an abundance of the arts, and yes, plenty of opportunities to roll one's sleeves up to bring about social progress. We have great theaters, shopping centers, museums, and more. Neighbors and neighborhoods are cherished, because above all, Mississippi has great people who work hard to lift the state as it pursues the future.

We also have problems, like every other state: crime, poverty, educational challenges, unemployment, bigotry, and more. These negatives are not representative of the majority, but the majority must do more to address these issues as we move toward the metaphoric tomorrow.

As I travel all parts of the country, seeking partnerships, collaborators, funders, and dreamers, I am constantly amazed at the questions I am asked and the authoritative declarations I hear about "how it must be in Mississippi." Then these good people are likewise amazed when I share my own insights on Mississippi, often the opposite of what they believed the reality here to be.

From Mississippi, the state from which the least is expected, some of the most extraordinary lessons have emerged. To use a personal example, my wife, Susan, was born and raised in the small town of Lexington, Mississippi. There were nine Jewish families in the community when she grew up. Lexington had a Temple but never had a full-time rabbi. The town of

2,500 had a town square where the majority of merchants were Jewish. A rabbi from Jackson or Vicksburg would come once a month and the Jewish community worked hard to have Jewish life. I grew up forty-five miles from Lexington, in another wonderful small town, Winona, population 4,500. My mother and father, and Mom's parents (for a short part of my life) were the only Jewish family in the county. My parents drove their four unappreciative kids 160 miles round trip each week to Sunday School to expose us to other Jewish kids and experiences.

Susan's hometown of Lexington, MS, was put on the map when two Jewish brothers from there, Gus and Cecil Hermann, left the bulk of their estates to Hebrew Union College. Gus gave HUC \$7 million, which was the largest single gift ever given to the institution. Cecil gave over \$3 million. Lexington's Temple Beth El never had a full-time rabbi of its own; Cecil and Gus were inspired to make this gift due to their relationship with Rabbi James Wax, who had served Beth El as a student rabbi. Connecting small town Jewish families to the larger Jewish world pays off for everyone—literally.

When we invest in Jewish life, the entire Jewish world reaps the benefits. This is true in even the smallest town. You know it firsthand if you grew up in a small town in someplace like Mississippi, Arkansas, or Alabama—but also if you grew up

in a small town in Michigan, Iowa, or Nevada. Working diligently to build a Jewish life, then finding that it really does pay off—that's part of what we can contribute to the national Jewish conversation.

Rich Jewish life is possible anywhere. We have it here in Jackson, Mississippi, and we help nurture it throughout the region. Our impact has been felt not only throughout the 13 Southern states we serve, but also has gained attention as a national model.

Now it's time to move from model to momentum. Regional, collaborative Jewish life is working in the South and it can work in the Midwest and elsewhere. How does this happen? It happens when larger communities lend a hand to support our model here, and import it elsewhere. When Jewish professionals, lay leaders, and funding visionaries come together to look at the ISJL's model of success, and bring it into their own backyards. It happens when we all make it happen.

We have described our work as "an experiment gone RIGHT." The ISJL challenges other regions to come together proactively for a similar outcome. Fourteen years into our experiment in the South, surely others can replicate this success.

Give me a call. I'd love to talk to you about it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Macy B. Hart'. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large 'B' at the end.

## The Long Road Home: How Community Engagement in Mississippi Restored My Southern Pride

Laney Lenox, 2013-2014 Community Engagement Intern



ABOVE

Two Millsaps College faculty members perform a public reading of Chuck Selber's play.

RIGHT IMAGE

Laney Lenox

I grew up in the Deep South. So did my mother, my father, my grandmother and great-grandfather . . . you get the idea. Over the centuries, my family gradually migrated from South Louisiana to Shreveport, in the northwest corner of the state, and that's as far north as we ever got.

The always lively Sunday family dinners, an obligatory afternoon meal eaten immediately after church at grandma and grandpa's house, consisted of political arguments, theological proclamations, and at least one story highlighting the general backwardness of Yankees.

I never felt pride in being from the Deep South. As a high school student, I formed dreams of going far, far away to school, to Princeton or

Stanford—to a place where I could mold myself into an intellectual, and my embarrassing old “country roots” could be swept under the rug and forgotten.



But instead I ended up at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi— an outcome it took time for me to accept.

After my first semester, I began the application process to transfer from Millsaps to Colorado College, but something stopped me from finishing it. It wasn't until recently that I realized what this something was.

This past semester I worked as a community engagement intern for the ISJL. As part of my work, Malkie gave me a play called *In Defense of the Committee*, written by Charles Selber, a gay Jewish man from Shreveport, Louisiana, who died of AIDS in the early nineties. My assignment was to take this play and develop something out of it that would in some way be useful for the community, and hopefully spark insightful discussion.

I first felt a deep sense of pity for the playwright, Charles “Chuck” Selber. Growing up gay in Shreveport could not have been easy in the sixties and seventies. He must have felt forgotten, especially later on as someone living with AIDS. Everything was so out of his control and he knew when he tested HIV positive that it was a death sentence, because the government was not funding research or trying to help. Homosexuals were outsiders.

So that I would better understand the context of his creative work, I began researching Chuck's life. I then realized how displaced my pity was regarding a man like Chuck. He was not a man who felt that he lacked control of his own and others' fates. Chuck co-founded the Shreveport branch of ACT-

UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and lobbied for AIDS and gay rights until his death in December of 1991.

Chuck taught me that being a Southerner is not something to be ashamed of, but something to harness – especially the frustrations.

The South has always been progressively and economically behind much of the nation, but that's what, in part, makes it such a dynamic place. With all of its problems and setbacks, there are so many beautiful things about Southern culture.

Those Sunday dinners of my childhood lasted for hours because slowing down and just taking the time to “visit” with your family and friends is a deeply held Southern value. My parents taught me to always be polite and respectful and always help whoever I could whenever I could because that's what Southerners are expected to do. Community is of utmost importance to a Southerner, which is perhaps why people like Chuck Selber chose to bring the fight for civil and human rights to the South. Chuck moved to New York, but returned to Shreveport after being diagnosed, bringing his work for AIDS rights with him. In a state like New York or California, where the majority of the population probably holds social and political beliefs more closely to my own I would just be a cog in the machine.

In the South I can be a voice and enact true and lasting change in my own home community, so that all have full and equal rights and can enjoy the beautiful Southern hospitality that now holds such an important place in my memory. I am grateful to Chuck Selber, and his mother Flo for sharing this script; to Malkie, and to the ISJL, for letting me be an intern at the office. I'm glad to be where I am, and proud of where I came from.

# Jewish Social Justice is Alive and Well!

## Malkie Schwartz

This summer, the ISJL will be welcoming Jewish social justice activists as they join throngs of other activists gathering in Jackson to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer.

For many Jews, Freedom Summer represents a peak of Jewish activism, when hundreds of college students came to Mississippi to partake in voter registration efforts and teach at Freedom Schools. We think of the ultimate sacrifice, that of life itself, with the murder of three young men, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner.

The fight for a better and more equitable world is ongoing, and Jewish social justice work continues today. In fact, last November, I was honored to represent the ISJL at a gathering of stakeholders in approximately 40 Jewish organizations committed to advancing social justice. The gathering was convened by the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable. I had the great fortune of seeing a present day Jewish social justice movement in action. The ISJL, like many Jewish organizations, remains committed to ensuring that Jews continue the work of the Freedom Summer volunteers. Being in Mississippi, we have the unique opportunity to continue that work right here in the South.

As we strengthen the bridge from the past to the present, we are looking forward to welcoming Jewish community members energized around issues of social justice and basic human rights. We are thrilled to be able to coordinate the participation of the national Jewish community in the commemoration, taking place right here in Mississippi – where fifty years ago, so many Jews were mobilized to make a difference. We will be offering programming that will honor the legacy of Jewish volunteers, and give participants the opportunity to learn from veterans of the Civil Rights Movement, all while connecting with fellow advocates and recommitting themselves to the work that lies ahead.

“This event will commemorate Freedom Summer by discussing tactics and strategies for meeting today's injustices,” explains Larry Rubin, a Jewish man from Pennsylvania who was a Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) organizer between 1961-1965, first in Georgia and then in Mississippi. “Economic inequality is greater today than it was in 1964. Voter suppression laws are rampant. The Freedom Summer 50th is planned to be a watershed event in planning for the ongoing civil rights struggle ahead, and I hope Jews and all other activists will attend this important gathering.”

*Please join us June 25th-29th, 2014! To learn more, visit [www.isjl.org/freedom-summer-50th.html](http://www.isjl.org/freedom-summer-50th.html) or email [mschwartz@isjl.org](mailto:mschwartz@isjl.org)*



Freedom Summer Volunteer Heather Booth with Fannie Lou Hamer. Photo Credit JWA/Wally Roberts

# Spring Break in the South

Rachel Myers



ABOVE  
ISJL Board Member  
and Greenwood  
resident Gail  
Goldberg welcomes  
American University  
students to  
Ahavath Rayim.

When most students think of spring break in the South, they most likely think of Panama City, Florida. Panama City is a great beach town where students can get away from their dreary campuses, forget all their scholarly stresses and enjoy some time off. So when I got a call from not one, but two Hillels last fall considering putting together alternative spring break service trips to Mississippi, I knew I was dealing with a special group of students.

So why Mississippi? Even a staunch advocate for the state like myself has to ask! In the past these Hillel groups had gone on international and national trips that were designed to provide students with meaningful community service opportunities while allowing them to learn about and experience Jewish communities very different from those they know.

Both groups were interested in Mississippi because it would allow them to explore social justice challenges in the South like sustainable agriculture, poverty, education inequality and food insecurity, all while also getting to know more about the Southern Jewish experience.

After weeks of preparation and collaboration, the University of Maryland and American University Hillels both sent student groups to the Mississippi Delta this March. The American group stayed in Cleveland, MS from March 9-16th, and the University of Maryland group stayed in Greenwood from March 16th-23rd. We used our local contacts to build an itinerary that allowed students to engage with multiple social service organizations, get to know the vibrant Southern Jewish community, tour the sights of Mississippi, and experience true Southern hospitality.

Southern hospitality was found in the warm welcomes of the Greenwood, Greenville, and Cleveland, Mississippi Jewish congregations. Planning these trips, I have had the pleasure of working with ISJL board member Gail Goldberg, and forming a new connection with Cleveland resident and community leader Barbara Levingston. With open hearts, minds, and homes, they welcomed student groups into their communities, sharing meals, celebrating Shabbat together and building new long lasting relationships.

These students didn't spend their mornings at the beach (although some did get sunburns the first day working outside!) but instead they were building community gardens, tutoring youth, serving food and exchanging experiences and ideas with local community members. As a Mississippi transplant, it's an honor to be able to facilitate trips like these, where visitors to the state can have transformative learning experiences observing the challenges and opportunities of the region first hand.

Many of the students described having changed their perspectives about the South, and were inspired by the spirit and devotion of the Jewish community.

*If you are interested in coming to see us, please contact me at [rmyers@isjl.org](mailto:rmyers@isjl.org) or visit our website for additional information about itinerary planning.*



TOP LEFT: Maryland students visit with Dr. Luther Brown and Charles McLaurin at Delta State University Cleveland, MS. BOTTOM LEFT: Maryland students lead an education program about nutrition with students at Blackburn Middle School in Jackson, MS. RIGHT: American students build community gardens in Shelby, MS.

## Upcoming Opportunities for You to Come South!



### Freedom Summer 50th June 25th-29th, 2014

**Where:** Tougaloo College  
Jackson, Mississippi  
**When:** June 25th-29th, 2014  
**What:** A gathering of activists and veterans to commemorate

the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer in Mississippi. The ISJL is collaborating with national Jewish organizations committed to social justice to offer programming that will give participants an authentic experience in the state in which the campaign occurred, exchange ideas with local and national activists, and most importantly show that Jewish activism is still alive and well, not just a story from 50 years ago.

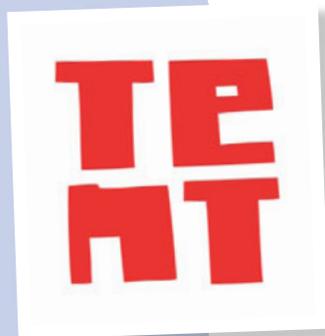
**How?** Find more information about participation on our website: [www.isjl.org/freedom-summer-50th.html](http://www.isjl.org/freedom-summer-50th.html)

### TENT October 19th-26th, 2014

**Where:** Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee  
**When:** October 19th-26th, 2014

**What? Tent: Encounters with Jewish Culture** is a program where young Jews, ages 21-30, participate in a week long seminar that engages them with an element of Jewish culture. Best of all, the participants get to have this immersion experience for **free**. This seminar on wheels will cover the best that Southern culture has to offer. This will be an opportunity for young Jews from around the country to come together and explore the Jewish experience in one of the country's most distinctive and complicated regions.

**How?** For more information about how to apply, visit [www.tentsite.org/2014/south](http://www.tentsite.org/2014/south)





Jewish educators gather in Jackson, Mississippi every summer.

## Central Mississippi is Central to Jewish Life

### Rachel Stern and Rabbi Matt Dreffin

Every June, Jewish educators from across our region and great presenters from around the country gather together for three days of learning, networking, celebration and inspiration. This gathering happens in the heart of the Jewish world (well, ours, anyway) – Jackson, Mississippi.

While Jackson may not be known by most as a Jewish metropolis, and most folks wouldn't guess that this Southern town is the location for one of the leading Jewish education conferences in the country, the simple truth is that if you come to Jackson in June, you'll know it's true. There's a Jewish education conference in central Mississippi that sets the bar high for excellence and pluralism in Jewish life and learning.

Our conference, which started with just a handful of "pilot partner congregations" back in 2003, has now become a nationally recognized and renowned annual gathering of partners, all committed to Jewish education. While we have grown in size, the growth is proportional to

our number of partner congregations—the summer conference remains open only to congregations who are part of our educational program, year-round.

We have not only grown in participants, but also in the number of Jewish organizations that come to the conference to teach, to learn, to study the ISJL education program closely, and to show our southern region that they matter. This year, we will be joined by representatives from Behrman House, Torah Aura, Chai Mitzvah, Jewish Theological Seminary, Gratz College, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Union of Reform Judaism, Jewish Children's Regional Services/PJ Library, Jewish Outreach Institute, and Jewish Women's Archive. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Jeffrey Kress of the School of Education from Jewish Theological Seminary. Dr. Kress will be sharing his important work on social and emotional learning. Every element of the conference is



Rabbi Matt Dreffin leads small group conversation.

designed to model an idea or strategy for the participants. We plan for every moment to illustrate the resources that our partner congregations have access to through their connections to the ISJL and each other. The more the participants learn and experience, the richer the educational experiences they will then provide for their students.

This year the conference will take place on June 22-24, Sunday through Tuesday. As always, the conference will bring us all together, right where we belong, in Jackson, Mississippi!

## Meet the ISJL's New Historian

There's something new going on in the History Department: Janet Bordelon is joining the ISJL team as our new historian, taking on the role of Director of the History Department.

Janet, like her predecessor Dr. Stuart Rockoff, hails from Houston, Texas. Janet is tremendously excited to return to the South to join the ISJL staff. She will receive her Ph.D. at New York University in June, and head directly to Jackson to begin her new job—in fact, she journeyed down to Jackson twice before her official “start date” to get rolling!

While at NYU, Janet's studies focused on church-state issues in American history. Janet was privileged to be a Jim Joseph Fellow and Weiner Fellow. She also served as a research fellow for the Tikvah Center at the NYU School of Law. Along the way, she taught courses in American history, educational policy, and social studies methods at NYU, Montclair State, the New School and Queens College. Before beginning her graduate studies, she graduated magna cum laude from Colby College with a B.A. with honors in American History and Government. While at Colby, she was able to study abroad at Oxford University for a year. As a Frankel Center Fellow, she completed her M.A. in Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, focusing on second temple and early rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity in the Greco-Roman empire.

*Janet begins her work at the ISJL this June - drop her a line to welcome her or get a history conversation started! Her email address is [jbordelon@isjl.org](mailto:jbordelon@isjl.org) and she looks forward to hearing from you.*



## Have You Visited the Encyclopedia Lately?



The Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities is designed to present a history of every congregation and significant Jewish community in the South. Currently, we have completed our first round of histories for a dozen Southern states—and as with all history endeavors, the Encyclopedia is designed to be a continual work-in-progress. Our new Historian will begin a new round of research, edits, and additions, and we always welcome your input. Do you have a piece of Southern Jewish historical information to share? What are some of the ways you want to be able to use the Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities? Let us know by emailing [jbordelon@isjl.org](mailto:jbordelon@isjl.org).

The Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities is a free resource, always available at [www.isjl.org](http://www.isjl.org).



Rabbi Marshal Klaven at Temple B'nai Israel in Natchez, MS

# The Transition Tradition

## Rabbi Marshal Klaven

Transitions. Arguably they are among the most challenging of human experiences. Within them, we attempt to harness the unbridled, control the uncontrollable, domesticate the wildly divergent emotions of excitement and sadness: excitement for the future and all the possibilities it holds; sadness for the past and all the wonderful experiences it held, which we will miss and cherish.

And, these past five years at the ISJL certainly have held a great deal of wonderful experiences.

First, the organizational experiences: initiating the annual ISJL Passover Pilgrimage, reigniting the ISJL's Rabbis on the Road program, expanding the outreach of the ISJL's Rabbinic Department to all thirteen Southern states, and working with a dynamic group of Jewish professionals and lay leaders to make all this and more such a success!

Equally as important, the personal experiences: gathering around the bedside of those sick and dying; welcoming a new baby into the

community of a small congregation, where this rare occurrence contains profound significance; helping communities realize that their potential rests not in their size but in their spirit, and most personally, how my time at the ISJL connected me to my life-partner, Christina, and our dog, little Mo.

Let's be honest, though. I wasn't the perfect rabbi. Case in point? On a first visit to a congregation, a string broke on my guitar. As hard as I tried, I couldn't go on. Stopping mid-strum, I apologized. "I'm sorry," I said. "My G-string broke." Everyone erupted in laughter. As nervous as I was, I didn't get the implications of my verbal faux pas until much later, when a congregant was kind enough to explain.

And that has been the role our ISJL partnering congregations have taken with me. No, they did not laugh at me. Hopefully, they laughed with me, as together we brought a sense of fun to the faith of our forefathers and mothers, transparency to the teachings of our tradition, and a true sense

of "relationalism" to the role of the rabbi within the Jewish community. I am a better rabbi because, within the soul of every community, I found a teacher. I am and will forever be grateful.

As in all teacher/student relationships, there comes a time to move on: a time for the teacher to transition to new students, and a time for the student to transition to new lessons. All we can hope for is that the lessons shared from teacher to student and student to teacher will live on. In this way we do not mourn the past but honor it, as well as the lessons and relationships it held.

That's my prayer for this moment of transition, as I prepare to conclude my time with the ISJL and begin my next chapter as Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel in Galveston, Texas.

May this not be an end with a new beginning, not a stop with a new start. Rather, let's make it a moment of succession and progression, continuing the positive work here in the South.

*Kein y'hi ratzon*, may this be God's will as well as our own!



## Welcome Rabbi Jeremy Simons

The ISJL is very excited to welcome the fourth Director of Rabbinic Services to our team, Rabbi Jeremy Simons.

Rabbi Simons, ordained this May at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Los Angeles, is eager to begin his work with the ISJL. While studying at HUC-JIR, Jeremy served as a student rabbi for the Wood River Jewish Community in Sun Valley, Idaho and Temple Beth Israel in Redding, California. He is passionate about social justice issues and has served as a Speaking Fellow with the American Jewish World Service and as a Rabbinic Intern with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. His love for travel and deep respect for the congregations who continue to thrive, even without a full time rabbi, led him to the ISJL position.

“I’m very excited to learn about these communities and their members, and also to build upon the incredible work of Rabbi Marshal Klaven and his predecessors,” says Rabbi Jeremy Simons. “When I moved to Nashville as a child, I remember the warm greeting my family received from our temple and have really missed that famous southern hospitality. I can’t wait to get started!”

He attended The Ohio State University as an undergraduate, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Philosophy, then spent four years as a youth educator in West Newton and Framingham, Massachusetts, prior to attending rabbinic school. He is excited about working with community members of all ages, and looks forward to bringing his commitment to Jewish life and learning to the ISJL team. Please join us in welcoming him to the South!

## Rabbis on the Road

The ISJL’s Rabbis on the Road program coordinates visits from rabbis who are retired, on sabbatical, or have some time they can spend with small communities who have no full-time rabbinic service of their own. This innovative partnership is rewarding for the communities who receive the visits, and also for the rabbis who get to teach and learn from the communities they visit.

One such trip was when Rabbi Henry “Hank” Bamberger of Utica, New York, traveled to Utica, Mississippi, and beyond—including a wonderful visit to Aiken, South Carolina. Here’s what the congregation and the rabbi have to say about their Rabbis on the Road experience:

“I believe the ISJL’s Rabbis on the Road program energizes our congregation and brings more people to services! I love the visiting rabbis because they bring such enthusiasm.”— *Sharon Preston, Religious Chair/Vice President, Congregation Adath Yeshurun, Aiken, SC*

“Visiting small congregations for the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life is a moving experience. My wife and I had the opportunity to meet many people who are very different from one another in many ways, but who were united in their commitment to maintaining a meaningful Jewish life in their communities. They inspired us by their dedication. Besides, they were nice folks to be with. A few (or not so few) hundred miles of driving was well worth our while!”

— *Rabbi Henry “Hank” Bamberger, Utica, NY*



Rabbi Henry Bamberger

# Snapshots from the Road



1

**1. FT. MILL, SOUTH CAROLINA**  
Education Fellow Allison Poirier and Edie Yakutis of Temple Solel dressed for Purim as they competed in a heated Latke vs. Hamantashen debate!

**2. FRISCO, TEXAS**  
Education Fellow Dan Ring telling the story of *Baxter the Pig* to students at Shir Tikvah during Friday night services.



2

**3. JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**  
The ISJL Board gathered in Jackson for their spring meeting at the end of April. It was a wonderful and inspiring weekend.

**4. HUMBLE, TEXAS**  
Malkie Schwartz introduced students at Temple Beth Torah to the Hamsa of Giving. Each finger of the Hamsa hand represents five universal needs: Belonging, Fun, Security, Power, and Freedom!



3



4



**5. PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA**

Rabbi Marshal Klaven explains the afikomen to young seder participants on one of his Passover Pilgrimage stops at Temple B'nai Israel.

**6. HOUSTON, TEXAS**

Education Fellow Elaine Barenblat reads a rhyming megillah to kindergarten students at Congregation Beth Yeshurun.

**7. CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI**

Rabbi Dan Fellman, leading a group from Temple Concord in Syracuse, NY, poses with Barbara Levingston of Temple Adath Israel in Cleveland, MS.

# Fellow Farewells

Our 2012-2014 Education Fellows are concluding their two years with the ISJL, and preparing for exciting journeys ahead. We asked each of them to share their favorite ISJL memory, and what their next plans include. Yasher koach, Education Fellows!



From Left- Adam Wassell, Elaine Barenblat, Amanda Winer, Sam Kahan and Dan Ring

## Adam Wassell

### **Favorite ISJL Memory:**

The past two years at the ISJL have been filled with wonderful celebrations, people, and experiences. However, the two weeks I spent at Camp Sabra with the students of Congregation B'nai Emunah in Tulsa, Oklahoma is truly unforgettable. The congregation exemplifies the joy Judaism brings to people lives.

### **Where I'm going next:**

I'll be serving as Director of Development for the Pi Kappa Alpha Foundation (and I plan to stay active in my Jewish community, carrying ISJL memories with me)!

## Elaine Barenblat

### **Favorite ISJL Memory:**

I liken being asked to pick one favorite memory from my last two years as an ISJL Fellow to being asked to pick your favorite pet; it's just impossible! My favorite thing about the Fellowship has been the people in each community I've had the honor of serving or visiting. Everyone I met was not only kind and welcoming, but also became my resources, personally and professionally. I've made a lot of friends with whom I plan on staying in touch after I leave.

### **Where I'm going next:**

Boulder, Colorado, to be the Adventure Educator with the Adventure Rabbi program. Stop by and say hi if you're in the area!

## Sam Kahan

### **Favorite ISJL Memory:**

While at the ISJL, I developed the persona "Matzah Mama." Matzah Mama has appeared at our annual education conference, traveled to Hampton, VA, to bake matzah with students, and starred in a cooking show; sharing my love of Judaism and food with communities throughout the South has created an incredible memory!

### **Where I'm going next:**

University of Maryland School of Social Work to pursue my Master of Social Work degree!

## Dan Ring

### **Favorite ISJL Memory:**

When I think back on my time at the ISJL, I'm going to remember all of the wonderful and enlightening conversations I have had on my more than 40 community visits, learning the stories of Jewish people throughout the South and throughout America. From conversations in the car, over meals, at synagogue functions, it has been simply incredible learning about their lives, their views on Judaism and Jewish life, and their passion for Jewish life and the Jewish people.

### **Where I'm going next:**

I plan on serving as a social studies teacher at a public high school in Prince George's County in Maryland.

## Amanda Winer

### **Favorite ISJL Memory:**

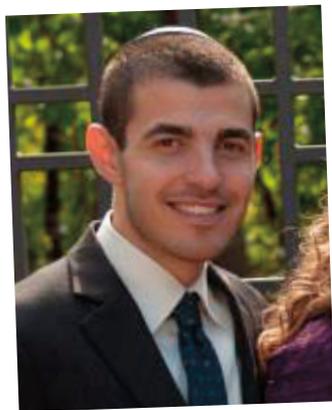
Havdalah on the Beach at South Padre Island. It was an amazing opportunity to be with two of the loveliest ISJL communities, Brownsville and McAllen, and celebrate the holiday of separation, together.

### **Where I'm going next:**

New York University Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development to begin graduate studies in Education and Jewish Studies.

---

## Welcome, 2014-2016 ISJL Education Fellows!



In the same breath, as we wish our “graduating Fellows” all the best, we welcome our new cohort of Education Fellows—and they are, as always, an extremely impressive crew.

**From Left:**

**Leah Apothaker** hails from Columbus, Ohio, and is a recent graduate of the Ohio State University. Some might say she was literally born to be an Education Fellow, seeing as she has a passion for education, for advocacy... and her dad’s a rabbi.

**Bethany Berger** is joining the ISJL team after completing her studies at American University in Washington, DC. In fact, while at AU, Bethany attended an alternative spring break trip with American University Hillel, spending a week volunteering in the Mississippi Delta - which is where she met ISJL staff and learned about the organization! Bethany is very excited for a longer stay in the South as she becomes an ISJL Education Fellow.

**Abby Klionsky** first joined us two summers ago as a history intern. We kept in touch with her, waited patiently as she finished her final two years at Princeton University, and encouraged her to apply for a position with us as an Education Fellow. We’re thrilled to be welcoming her back to Jackson!

**Arielle Nisenblatt** will become our second ISJL Education Fellow joining us from Binghamton University. She is ready to trade in her New York bagels for some homemade grits!

**Noah Westreich** is coming to Jackson having just graduated from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Especially after the winter he just had, Noah is looking forward to some Southern sunshine and hospitality!

---

## Announcing Our First Community Engagement Fellow!

We are thrilled to announce that Alanna Kleinman will be joining our team as the first two-year Community Engagement Fellow, adding a new element to the Department of Community Engagement. This fellowship, like the Education Fellows’ role in the Education Department, will put recent college graduates in our office and on the road, working directly with our partner communities. We couldn’t be more excited about our first Community Engagement Fellow!

Alanna is committed to social justice. She grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and went to college at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, where she majored in Religious Studies. Alanna joins us at the ISJL following a year of studies at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Israel.



# Welcoming National Talent to the South

## Ann Zivitz Kientz

A great way to get communities to come together is around an event—a performance or evening of learning that enriches and draws in people young and old. We think communities of all sizes deserve these programs, and that's why we help bring performers and presenters from all over the world to share their talents here in the South. Here are a few of the "coming attractions" from the ISJL Department of Programming. We're honored to be able to bring these headliners into our part of the world!



### Saul Kaye "Jewish Blues Master"

Saul Kaye is not only traveling to ISJL communities this year, he is also the featured performer at the ISJL Education Conference. Saul's music takes the listener on a journey from Torah to the Delta. Imagine Shlomo Carlebach meets Muddy Waters. Called a Pioneer of Jewish Blues, Saul embodies biblical characters through his music: you really feel he is actually singing from the voice of Joseph, when he says, 'I'm Just a Dreamer' or King Saul when he cries 'Send me someone who can play my blues away!' Saul will be in Lake Norman, North Carolina on July 13th. Be a part of that tour, or bring him into your community later in the year!

### Dr. Joel Hoffman Book Release Tour

*The Bible's Cutting Room Floor: The Holy Scriptures Missing from Your Bible* is Dr. Hoffman's new book which will be released on September 1st! As the title suggests, the book addresses the fascinating stories and lessons that were cut from the Bible: the second half of the Adam and Eve story, Abraham's childhood, the mysterious Watchers, Mordecai's serpent dream, and much more. The book also covers ancient lessons about good and evil, about suffering and celebration, and about God's role in our lives. Joel has been a great and inspiring presenter, frequently traveling for the ISJL. He will be in Augusta, Georgia, on September 7th and we are currently filling the rest of his tour time!



### Dave Goldstein Comedy Tour

Dave Goldstein is a hilarious and clean Jewish comedian, just what you need for your congregational social night or fundraising event! Dave has appeared on Late Night with Conan O'Brien, The Comedy Network, Sirius/XM Satellite Radio, The National Lampoon Radio Network and on Comedy.net. He has been honored to perform for our troops, including a comedy tour of the US Army posts in Europe. Dave has opened for Dennis Miller's theater performances and handled the warm up for Drew Carey's show, The Power of Ten and was an original member of the improv group Far Beneath Gotham in New York City. Dave will be in Tallahassee, Florida on September 13th – let's get him on your calendar, too!

# ISJL Wish Lists...

With all of the programming we provide, the ISJL always needs support, and our wish list is growing! Can you help us with any of these items? Some highlights from our wish list are below, and the full list is available at [www.isjl.org/isjl-wish-list.html](http://www.isjl.org/isjl-wish-list.html)

Donations of the wish list items can either be in the form of the items themselves, or contributions toward the cost of our purchasing the items, and of course all gifts are tax-deductible! Thanks!

## Recording Equipment

As the Education Department and other departments create more original video content, we need more video, recording, and editing equipment!

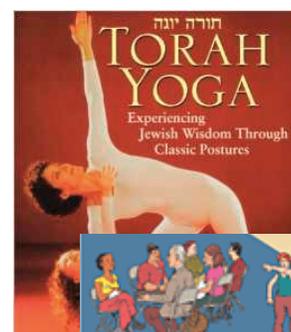
Digital HD Camcorder - Sony NEX-VG30H  
Guitar Recording - Apogee ONE USB interface for MAC  
Voice and Instrument Mic - Audio Technica AT2020  
Wireless Lavalier Mic - Pyle PDWM96  
61 key Portable Keyboard with stand



## Books

We always need books! A full library's worth of book titles are on the website... here are just a few of the ones we're requesting!

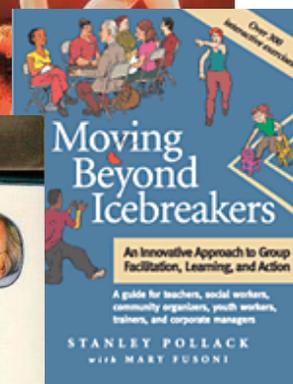
*A Sense of Shabbat*, by Faige Kobre  
*And Shira Imagined*, by Giora Carmi  
*Creating Lively Passover Seders*, by David Arnow  
*Experiencing the Torah*, by Joel Lurie Grishaver  
*Let Me Count the Ways: Practical Innovations for Jewish Teachers*, by Carol Oseran Starin  
*Moving Beyond Icebreakers*, by Pollack and Fusoni  
*Torah Yoga: Experiencing Jewish Wisdom Through Classic Postures*, by Diane Bloomfield



## Miscellaneous

And then there's other fun stuff...

iPads  
*Driving Miss Daisy* (DVD)  
*Fiddler on the Roof* (DVD)  
*Imaginary Witness: Hollywood and the Holocaust* (DVD)  
*Life is Beautiful* (DVD)  
*PBS The Jewish Americans* (DVD)  
*School Ties* (DVD)  
Scotch TL906 Laminator  
2 1/4 inch button maker and parts by Neil Enterprises



## *Thank You to Our Supporters!*

In these CIRCA pages, you can see the impact our education, history, museum, cultural, community engagement and rabbinic programs have on thousands of people just like you. With deep appreciation, the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life extends thanks to everyone who made a contribution or challenge match pledge from January 1st-April 15th, 2014 to enable our important work.

### **\$100,000+**

Bezalel Foundation  
Elaine and Emanuel Crystal Charitable Fund  
The Rosalinde & Arthur Gilbert Foundation  
Goldring Family Foundation  
Jim Joseph Foundation  
Ben Lamensdorf Family, Mike Lamensdorf Family, and the Deborah  
Lamensdorf Jacobs and Lou Jacobs Family  
Legacy Heritage Fund Limited  
The Marcus Foundation, Inc.  
Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation  
Woldenberg Foundation

### **\$10,000 - \$99,999**

AMSkier Agency Insurance – Aimee, Jeffrey, Henry Skier  
Reuben Bar-Yadin  
The David Berg Foundation  
Janet Brueck & Jerry Lang  
The Chisholm Foundation  
Lynn Crystal  
Meyer Crystal Family Foundation  
Meyer & Ida Gordon Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kanter  
Dr. Laura Corman  
Lynette & Steve Koppel  
Ben May Charitable Trust

Mr. & Mrs. David P. Solomon  
Rayman L. Solomon & Carol Avins  
Soref-Breslauer Texas Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Stein  
Steven Strauss  
Bz and Jay Tanenbaum  
The Tenenbaum Foundation  
Mrs. Julian Wiener  
Kenneth Zadeck  
M.B. & Edna Zale Foundation  
Maxine & Jack Zarrow Family Foundation

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Avavath Rayim Congregation,  
Greenwood, MS  
Imogene Berman  
Mrs. Alan Brown  
Mr. Mitchell Cantor  
Mr. & Mrs. Clay Crystal  
Mr. & Mrs. David Elgart  
Mr. & Mrs. Irving Feldman  
Pepe & Terry Finn  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Goldberg  
Susan & Macy B. Hart  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Hesdorffer  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Huebscher  
Kirschner Trusts  
Dr. & Mrs. Julius L. Levy, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Elton Lipnick  
Meyer Family – Margaret, Helen Marie &  
Harold Meyer  
Dr. Robert Roubey & Lisa Brachman  
Joseph and Sally Handleman Charitable  
Foundation - Dr. & Mrs. Robert S.  
Sadoff  
Rachel Reagler Schulman  
Spencer Simons  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Stein, Jr.  
Mary Wiener & Sandy Cohen

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Alpert  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Antler  
Mrs. James Banks  
Jack C. & Clare Benjamin Designated  
Fund  
Spungen Bildner Foundation  
Mrs. Stan Bloom  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry W. Buck  
Cahn Family Foundation Inc.  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cooper  
Mr. & Mrs. George Copen  
Jack S. Cristil  
Mr. & Mrs. Marty Davidson  
Michael Davidson  
Delta Jewish Open Golf Tournament  
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Van Os Dreyfus  
Arty & Amy Finkelberg  
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Fried, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell J. Friedman  
Dr. & Mrs. Marshall Frumin  
Mrs. Joseph A. Gerache  
Rita Sue and Alan J. Gold Philanthropic  
Fund  
Mrs. Lila Teich Gold  
Mrs. Ervin Goldberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Goldberg  
Drs. Robert & Diane Hammer  
Mr. & Mrs. Maury Harris  
Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Hart  
Dr. Jeffrey & Rabbi Sherre Hirsch  
Mr. & Mrs. Marcus Hirsch

Jackson Jewish Federation, Jackson, MS  
Jewish Endowment Foundation of  
Louisiana  
Jewish Federated Charities of the  
Shoals, Florence, AL  
Jewish Federation of Greater New  
Orleans  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Lahasky  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Lazarov  
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Levingston  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Lewis  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur L. Litman  
Dr. & Mrs. John Lowe  
Mr. & Mrs. Avery Lubin  
Alan, Jackie & Josh Lurie  
Mr. Lawrence M. Magdovitz  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter L. Malkin  
H. Ben Nelken  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Orlansky  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Pollard  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Preis  
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Preis  
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Rabin  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Rayman  
Mr. & Mrs. David Reinauer  
Larry Reynolds Fund  
Michele & Ken Schipper  
Charles Schulman  
Mr. & Mrs. David Schulman  
Mr. Louis H. Shornick & Bette Shornick  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Stoller  
Mrs. Saul Stone  
B. J. Tanenbaum

**\$500 - \$999**

Mr. & Mrs. Hirschel Abelson  
Stephen B. Alderman  
Rabbi Elizabeth & Uzi Bahar  
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Brandt  
Larry, Ginger, James Henry & Eli Frank  
Brook  
Adele Lander Burke  
Dr. & Mrs. Carmel J. Cohen  
Jonathan Coopersmith  
Annette Corman  
Aileen Weiner Dampf  
Melanie & Will Dann  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Donn  
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Edelson  
Mrs. Edward Franco  
Mrs. Herbert Ginsberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Glenn  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph H. Greil  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Kline, II  
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Konikoff  
Dr. & Mrs. Ellsworth Levine  
Mrs. Richard Lowenburg  
Cynthia M. Lyons  
Mrs. David Masur

Meridian Jewish Welfare Fund,  
Meridian, MS  
Pensacola Jewish Federation  
Mrs. Maurice Raphael  
Ann J. Rubin  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Samuels  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Shackelford  
Mrs. Donald P. Weiss  
Marvin Wolf  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wurtzburger  
Lynda & Donald Yule  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Zapletal

**\$250-499**

Linda and David Altshuler  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Braunig  
James Breman  
Mr. & Mrs. Julian Brook  
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Cooper  
Sue Ellen Dodell & Joel Chaiken  
Harryste Anne Duncan  
Richard Gibian  
Rabbi Ari Goldstein & Hanna  
Yerushalmi  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Green  
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Grishman  
Mrs. Van Hart  
Frances A. Hess  
Margaret S. Hesslein  
Dr. & Mrs. Julius E. Isaacson, Jr.  
L. Paul Kossman  
Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Krane  
Mr. & Mrs. Earl J. Magdovitz  
Dr. Leon J. Marks  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Martin  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard R. Milstein  
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin R. Palmer  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard C. Rubin  
Mrs. Martin Simmons  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Singband  
Claire Solomon  
Mr. & Mrs. Byron Spanjer  
Mrs. James P. Stephan  
Raquel Tennen  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Wertheim  
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Wexler

**\$100-249**

Joan Abrams  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Abroms  
Bill & Isa Aron  
Hunter Baumgardner & Paris Winn  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Benham  
Jan C. Benjamin  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome E. Benjamin  
Drs. Stephen & Miriam Bensman  
Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Berlin  
Dr. & Mrs. Henri Bernard  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bildner

Mrs. Julian Bloom  
Michelle Blumenthal  
Katherine Buchman  
Drs. Jackie & Michael Cohen  
Mr. & Mrs. Phil Cohen  
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Cooper  
Benjamin Coplan  
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Davidson  
Rabbi & Mrs. Jim Egolf  
Mark & Susan Fijman  
Mr. & Mrs. David B. Fried, III  
Steven Friedland  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Friedman  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Friedman  
Marilyn Gelman  
Mrs. Ira Gershner  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Giesberg  
Molly Glazer  
Rod Goldstein  
Mr. & Mrs. David Gratvol  
J. Bradley Greenblum  
Mr. & Mrs. Maury Gurwitch  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles C. Hart  
Mr. & Mrs. Carson M. Hughes  
Barbara S. Hyman  
Dr. & Mrs. Julius Isaacson, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. L. R. Jalenak, Jr.  
Beth Kander-Dauphin  
Professor & Mrs. Donald Kartiganer  
Karen Katims  
Mrs. Dorothy Kelly  
Chris & Ann Kientz  
Lynn Orkin Koff  
Rabbi & Mrs. Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lehmann  
Ms. Marla Greenberg Lepore  
Ms. Carol J. Levy  
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Lewis  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis J. Liefer  
Jan Abby Liff  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Mansbach, II  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe McClellan  
Mrs. Richard Meyer  
Lt. Col. Ed Nagler  
Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer  
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Opotowsky  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted H. Paillet  
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Paris  
Mrs. Maurice Pearl  
Jerrold Rehmar  
Suzanne Robinson  
Lex Rofes  
Betty Rosenthal  
Margaret C. Sachs  
Alan R. Sacks  
Mandel C. Selber, Jr.  
Mrs. Herb Seligman  
Mr. & Mrs. David Shapiro  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Silberberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Simon

## \$100-249 continued

Mary Sluder  
Chris Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Morris S. Solomon  
Roxanne Myers Spencer  
Allan Thorp  
Emilie Thost  
Ronald Underberg  
Sharon Wasserberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Zipes  
Dr. & Mrs. Gary P. Zola

## Tributes

Contributions received between 1/1/2014- 4/15/2014

### IN MEMORY OF:

*Jay L. Adelman*  
- Lillian & Sidney Opotowsky

*Adolph Asher*  
- Leanne & Alan Silverblatt  
Brett & Oz Friedman

*Rick Baron*  
- Shirley & Ben Shanker

*Harold Berry*  
- Mr. & Mrs. Stanford Arden

*Bea Bozof*  
- Sylvia & Seyman Goldstein

*The Brackstone Family*  
- Deborah & Sami Brackstone

*Morrie Brownstein*  
- Janet Brueck & Jerry Lang

*Albert Cohen*  
- Ronald Underberg

*Marvin Cohn*  
- Charles Centerfit Hart

*Arnold Cotton*  
- Reva & Ellis Hart & Family

*Mavis Cristil*  
- Jacob Cristil

*Luise Draft*  
- Nonnie & Butch Wright  
- Susan & Macy B. Hart

*Rabbi Randall Falk*  
- Jan Abby Liff

*Ralph Franco*  
- Lila K. Franco

*Reita Franco*  
- Susan & Macy B. Hart  
- Lynda & Don Yule

*Maury Friedlander*  
- Susan & Macy B. Hart

*Sydney Geiger*  
- Beverly & Malcolm Bonnheim

*Margaret & Aaron Gorden*  
- Judge Robert Benham

*Bess & George Hurtig*  
- Bonnie Hurtig & Bill Van Hees

*Buddy Jacobs*  
- Linda & Peter Mayer

*Jerry Jacobs*  
- Charlett & Marshall Frumin

*Freda & Morris Lewis*  
- Julie & Scott Miller

*Andrew 'Andy' Magdovitz*  
- Barbara & Jerome Magdovitz

*Lenabel M. & Harry D. Magdovitz*  
- Barbara & Jerome Magdovitz

*Roger Malkin*  
- Isabel & Peter Malkin

*Fred Marx*  
- Janet H. Brueck & Jerry Lang

*Eda Newhouse*  
- Myra & Bert Fischel

*Celeste & D. H. Orkin*  
- Lynn O. Koff

*Ruth L. Quist*  
- Gail & Mike Goldberg

*Julius Sidney Rubel*  
- Mr. & Mrs. Robert Solmson  
- Debbie Levy & Rick Hoffman  
- Charles Centerfit Hart

*Evelyn Tumin Rubin*  
- Janet Brueck & Jerry Lang

*Frances Rubinstein*  
- Nanette & Mel Cohen

*Gloria Flowers Sack*  
- Leanne & Alan Silverblatt

*David Sarnat*  
- Brad Greenblum

*Minette S. Scharff*  
- Minette & Charles Cooper

*Irving Selber*  
- Flo Selber

*Nathan Shapiro*  
- Shirley Shapiro

*Jean & Sol Shepp*  
- Barbara & Jerome Magdovitz

*Frank Sher*  
- Gail & Mike Goldberg

*Linda Gail Cohn Speaks*  
- Charles Centerfit Hart

*Kathleen, Sol & Julie Waxman*  
- Sammy Waxman

*Sol & Lucille Weiner*  
- Aileen W. Dampf

*Leonard Weissman*  
- Mel G. Altschul

*The Wolfson Family*  
- Deborah & Sami Brackstone

*Elaine Morris Zigerman*  
- Rachel & Edward Cusnier

### IN HONOR OF:

*Marilyn & Ted Alford*  
- Julia & Bob Levingston  
- Karen & Marvin Dattel

*Lauren H. Antler's graduation from  
New York Univ. Medical School*  
- Carol & Robert Antler

*Rabbi Jeffrey L. Ballon*  
- Ann Lois Ballon

*Rabbi Henry Bamberger's visit*  
- Congregation Adath Yeshurun-  
Aiken, SC

*Cantor & Mrs. Jerry Berkowitz*  
- Temple Emanu-el-Longview, TX

*Janet Brueck & Jerome Lang*  
- Ann Rubin

*Vera Davis*  
- Emilie F. Thost

*Rabbi Matthew Dreffin*  
- Scott & Lori Dreffin  
- Suzanne Robinson  
- Adath Yeshurun Synagogue-  
Aiken, SC  
- Shelly & Jeffrey Peller  
- Anshe Chesed Congregation-  
Vicksburg, MS

*Amy Friedlander's birthday*  
- Susan & Macy B. Hart

*Ilse Goldberg*  
- Robert E. Spiller

*Birth of Emmett Berman Hart*  
- Hanna Yerushalmi & Rabbi Ari  
Goldstein

*Macy B. Hart*  
- Henry Paris  
- College of Charleston-  
Charleston, SC

*Eli J. Harrison's Graduation*  
- Terry & Bert Romberg

*ISIL Rabbinic Department*  
- Dennis Waters

*Peggy Jalenak*  
- Iris & Ronald Harkavy

*Rabbi Marshal Klaven*  
- Rivka & Scott Zemke  
- Congregation B'nai Israel-  
Fayetteville, GA  
- United Hebrew Congregation-  
Fort Smith, AR  
- Ahavath Rayim Congregation-  
Greenwood, MS  
- Temple Sinai-Lake Charles, LA  
- Temple Meir Chayim-Dumas, AR  
- Temple B'nai Israel-Tupelo, MS  
- Yael Rooks-Rapport  
- Congregation B'nai Israel-  
Natchez, MS

*Betty Lee & Ben Lamensdorf*  
- Mary & Phillip Sluder

*Rabbi Ari Lorge*  
- Shelly & Jeff Peller

*Rev. Joseph Knight*  
- Richard Gibian

*Rabbi Ari Lorge*  
- Barbara & Lee Greenberg

*Doris & Joseph Metz's birthdays*  
- The Steven Simon Family

*Ruth Richman's birthday*  
- Reva & Ellis Hart

*Dr. Martin & Sharon Rothberg*  
- Stephen Whitfield

*Betsy Samuels' recovery*  
- Susan & Mark Fijman

*Michele Schipper's birthday*  
- Susan & Macy B. Hart  
- Joel Ashner

*Rachel Schulman*  
- Charles Schulman

*Lou Shornick*  
- Philippa Newfield &  
Phillip Gordon

*Jay Silberberg's 2013 birthday*  
- Adele & Howard Silberberg

*Sheri & Michael Simon*  
- Maxwell Lyons, II

*Dean Ray Solomon*  
- Harriet & Donald Joseph

*Rachel Stern*  
- Rabbi Mara & Larry Nathan

*Muriel Turner's birthday*  
- Carson M. Hughes

*Adam Wassell - ISJL Ed Fellow*  
- Adath Yeshurun Synagogue-Aiken,  
SC

*Sieg & David Weiss*  
- Jo Anne & Charles Rosenblum

*Kathryn Wiener's birthday*  
- Myra & Bert Fischel  
- Nancy & Herman Kohlmeier

*Gale Zumpano*  
- Bonnie Oppenheimer

**The Institute is indebted to the following foundations and individuals whose generous investments, past and present, have enabled us to move our vision forward with confidence:**

The David Berg Foundation	Legacy Heritage Fund Limited
Bezalel Foundation	Ted Levi
Samuel Bronfman Foundation	The Marcus Foundation
Covenant Foundation	Mintz Family
Elaine and Emanuel Crystal Charitable Fund	Jean and Bill Mosow
Nathan Cummings Foundation	Natan
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel M. Edelman	Righteous Persons Foundation
The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation	AMSkier Agency Insurance
Goldring Family Foundation	Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation
The Gottesman Fund	Shornick Family
Ronne & Donald Hess Foundation	The Slingshot Fund
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.	Samuel and Helene Soref Foundation
Jim Joseph Foundation	Soref-Breslauer Texas Foundation
Charles and Esther Kimerling Foundation	Woldenberg Foundation
Ben L. and Betty G. Lamensdorf Endowment Fund	M.B. and Edna Zale Foundation



**SUPPORTING JEWISH LIFE IS  
EASY AS CHAI.**

Join the ISJL Chai Club. For as little as \$18/month, you can build the Jewish future.

[isjl.org/contribute](http://isjl.org/contribute)

**Chai Club**

Make plans to join us  
in The South!



Freedom  
Summer 50th  
June 25th-29th, 2014  
Jackson, Mississippi

TENT: The South  
October 19th-26th, 2014  
Louisiana, Mississippi,  
Tennessee

Find out more  
inside on page 7.



Interested in hearing more about the  
ISJL and the communities we serve?

Follow us on our blog

"Southern & Jewish" hosted by  
My Jewish Learning.

[www.myjewishlearning.com/blog/  
southern-and-jewish](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/blog/southern-and-jewish)

NOSHER / RABBIS / KESHET / SCRIBE



[facebook.com/TheISJL](https://facebook.com/TheISJL)



[@TheISJL](https://twitter.com/TheISJL)

GOLDRING  
WOLDENBERG  
INSTITUTE OF  
SOUTHERN  
JEWISH LIFE

MUSEUM  
OF THE  
SOUTHERN  
JEWISH  
EXPERIENCE

P.O. Box 16528  
Jackson, MS  
39236-6528

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 80  
JACKSON, MS